

United Benefice of Aston-cum-Aughton with Swallownest & Ulley

* All Saints, Aston * Christ Church, Swallownest * Holy Trinity, Ulley *

NEWSLETTER FOR 16TH DECEMBER 2018

* Christians of all denominations are very welcome to share with us in the bread and wine of Holy Communion. If you are not confirmed, do please come to the altar rail to receive a blessing. *

Advent 3

THIS WEEK'S SERVICES Readings are over the page

- 10.30am Holy Communion at All Saints
Revd. Frances Eccleston
- 10.30am Christingle & Crib Service
(joint with Holy Trinity) at Christ Church
Revd. Dagmar Wilkinson
- 6pm Carols by Candlelight Service at All Saints
Revd. Frances Eccleston & Revd. Dagmar
Wilkinson

NEXT WEEK'S SERVICES Advent 4

- 9am Holy Communion at Holy Trinity
- 10.30am Holy Communion at All Saints
- 10.30am Holy Communion at Christ Church
- 4pm Children's Nativity at Holy Trinity
- Christmas Eve**
- 3.30pm Crib Service at All Saints
- 11.30pm Midnight Mass at All Saints
- 11.30pm Midnight Mass at Holy Trinity
- Christmas Day**
- 10.30am Christmas Day Family Communion at All
Saints

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

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| Tuesday | 18 th : | 9am | Morning Prayer at Christ Church |
| | | 9.30am | Aston Springwood School Service at All Saints |
| Wednesday | 19 th : | 9.30am | Midweek Holy Communion at All Saints |
| | | 10am | Judith's Bible Study group at All Saints |
| | | 5pm | Aston Hall School Carol Service at All Saints |
| Friday | 21 st : | 9.30am | School Eucharist at All Saints C of E Primary |

NEWS

Christmas is Coming. Invite your friends and neighbours to church! Postcards are still available outlining our special services for the Christmas Season. Please take a card and give it to a friend or neighbour as an invitation to join us.

Christingle celebrates its **50th anniversary** this year. The Children's Society last year worked with 11,000 vulnerable children, including those at most risk of abuse. A collection will be taken at our Carol Service **this evening**.

Carol Service. Please join us for our candlelight carol service **this evening at 6pm**. Mulled wine and mince pies are available after the service.

Judith's Bible Study. Judith is currently running an Advent Bible Study group after the 9.30am Communion service. During this final session, she will continue to take a fresh look at some well-loved carols. All are welcome.

Christmas Break. Footprints and Fun have their Christmas party this morning. The rest of our children's groups are now on their annual Christmas break. They will return in January 2019. Please speak to the group leaders for specific dates.

Contact details

Rector: Revd. Frances Eccleston f.m.eccleston@gmail.com or ring 0114 287 3780
Admin Assistant: Hazel Winstanley, office@allsaintsaston.com or ring 0114 287 3780
Contact us at the Parish Office: Wednesday and Thursday afternoons (1.30 – 5pm)
Website: www.allsaintsaston.com

3rd Sunday of Advent: 16th December 2018

The Collect

God for whom we watch and wait,
you sent John the Baptist to
prepare the way of your Son:
give us courage to speak the truth,
to hunger for justice,
and to suffer for the cause of right,
with Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

The First Reading: Philippians 4: 4 – 7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

The Gospel Reading: Luke 3: 7 - 18

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

Advent Song

Advent candles tell their story
As we watch and pray;
Longing for the Day of Glory,
'Come, Lord, soon,' we say.
Pain and sorrow, tears and sadness
Changed for gladness on the Day

Prophet voices loudly crying,
Making pathways clear;
Glimpsing glory, self-denying,
Calling all to hear.
Through their message – challenged,
shaken –
Hearts awaken: God is near!

John the Baptist,
by his preaching and by water poured,
brought to those who heard his teaching
news of hope restored:
'Keep your vision strong and steady,
and be ready for the Lord.'