

# *Church News*

December 2023



**Christ Church**

Rothley Road  
Mountsorrel  
LE12 7JU

**St Peter's Church**

Market Place  
Mountsorrel  
LE12 7BA

# Services at Christ Church & St. Peter's Church

Date	Time	Service	Venue
Sunday 3 December	9.30am	Advent Carols	St. Peter's
	11.00am	Holy Communion	Christ Church
	4.00pm	Fun@4	Christ Church
	4.00pm	Youth@4	Christ Church
Sunday 10 December	9.30am	Holy Communion*	St. Peter's
	11.00am	Crib Service	Christ Church
	4.00pm	Senior Sunday	St. Peter's
Monday 11 December	7.00pm	Carols amongst the Trees	Christ Church
Saturday 16 December	4.00pm	Muddy Carols	Vicarage Orchard
Sunday 17 December	11.00am	Holy Communion	Christ Church
	6.00pm	Carols by Candlelight	St. Peter's
Sunday 24 December	10.00am	Nativity Service	St. Peter's
	4.00pm	Christingle Service	Christ Church
	11.15pm	Holy Communion	Christ Church
Monday 25 December	9.30am	Holy Communion*	St. Peter's
	11.00am	Family Holy Communion	Christ Church
Sunday 31 December	9.30am	Joint Holy Communion*	St. Peter's
Saturday 6 January	7.00pm	Holy Communion*	St. Peter's
Sunday 7 January	11.00am	Holy Communion	Christ Church
	6.00pm	Evensong	St. Peter's
	<b>NB: No Fun@4 or Youth@4 This Month</b>		

*\* Service taken from the Book of Common Prayer*

## Morning Prayer

9am in Christ Church and online (via Zoom)

**Monday - online only**

**Tuesday \* Wednesday \* Thursday\* Friday**

**Meeting ID: 786 8201 8817, Passcode: 032244**

**NO Morning Prayer - 25<sup>th</sup> Dec. - 1<sup>st</sup> Jan. Inclusive.**

## Fifteen Minutes Every Day

Have you ever sat with someone and, after a while, realise they have been speaking but you haven't heard a single word? I know I do this, because my wife tells me so. In fact I have made it quite a skill. I can watch and listen to the weather forecast and, at the end, still not know what the weather is likely to be tomorrow. Sometimes in our Christian discipleship we can be a little like this with God. We know God is speaking to us but we often close our ears to what he says so that we can listen instead to the many other voices in the world around us.

I want to lay down a challenge to each of us to take a small amount of time every day to sit with God and listen to what he has to say to us. I will call this challenge 'Fifteen Minutes Every Day'. It doesn't matter when we take the fifteen minutes, you might like to do this first thing in the morning; when you sit down with a cuppa mid-morning or mid-afternoon; for you it might be just before bed. Personally, my fifteen minutes with God is during breakfast.

One of the principal ways that God speaks to us is through his Word - The Bible. So, starting in the New Year, on 1st January, I am going to encourage us, as a Church, to spend our fifteen minutes reading through the entire Bible in one year. Every day from 1st Jan to 30th Dec we will read something from the Old Testament, something from the New Testament and a psalm or a proverb. The reading plan will be included in the Church News each month and you can also go to [bible.com/reading-plans/19038](https://bible.com/reading-plans/19038) and read online or follow the instructions to download the app to your phone or pc. See page 5 for a sample of the first 7 days readings.

Before you begin, say a short prayer. Ask God to speak to you as you read his word. Then read. At the end of the reading, sit quietly and see if any thoughts come into your mind - maybe God has something to say to you from what you have read; maybe you will be prompted to pray for a particular person or situation. At the end of your time, thank God for guiding you through your fifteen minutes and ask him to remain with you over the next 24 hours until you sit together again.

A key Bible verse to encourage your prayer is this from 1 Samuel 3.10 "The Lord came and stood there, calling as at the other times, 'Samuel! Samuel!' Then Samuel said, 'Speak, for your servant is listening.'"

