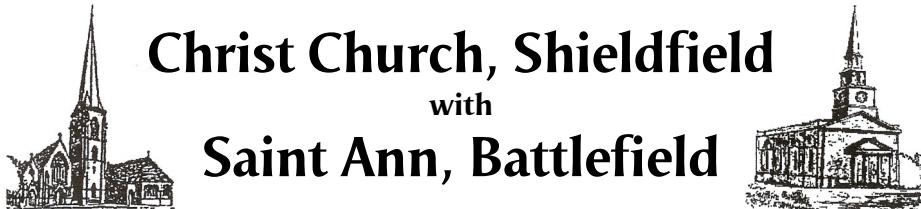


---

# Christ Church, Shieldfield with Saint Ann, Battlefield



Christ Church

Churchwarden

Jon Rippon

07851 001 276

We are currently in vacancy

### Contact Details for Benefice:

Christ Church email:

christ1861church@gmail.com

Saint Ann email:

68annsaint17@gmail.com

Saint Ann

Churchwarden

Norma Banks

07581 337 435

## ***ADVENT/CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER***

Sunday 14th December Third Sunday of Advent

Sunday 21st December Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sunday 28th December First Sunday Christmas

### Readings for the 3rd Sunday



### of Advent- Gaudete

Isaiah 35.1-10 - Magnificat - James 5.7-10 - Matthew 11.2-11

### **Collect**

O Lord Jesus Christ,  
who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you:  
grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries  
may likewise so prepare and make ready your way  
by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just,  
that at your second coming to judge the world  
we may be found an acceptable people in your sight;  
for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts;  
kindle in us the fire of your Spirit that when your Christ comes again  
we may shine as lights before his face; who is alive and reigns now and for ever.

## **Readings for the 4th Sunday of Advent- O Dayspring**

Isaiah 7.10-16- Psalm 80.1-8, 8-20—Romans 1.1-7 Matthew 1.18-end  
**Collect**

God our redeemer, who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary  
to be the mother of your Son:  
grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour,  
so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our judge;  
who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

### **Prayer of Thankfulness**

Heavenly Father,  
who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of the promised saviour:  
fill us your servants with your grace,  
that in all things we may embrace your holy will  
and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## **Readings for First Sunday after Christmas—The Holy Innocents**

Jeremiah 31.15-17- Psalm 124—1 Corinthians 1.26-29—Matthew 2.13-18

### **Collect**

Heavenly Father, whose children suffered at the hands of Herod,  
though they had done no wrong:  
by the suffering of your Son and by the innocence of our lives  
frustrate all evil designs and establish your reign of justice and peace;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

### **Prayer of Thankfulness**

Father in heaven,  
who sent your Son to redeem the world and will send him again to be our judge:  
give us grace so to imitate him in the humility and purity of his first coming  
that, when he comes again, we may be ready to greet him  
with joyful love and firm faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## **Prayers of Intercession:**

**The needs of world:** Loving God, as we enter once again into this season of gladness at the birth of your Son, we pray for the world He came to save. That we may be reminded once again of the example of His living for us, both as an infant and as Saviour and Our Lord. We pray for the world throughout this Christmas-tide, for Peace on earth, Goodwill to all people, and the Joy which is found with God in Christ the Word made

**The Church:** Jesus, you were sent to redeem us, and save us from our sin. We ask you to bless us at this time, both by your Holy Nativity, but also in and through your life, death and resurrection; that we may more fully come to know in your Church the wonder of Your Love for all.

**The Community:** Spirit of God, move among us as we join in this time of celebration here in our communities and parishes. Help us to be more aware of those in need at this time, and those for whom this season is not happy or festive. Help us all to put aside some time to reflect upon the mystery of God's Love, and find space where we can truly give thanks.

We Pray for :



We remember in their Year's mind those who have worshipped at Christ Church and Saint Ann's Church and those who have recently died; Wendy Mitchell



### ***Saint Stephen, Deacon, First Martyr- 26 December***

In the book of the Acts of the Apostles, Stephen is described as one of the seven deacons whose job it is to care for the widows in the early Church in Jerusalem. His eloquent speech before the Sanhedrin, in which he shows the great sweep of Jewish history as leading to the birth of Jesus, the long-expected Messiah, and his impassioned plea that all might hear the good news of Jesus, leads to his inevitable martyrdom by being stoned to death. Witnessing to Jesus by acting like Jesus in every way is thus seen by Luke as of the essence of the Christian Life.

**Have a Happy, Blessed and Joyful Christmas  
to you all.**



## THE NEXT THREE WEEKS



### ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

#### **Sunday 14th December – 3rd Sunday of Advent – Gaudete**

9.30 a.m. Morning Prayer at Christ Church – Nick Beale

11 a.m. Morning Prayer at Saint Ann's – Nick Beale

#### **Tuesday 16th December**

10.00a.m. Holy Eucharist at Saint Ann – Fr. Michael Thompson

#### **Wednesday 17th December**

3.30 p.m. to 5 p.m. Winter Celebration at Wretham Place

#### **Thursday 18th December – O Adonai**

12.30 p.m. Said Mass at Christ Church – Fr. Michael Thompson

#### **Friday 19th December**

9 a.m. Christ Church School Nativity

#### **Sunday 21st December – 4th Sunday of Advent**

9.30 a.m. Sung Eucharist at Christ Church – Rev Pauline Pearson

11 a.m. Sung Eucharist at Saint Ann's – Rev. Pauline Pearson

**5 p.m. CAROL SERVICE -Fr Paul**

**followed by Grand Draw At Saint Ann's Church**



#### **Wednesday 24th December –**

**CHRISTMAS EVE**

**6 p.m. CRIB SERVICE at Christ Church**



#### **THURSDAY 25th DECEMBER – CHRISTMAS DAY**

**10 a.m. CHRISTMAS DAY MASS WITH CAROLS**

**At Christ Church**

#### **Sunday 28th December – The Holy Innocents**

**11 a.m. Benefice Sung Eucharist at Saint Ann's – Fr Adam**

**No service at Christ Church**