***Notices for St. Blasius and St. John's, 22nh November 2026, Christ the King***

| | St Blasius | St. John's | Music | Notes |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 22/11/2026 | Parish Eucharist Revd Karen | Service of the Word Georgie | St B Erles St J n/a | |
| 29/11/2026 | Parish Eucharist Revd Barry | Parish Eucharist Revd Karen | St B Erles St J Steve | Advent Sunday |

Readings for Christ the King

**St Blasius**

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| **Parish Eucharist** | **First Reading** | **Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 (Peter)** |
| | **Second Reading** | **Ephesians 1:15 to end (Dave)** |
| | **Gospel** | **Matthew 25:31 to end** |

**St. John's**

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| **Service of the Word** | **First Reading** | **tbc** |
| | **Gospel** | **tbc** |

**Please note that although Church Road is due to be shut for utility works for two weeks from this Monday, 23rd November, the closure is beyond the St Blasius car park, so access to the church will only be affected for those travelling from Ventnor.**

- The **Gift of Christmas** is The Church of England's theme for Advent and Christmas 2026. Revd Karen has ordered twelve copies of the book that accompanies this theme. We are all invited to join Archbishop Sarah Mullally and eleven other Christians whose lives have given them a particular connection with the Christmas story. Beginning on Christmas Day and ending on the Eve of the Epiphany, the book offers a theme, a picture, a short reading, a reflection, prayer and a challenge to grow in faith throughout the Christmas season and beyond. Copies will be available at both churches – first come, first served!
- Are you a keen knitter, or do you have an unwanted hat, gloves or scarf? **On Thursday 3rd December** at Shanklin Railway Station there will be a rail of warm knitties that will be available for people in need to take away to help keep themselves warm this winter. Are you able to help?

- **St Blasius News**

- A note from Pat and Basil: 'To our dear Church Family, thank you all so much for the beautiful bouquet and the wonderful love you showed us on our 60th Diamond Wedding anniversary. Reaching six decades together is a true blessing, and having your prayers,

friendship and support along the journey means such a lot to us both. With our love and thanks, Basil and Pat'.

- All the Children's Society collection boxes are now safely gathered in, and a cheque for £626.66 sent off to help support young people in need. Charlotte would like to thank all box holders for their continued and generous support.
- On Sunday **20th December at 5.30pm** members of our church choir will once again be singing at the choral evensong at Yaverland church. Please come along and support them if you can.
- On **Saturday 5th December at 7pm** we will once again welcome the singers and musicians from the **Simon Langton School Chamber Choir**, led by Emily Renshw-Kidd. There will be a retiring collection for church funds. This is always a highlight of our church year.
- This year St Blasius is holding a Crib Festival over three days from **Thursday 3rd to Saturday 5th December**. Nativity Scenes of all shapes and sizes will be displayed around the church, with hot drinks and cake available in the Parish Room. Any help would be greatly appreciated, in the lending of Nativity Scenes to show, setting up the displays, manning the church for short periods during the festival, or providing cakes etc for the refreshments. If you can help in any way, please let Charlotte (or other church friend) know– we need to set up a rota to cover the whole of the Crib Festival so that ideally there are at least three volunteers in church at any one time. If you have signed up on the 'magic hands' list to keep a particular area of the church clean, please could you try and clean 'your' area of the church before we commence decorating for the Crib Festival on the 29th/30th November.
- We will be supporting the Isle of Wight Foodbank's **'12 Days of Christmas'** appeal to help needy households on the island. You don't have to donate twelve items unless you are in a position to do so. Every donation makes a difference, and together we can help make Christmas that little bit easier for local people facing hardship this Christmas. Please bring any of the items shown in the attached link to our church services this Sunday, **22nd November**. Isle of Wight Foodbank 12 Days of Christmas Donation Guide.pdf

## St. John's News

- Bingo on Monday, 2pm to 4pm.
- Coffee morning on Thursday, 10am to 11am in the Annexe.

## Ecumenical Worship/News

- Shanklin URC is running an Alpha Course at 5pm each Sunday. This course is intended for those who are either 'exploring' or new to the Christian faith. More details about Alpha can be found here:
  Alpha UK — Explore the Christian faith
- Also at the URC: On **Saturday 28 November** at 3.30pm the Revd Kelvin Burke, a retired hospital chaplain, will be speaking about his struggle to come to terms with his

disability following an accident in his 20's and finding God's comfort and faithfulness and then a new direction in life.

**Church Community News:**

- The November Shanklin Chimes magazine is available at each church and on the St Blasius and St John's Church websites: St Blasius - A Church Near You and St John's - A Church Near You
- News of events and information about the life of our Diocese may be found in the latest e-bulletin: The Portsmouth Diocese eBulletin – the latest information update

We continue to keep in our prayers all who are unwell especially those known to us personally, including Beryl O' Brien, Martin, Anne, Garry Turnbull, Michael, Jenny Halpin, Valerie and Chris Keynes, Sue Kendall, Paul Walker and Philip.

We remember before God those whose earthly race has run, remembering particularly Ann Farr who died earlier this week. May God grant eternal rest to all who have died, both those known to us and those known to God alone. May they rest in peace and rise in glory. We pray that families and friends who have lost loved ones may find peace and comfort.

Our prayers continue for all those who care for the dying, the sick, the housebound and infirm, our medical teams, hospice staff and volunteers, emergency services, carers, home visitors, Anna Chaplains and Anna Friends and all who minister to the isolated and lonely.

As we continue to hold in our prayers the hope of an end to the conflicts especially those in Sudan, Ukraine, Ethiopia and Eritrea, Yemen, India and Pakistan, as well as all of the countries caught up in the current conflict in the Middle East, as well as those affected by the recent protests in France, Germany, Italy and other European countries We pray for God's comfort and blessing on all those whose lives have been disrupted because of natural disasters or other tragedies and remember those who have lost their lives in the recent storms.

**A prayer for Christ the King Sunday** 🙏

Lord Jesus Christ, King of the universe, you reign from the cross and you serve those you rule. Be King of our home: of our words, our work and our rest. Teach us to see you in the hungry, the stranger, the sick and the prisoner, so that on the last day we may hear you say: "Come, blessed of my Father." Your kingdom come. Amen.

Revd Karen <><