May God bless you this Christmas time and into the New Year,

*Colin Resch*

# Diary Dates

## **Friday 1 December**

10.00am till 12 Noon: Coffee Morning at Christ Church.

## **Monday 4 December**

9.30am Sunbeams at Christ Church.

## **Wednesday 8 December**

8.00am School Prayers at Christ Church & St. Peter's CE School.

2.00pm Book Club (see page ?).

7.00pm Fellowship Group at The Vicarage (see page 10).

## **Thursday 7 December**

7.00pm Christmas Quiz at Christ Church (see page 15).

(Please note: the Quiz will start as soon as possible)

## **Friday 8 December**

Christmas Tree Festival at Christ Church (see page 10).

10.00am till 12 Noon: Coffee Morning at Christ Church.

## **Saturday 9 December**

Christmas Tree Festival at Christ Church (see page 10).

11.00am Carols on the Green.

## **Sunday 10 December**

Christmas Tree Festival at Christ Church (see page 10).

## **Monday 11 December**

**NO Sunbeams Today.**

7.00pm Carols amongst the Trees at Christ Church (see page 15).

## **Wednesday 13 December**

8.00am School Prayers at Christ Church & St. Peter's CE School.

## **Friday 15 December**

10.00am till 12 Noon: Coffee Morning at Christ Church.

## **Saturday 16 December**

4.00pm Muddy Carols in the Vicarage Orchard (see page 11).

## **Monday 18 December**

9.30am Sunbeams at Christ Church.

## **Wednesday 20 December**

8.00am School Prayers at Christ Church & St. Peter's CE School.

2.00pm Book Club (see page 14).

7.00pm Music Fellowship at Christ Church (see page 14).

## **Friday 22 December**

10.00am till 12 Noon: Coffee Morning at Christ Church.

*(Continued on next page)*

## Diary Dates for December (cont'd)

### Monday 25 December - CHRISTMAS DAY

9.30am Holy Communion at St. Peter's Church.

11.00am Family Holy Communion at Christ Church.

### Friday 29 December

10.00am till 12 Noon: Coffee Morning at Christ Church.

## Diary Dates for January 2024

### Friday 5 January

10.00am till 12 Noon: Coffee Morning at Christ Church.

### Saturday 6 January - EPIPHANY

7.00pm Holy Communion at St. Peter's Church.

### Monday 8 January

9.30am Sunbeams at Christ Church.

### Wednesday 10 January

8.00am School Prayers at Christ Church & St. Peter's CE School.

### Thursday 11 January

7.00pm St. Peters Church PCC.

### Friday 12 January

10.00am till 12 Noon: Coffee Morning at Christ Church.

## Fifteen Minutes Every Day

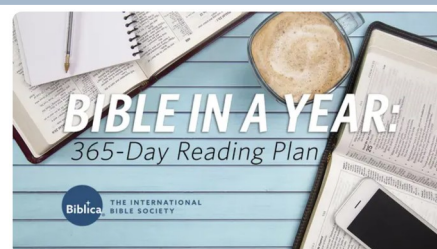
Bible in a year: 365-day reading plan

Sample of the first 7 days below:

### Jan

1. Genesis 1, Genesis 2:1-17, Matthew 1:1-25, Psalm 1:1-6
2. Genesis 2:18-25, Genesis 3, Genesis 4:1-16, Matthew 2:1-18, Psalm 2:1-12
3. Genesis 4:17-26, Genesis 5, Genesis 6, Matthew 2:19-23, Matthew 3, Psalm 3:1-8
4. Genesis 7, Genesis 8, Genesis 9:1-17, Matthew 4:1-22, Proverbs 1:1-7
5. Genesis 9:18-29, Genesis 10, Genesis 11:1-9, Matthew 4:23-25, Matthew 5:1-20, Psalm 4:1-8
6. Genesis 11:10-32, Genesis 12, Genesis 13, Matthew 5:21-42, Psalm 5:1-12
7. Genesis 14, Genesis 15, Genesis 16, Matthew 5:43-48, Matthew 6:1-24, Psalm 6

<https://www.bible.com/reading-plans/19038>



## **Prayer Ideas**

At St Peter's and Christ Church we support and pray for a number of different Christian Charities that work in this country and abroad to improve the lives of others and show them God's love and compassion.

