

COMMUNITY CRAFTERS

It has been a fantastic year with so many people contributing in so many ways, - knitting/crocheting items to send to Kings Mill –over 170 blankets have now been donated! Knitting/crocheting poppies – creating other wonderful items for the remembrance displays. These are not just people who come along to the Thursday Drop In, but also others who work quietly at home either locally or as far away as Scotland! To everyone we say a big Thank You.



WELCOME GROUP Wednesday 3rd December at 2pm

The next meeting is 'Its All About Christmas' Carols, Poems, Letters etc. Bring along something you received as a gift at some time in the past, (if you still have it).

DECORATING CHURCH Saturday 6th December from 10am

Please come along if you are able to help in any way and bring any natural, seasonal foliage if you can.



CHRISTINGLE Sunday 7th December at 4pm

This is our annual service to support the work of the Children's Society. Please invite your friends along to this beautiful occasion and make a donation towards the really important work of the Children's Society.

Help to make the Christingles after the morning service would be greatly appreciated.

FRIDAY 19th DECEMBER 6.30pm Christmas Concert

Tickets are now on sale for the Mansfield Community Choir Christmas concert, shared with Pleasley Colliery band. Tickets cost £7 and are available from Andrew.



SUNDAY 21st DECEMBER 3pm Latvian Christmas Concert

Featuring the Latvian Ladies Choir "Novadi" and the Children's Vocal Ensemble "Sienazi". Admission is by donation and there will be free refreshments during the interval.



MANSFIELD WINTER NIGHT SHELTER

There is a box for donations on the table. Please help if you can. There is a list of suggested items in the box. Thank you to all those who have donated so far.

Items for next month's newsletter must be received by 17.12.25
Send them to Kathy at khobbs200517@gmail.com



St Albans Church Newsletter December 2025



ST ALBANS CHURCH



FOREST TOWN

Priest-in-Charge: Revd. Philip Stead
The Vicarage
Forest Town, NG19 0EP
01623 622177

email: phil.stead1930@outlook.com

Facebook: St Albans Church Forest Town NG19 0ED

Website: stalbans-foresttown.co.uk



DATES FOR DECEMBER SERVICES

3rd 10am Mid week communion

7th 9.30am Cafe Church

4pm Christingle

10th 10am Mid week communion

14th 9.30am Parish communion

4pm Traditional Carol Service

17th 10am Mid week communion

21st 9.30am Parish communion

24th 10am Mid week communion

4pm Crib service

11.30pm Midnight communion

25th 10am Christmas Day communion

28th 9.30am Parish communion

31st NO MID WEEK COMMUNION

OTHER DATES

2nd 9.15am Church open for quiet prayer and reflection

3rd 2pm Welcome Group

7pm Church open for quiet prayer and reflection

8th 9.15am Church open for quiet prayer and reflection

9th 9.30am Forest Town school Christmas services

7pm Church open for quiet prayer and reflection

15th 10am Heatherley Christmas service

17th 1.30pm Bereavement Group

18th 2pm Holly School Christmas service

19th 6pm Mansfield Community Choir Concert

21st 3pm Latvian Choir Concert

BIBLE STUDY DATES

1/8/15/22nd at 1.30pm in church

4/11/18th at 7pm in The Vicarage



A message from Philip

CHRISTMAS HOPE

Jesus spent most of his life in Nazareth. In the year of his birth there was a Roman massacre in Sepphoris. That was about as far from Nazareth as Sutton is from Forest Town. As well as huge loss of life there was widespread cruelty by the rampaging army of occupation. Jesus was born into a situation where there was little or no hope. When older he was possibly a carpenter but he could have been a manual labourer. The Biblical word used to describe his work has a wide ranging variety of translations. In the last 10% or so of his earthly life Jesus needed financial support and sometimes slept rough. He was tortured to death in the worst way the Romans knew. Now he lives in eternity.

Despite all this Jesus kept praying to and obeying his heavenly Father even on the cross. He offers to all people eternal life, infinite love and the brightest possible inner light. When we get to know him we have it all.



EXTRA OPENING OF CHURCH

On 4 occasions in December the church will be open for quiet prayer and reflection. These dates are 2nd and 8th at 9.15am and 3rd and 9th at 7pm. There will be some music playing and the chance for people to be still, pray and reflect. This is particularly aimed at those for whom this time of year is especially testing. Obviously anyone who wants a bit of space will be equally welcome.

