# The Parish of Cannock and Huntington

Building Community with Christ at the Centre

# **Parish News**

Sunday 7th December 2025 Second Sunday of Advent

#### **Contact Information**

Parish Office 01543 229233

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Office hours

Monday—Wednesday 9.30am—3pm

Thursday—Friday 9.30am—12.30pm

Office will be closed from 23rd Dec - Monday 5th January

E mails will be checked periodically over this period

The Church takes the safety of everyone within the church very seriously and expects that everyone will work within the church safeguarding policy. In particular, the Church expects anyone who becomes aware of a safeguarding risk or of actual abuse, to report it immediately to our Safeguarding Coordinator,

Teresa Atherton

#### Collect

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever.

#### Post Communion

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.

#### **St Thomas' Carol Service**

Sunday 21st December 11.00am Everyone Welcome





#### Reading 1 - Isaiah 11.1-10

A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD and he will delight in the fear of the LORD. He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears; but with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth; with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked. Righteousness will be his belt and faithfulness the sash round his waist. The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them. The cow will feed with the bear, their young will lie down together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox. The infant will play near the hole of the cobra, and the young child put his hand into the viper's nest. They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples; the nations will rally to him, and his place of rest will be glorious.

# Chase Choral Society Concert

### which is being held at St Thomas' on

Friday 19th December 7.00pm for 7.30pm.

Entrance £1 payable at the door, with refreshments and raffle.

#### **Reading 2**— Matthew 3.1-12

<sup>1</sup>In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, 2'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' 3This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight." 4Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. 5Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, <sup>6</sup>and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>7</sup>But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? <sup>8</sup>Bear fruit worthy of repentance. <sup>9</sup>Do not presume 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. <sup>10</sup>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. 11 baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>12</sup>His winnowing-fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

#### CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

This year the Christingle Service is part of the TIW Service on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December, where we hope that children from the schools will join us. One of the main purposes in having a Christingle Service was to raise money for the Church of England's Children's Society and the offerings were set aside for that purpose. Because our Sunday Services include offerings for the Church, we are including Children's Society envelopes in the Pew News, into which you can place a separate donation to bring with you on 14<sup>th</sup>.

#### St Thomas' Church

A Christmas Card Board will be in Church from Sunday 16th November. Please write one card and give a donation in lieu of sending everyone a card. The donation tin is in Church. Please help raise much needed funds for Kathryn House Hospice, Stafford.



Thank you Doreen Shaw



embracing life and living

# St Luke's Friendship Group Carol Service Monday 8th December 2pm in St Luke's Church

All Are Welcome

The service will be followed by afternoon tea in the Church Centre.

Tickets are free for Friendship Group members £5 for guests ~ available from Linda Hopley or Margaret Walker

#### Christingles

If you can help with making up the Christingle Oranges you will be most welcome!

10am in Church Centre on Saturday 13th December

Thank you in advance!

#### PRAYER DURING A VACANCY

Almighty God, by whose Spirit the whole body of the church is governed and sanctified, hear our prayer for our parishes and the congregations of St. Luke, St. Thomas and St Saviour. Give us discernment to recognise the gifts and ministries you have given to us together with the grace to exercise them in harmony with one another and for the good of all. May we have patience in awaiting the appointment and arrival of a new leader for our parish, and give support to those responsible for choosing that person. Finally, may we trust you, the God of faithfulness and generosity, to guide us through this time of transition and change, so that we are ready to enter a new chapter in the life of our parish for the glory of your Name and the furtherance of your kingdom. This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord.

An invitation to join us for prayer as we pray together for God's blessing and empowerment for ministry and witness in our communities.

Next Morning Prayer will be Tuesday 16th December at 9.30am. Please come along and join us Every Tuesday Morning Prayer at 9.30am in the Centre unless otherwise announced. Next Prayer Group at 85 Dartmouth Avenue will be on TBC Everyone Welcome.



This weeks diary			
Tue 9th	9.30am	Morning Prayer	Centre
Wed 10th	10.00am	<b>Holy Communion</b>	St Luke's
	1.30pm	Place of Welcome	St Thomas'
	7.30pm	Choir Practice	St Luke's
	7.30pm	Bell Ringers	St Luke's
Thur 11th	12.15pm	Funeral	St Luke's
Sat 13th	10.00am	Café	Centre
Sun 14th	8.00am	Holy Communion	St Luke's
	9.30am	Christingle	St Luke's
	6.00pm	Light up a life	St Luke's
	11.00am	Holy Communion	St Thomas'
	11.00am	Morning Prayer	St Saviours
Everyone Welcome			

#### Anne and Tina

would like to thank every one who helped set up and take down the Christmas Tree Festival in the Church.

Especially the Ladies who are not members of this Church.

We were visited by 217 people on Thursday, 241 on Friday, and 1021 on Saturday!

A heartfelt thanks to all the volunteers for giving up their time.

Anne and Tina would like to wish all members of the Church a Happy and Healthy Christmas and New Year!!



#### **Future Services**

St. Luke's

**Tues 16th December** 

9.30am Morning Prayer Centre

Wednesday 17th December

10.00 am Holy Communion

**Sunday 21st December** 

9.30am Holy Communion

6.00pm Carols by Candlelight

St Thomas'

11.00am Carol Service

St Saviour's

11.00am Christingle

We look forward to welcoming you

Please be generous and help those who have less than yourself

WE'VE GOT PLENTY OF: SOUP, BEANS AND PASTA.
WEEKLY REQUIRED FOOD ITEMS: TINNED MEAT, RICE
PUDING, TINNED FRUIT, JAM, SQUASH AND UHT MILK.

\*\*NB: THE FOOD BANK ARE DESPERATE FOR CARRIER BAGS\*\*