Please find some prayer pointers to help us to pray for global issues and the Charities we support and their work throughout the world:

### **Open Doors:**

- Pray for Christians around the world who have to celebrate Christmas in secret.

### **Tearfund:**

- Pray for comfort, emotional and physical healing for survivors of domestic violence.
- Pray for good, strong female role models to stand up and to inspire young girls.
- Pray that the voices and perspectives of women are respected at every table – in the UK and in every country around the world.
- Pray for all the women who are supporting their families alone, that they will have strength and wisdom.
- Pray for women who are trapped in difficult situations that they didn't choose.

### **Compassion:**

- Pray for children at high risk of human trafficking.
- Pray for children struggling with chronic medical issues.
- Pray for children at risk from environmental hazards like pollution, exposure to toxic chemicals and unsafe infrastructure.
- Pray for children suffering from the results of war and conflict.

### **Mountsorrel:**

- Pray for those in our community who find Christmas difficult for whatever reason.

*(Continued on next page)*

- Pray for those in our community who will be working over Christmas.
- Pray for the Sorrel Food Project and all its volunteers.
- Pray that those who visit our churches this month will experience the love of Christ.
- Pray for the Christmas Tree Festival taking place at Christ Church.
- Pray for all the extra services that will be taking place at Christ Church & St Peter's Church.
- Take time to thank God for all the good things in your life.

*Pray continually (1Thessalonians 5:17)*

## **Liz Resch**

Mission Co-ordinator at Christ Church.

After expenses, despite it raining throughout the day, the Craft Fair held on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November, raised **£361.67** for Christ Church Funds.

There were a variety of stalls which included Christmas items, knitted toys, handbags, greeting cards, second hand books, home made jams, honey & soaps, together with The Royal British Legion and The Air Ambulance Service.

The sale of books, so generously donated by many for the Book Stall, realised £30 each to Christ Church Funds and CMT. There still remains a great surplus of books yet to be distributed to Charities or sold on elsewhere. My thanks to those of you who donated them.

My thanks also to all who gave of their time to help, both before and on the day, which was much appreciated - not forgetting Stonehurst Farm for supplying the refreshments.

Of the seventeen stall holders in attendance this year, six have already indicated a desire to return again.

**Veronica Liquorish**





**All Age Sunday Worship**  
**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December @ 11am**

**Sing the Christmas story !**

**Come and help us build our stable  
scene and sing an alternative 12 days of  
Christmas**



Everyone is welcome to join us for a relaxed & fun Sunday Worship.  
We'll be sitting amongst our Christmas trees for this all age worship so it  
will be slightly different but still lots for everyone to join in with!

To find out more about our All Age Services,  
contact either Alison or Linda:

[alison.white@mountsorrelchurch.org](mailto:alison.white@mountsorrelchurch.org)

[linda.vesty@mountsorrelchurch.org](mailto:linda.vesty@mountsorrelchurch.org)

# Nativity Service

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December 2023

St Peter's Church Mountsorrel

Come and join in with the Christmas story!

**9.30am** – arrival to choose your costume and get dressed up.

**10am** – service starts with everyone who wants to, playing whichever part they want to.

There could be 3 Mary's and not enough Wise Men, but we'll just go with the flow and enjoy telling the story and singing the carols!

10.45am (ish) coffee/tea/juice, mince pies and Christmas biscuits



**!!Warning!!**  
This service may be  
wonderfully chaotic but very  
cute and lots of fun!

**All are welcome**

# FELLOWSHIP GROUP AT THE VICARAGE

*Day by day, as they spent much time together at the temple,  
they broke bread at home. (Acts 2:46)*

Meeting in a small group to worship, study and pray together allows for more interaction and deeper study than is possible during a Sunday morning service.

Fellowship Group at the Vicarage meets every other Wednesday at 7pm in person and online.

We will be meeting on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December where we will continue to follow the Romans Course from the Bible Society .

We would love you to join us.

If you would like more information, please speak to Liz or Colin Resch.

**Zoom ID: 858 3431 7001 Passcode: 643768**

## Christmas Tree & Crib Festival

**Christ Church, Rothley Road, Mountsorrel**

**December 8<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>**

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> & Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> - 10am to 6pm**

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> - 1pm to 3pm Monday 11<sup>th</sup> - Open for schools only**

## Beyond the Bump Post-natal Coffee Mornings

During September, we ran our first Beyond the Bump sessions to support new parents. 14 families in total came along on Wednesday mornings and built friendships and support networks with one another.

Each week, we covered a different topic including sleeping; weaning; play and development; and maternal mental health. A short video opened up discussions and conversations around each subject enabling parents to share their experiences and support one another. We also enjoyed some singing sessions and lots of play with the babies as well as, of course, refreshments for parents!

Some of the families who came to this group have now joined us on our Starting Rite course which is running on Wednesday mornings throughout November at Christ Church.



# Carols

**4pm @ The Vicarage Orchard  
Sat. 16<sup>th</sup> December**

Join us for some Christmas carols by torch and candlelight and a slightly different re-telling of the Christmas story. Mulled (not) wine and crumpets cooked on the fire along with biscuits and marshmallows to make Christmas s'mores. All in the great outdoors, so please wrap up warm and, if you wish, bring a chair to sit on

## Sunbeams news



This half term, Sunbeams are enjoying stories Jesus told with our Teddy Tales.

Teddy has had lots of interesting adventures so far including finding treasure buried in a field; having a party which his friends didn't come to; and leaving his dad's farm for

a more exciting life in the big city! Can you work out which bible stories Teddy has helped to tell?

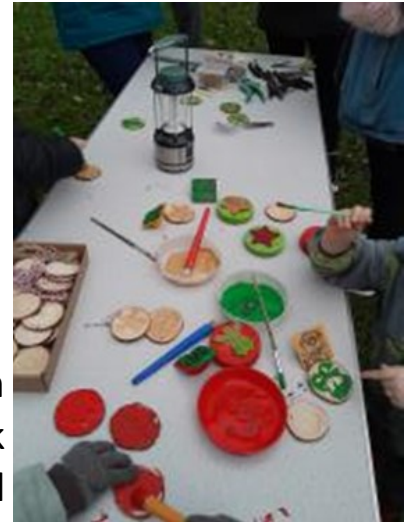


Our Sunbeams love playing and enjoy lots of different toys each week along with a simple craft activity that they can make themselves.

Sunbeams is for children under 5 years and their parents/carers, you will be made very welcome by this friendly group every Monday during term time, 9.30-11.30am at Christ Church.



Join us for  
**Muddy Carols on  
Saturday 16<sup>th</sup>  
December, 4pm  
in the orchard!**



November's Muddy Church was our first wintry one in



a while with it getting dark very quickly! We enjoyed creating natural decorations for our tree at the Christmas tree festival using clay, paint and natural materials. As the light faded, we gathered around the fire to toast marshmallows and enjoy s'mores and hot chocolate before the younger and braver amongst us enjoyed a game of hide 'n' seek in the dark with torches!

**EVERYBODY, young or not so young, is WELCOME to join us for an hour of fun in the great outside.**

**Remember we DO NOT cancel for rain, so don't forget your wellies.**



Fun@4

## November 2023

This month Fun@4 met on the 5th November, it was lovely to see a number of families join us before going on later to Bonfire parties.

We took the bible reading from Esther 2:21

and looked at the links between the Bible story of two men being stopped by Esther from killing their King to The Gunpowder plot, and how that plan to kill the King was also stopped.

We then made a beautiful poppy wreath to remind us that November isn't all about fireworks and a teddy who wears a patch, but the remembering of those who put their lives on hold to fight for our freedom not just in the two world wars, but in every war since, especially those who never came home.

One of the crafts was to design your own Bible cover, one that would make someone really want to read it. This design was just beautiful and says so much in one short sentence.





**Sunday 3rd December  
4pm at Christ Church**



Join us as we explore 12 different 'revelations' or aspects of Christmas. After each short 'revelation' there will be a chance to reflect or a craft to take home.

## **The Twelve Revelations of Christmas**

### **An Augmented Reality Bible Journey**

Please download '12 Revelations of Christmas' on to your phone before coming along to Fun@4. There are a few iPads ready to be used if necessary.

**Christmas Eve  
4pm at Christ Church**

**EVERYONE IS INVITED!  
so please join  
us for this year's  
Christingle Service.**



## Dates for you diaries....

On 6th and then 20th December at 2pm we shall be finishing this term's book, A Christmas Carol. If you would like to join our small group, please talk to Liz or Mel.



Musical Fellowship also meet on the 20<sup>th</sup> December for a Christmas sing-a-long. Mince pies and a warm fruit punch will be available too. 7pm in Christ Church.



Last month, our Youth@4 learned about the different denominations and how they are different from each other. We had a go at matching up the different practices of the churches and talked about why churches are different.

We also talked about the similarities and how, despite worshipping differently, we are all part of one big, worldwide church, all seeking to build God's kingdom here on Earth.

We had a go at building our own churches whilst talking about how a church is not made up of bricks and mortar, or in our case biscuits and chocolate, but by the people who gather there.



It doesn't matter if we meet in ancient buildings made of stone with a tall tower, modern buildings with all the mod cons, a converted warehouse or a borrowed school room, cinema or indeed a mud hut. Nor does it matter what kinds of hymns we sing, the important thing is that we love God and put Him at the heart of all we do.

**Kat Jenkins**

# Christmas Quiz

As part of our Christmas Tree and Nativity Scene Festival we shall be holding a grand 'switching on of lights', followed by a Christmas Quiz.

Linda V will be asking the questions, Sarah R will be keeping score. Mastermind it isn't; so do come prepared for a few slightly unusual rounds.

**Thursday 7th December @ Christ Church 7pm**



Tickets are £2 payable on the night, to book a place please go to:  
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/christmas-tree-festival-quiz-night-tickets-742143781027>

## *Carol Service amongst the Trees*

*Led by the Ladies of  
Christ Church & St Peters*

*Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December  
7pm at Christ Church*

*Followed by light refreshments*



The Soar Valley Community Food Project have asked us to advertise the 'Reverse Advent Calendar'. This is where you put a food item each day, from the calendar below into a bag to donate to the food bank to be given out at Christmas as a package. The bag can be for a single person, a couple or a family. If you are able to commit to doing this, please let them know by contacting them, call or text: 07395 956 777.

If you do not feel able to do this but would like to donate an item or two to help a family struggling this Christmas, donations can be left in the collection boxes in Church as normal.



Please deliver parcels to Mountsorrel Baptist Church, Leicester Road, LE12 7AJ by Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December. We are open Mondays 9am - 12pm and Tuesdays 10am - 12pm.

**Thank you for your continued support to our local community**



# Sunbeams



A group for babies & pre-school children accompanied by their parent/carer.



**Mondays 9.30-11.30am**  
**Christ Church, Mountsorrel**

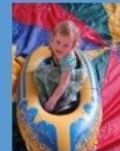
Play, Refreshments, Bible story, Craft,  
Singing & Prayer.



Contact [alison.white@mountsorrelchurch.org](mailto:alison.white@mountsorrelchurch.org)

or search for 'Sunbeams Mountsorrel' group on Facebook

**All welcome**



# Coffee Morning

**Every Friday 10am—12noon**

*Pop in and meet new friends*

*Everyone Welcome*



*Senior Sunday*  
*Welcomes*  
*Friends, Old and New*  
*At St. Peter's Church, Mountsorrel*  
*2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the Month*  
*4.00pm - 5.30pm*



## **Prayer Chain**

At Christ Church & St Peter's Church we believe that prayer is one of the foundations of the Christian Faith. In prayer, Christian believers speak directly to and with God. We believe that God delights to hear our prayers; and that prayer can make a difference.

We have a small group of Church members who have committed to pray for others. Currently if you would like this group to pray for you or a friend you contact Liz Resch and she sends the message out for you.

But now you can also contact the Prayer Chain direct by completing the form on our website at: [mountsorrelchurch.org/prayer](https://mountsorrelchurch.org/prayer).

The information on the form will be circulated to the members of the prayer chain for prayer. All requests received this way will be treated with complete confidentiality.



I am still recycling genuine branded and unbranded printer ink cartridges (not toner cartridges) for Guide Dogs for the Blind. Please leave any that you have in the boxes available in both Churches, thank you.

*Janet Wright*



## **Need Prayer or a Home Visit?**

If you, or someone you know, is in need of prayer, then please contact our confidential Prayer Chain by completing the form on our website at [mountsorrelchurch.org/prayer](http://mountsorrelchurch.org/prayer) or via Liz Resch on 0116 429 9946 or via email at [lizresch64@gmail.com](mailto:lizresch64@gmail.com)

If you would like a home/hospital visit for prayer and/or communion, please leave a message for Revd Colin Resch on 0116 429 9946 or send an email to [revcolinresch@mountsorrelchurch.org](mailto:revcolinresch@mountsorrelchurch.org)

## **Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals**

For enquiries about Christenings (baptisms), weddings or funerals at either Christ Church or St Peter's Church, please contact Revd Colin Resch on 0116 429 9946 or via email at:

[revcolinresch@mountsorrelchurch.org](mailto:revcolinresch@mountsorrelchurch.org)

**Get the latest information via our web pages:**

<https://mountsorrelchurch.org>



Christ Church/St. Peter's Church, Mountsorrel

# **Christ Church and St Peter's – Contact Information**

## **Ministry Team:**

Priest in Charge, Revd Colin Resch

4 Rothley Road, Mountsorrel, Loughborough, LE12 7JU

0116 429 9946

revcolinresch@mountsorrelchurch.org

## **Day off: Monday**

Reader, Mrs Helen Hodson, 0116 2303828

Reader, Mr Edmund Stacey, 01509 214802

Associate Minister, Mrs Melanie Rowley, mel.rowley@mountsorrelchurch.org

## **Children and Families' Workers:**

Alison White, alison.white@mountsorrelchurch.org

Mobile: 07305 664 009

Linda Vesty, linda.vesty@mountsorrelchurch.org

Mobile: 07488 330 893

## **Benefice Youth Worker:**

Kat Jenkins, kat.jenkins@mountsorrelchurch.org

Mobile: 07857 964 330

## **Benefice Safeguarding Officer:**

Melanie Rowley, melrowleypso@gmail.com

## **Christ Church Contacts:**

Warden, Mrs Angie Price, angie.price@mountsorrelchurch.org

Warden, Mrs Helen Shaw, helen.shaw@mountsorrelchurch.org

Assistant Warden, Mr Peter Hodson, 0116 230 3828

Assistant Warden, Mrs Veronica Liquorish, vpl1947@virginmedia.com

PCC Secretary, Miss Sarah Resch, ChristChurchPCC@mountsorrelchurch.org

## **St. Peter's Church Contacts:**

Warden & PCC Secretary, Mr David Bird, 0116 2303095

Warden, Mr David Owen, 07854 623 916, davidwowen@hotmail.co.uk

Assistant Warden, Mr John Doyle, 0116 2375623, johncdoyle@outlook.com

## **Administration:**

Treasurer & Bower Room Bookings' Contact

Mrs Val Doyle, 0116 237 5623, valjdoyle@hotmail.com

Parish Administrator & Newsletter Editor

Mr Paul Rowley (part time) paul.rowley@mountsorrelchurch.org

*(Copy date for the next newsletter is Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December, but  
if items are ready, please send earlier)*