

Christingle at St Francis School: We did our very first service at St Francis School on Christmas Eve. I am delighted to say that the school assembly hall was, as expected, packed with parents and children. A big thank you to Rachel Crosby, Lucy Robertson and Bethany Tunley for repeating the Christingle Play. And a special thanks also to those of you who so kindly turned out on the Saturday morning before Christmas Eve to make a hundred Christingles. We really appreciated those who laboured at

putting out the chairs the Friday before, who set up the sound and multimedia and organised the publicity. It was a major team effort!

For us, it was a hugely important service and attracted nearly 200 people. Every child received a Christingle, and a book to go along with the Bible society Christmas video, "The Greatest Journey." It was a wonderful afternoon and, I am delighted to say, all the technology worked perfectly!



A Movie Evening at St Mary's: Ruth Hursey, Chris Coombs, Nick Lines write:

At St Mary's Church, Rodbourne Cheney, Swindon, we are planning to show the Film, 'The Shack' on Saturday, February 3rd at 7.00pm. There will be a break for refreshments. This was a very moving novel which was a phenomenal best seller. It is now a film, starring Sam Worthington.



The story has helped many people to see more about God's Love for us. We would like to invite you to bring some people from your churches/organisations to see this at St Mary's and also to pray that this might attract some people who do not as yet really know God's love for themselves.



The Questionnaire Regarding the Communion Table:

Christmas got in the way of this long promised questionnaire. PCC will meet at the end of January, and we would like to hear the views of congregation members over the next few weeks. The questionnaire will be available in paper form on Sunday, and in electronic form next week.

Christmas Tree Collection: If you are not sure what to do with your Christmas tree, Swindon Borough Council are offering a Christmas tree collection service. Just leave your tree outside your house from January 8 and it will be collected at some point before January 19. Their website reminds you to take off your lights and decorations!



Prayer Meeting WEDNESDAY

Our first church Prayer Meeting of 2018 will be **held in church this coming Wednesday 10th January 2018, from 8pm to 9pm** and will be led by the Rother Close home group. This is an opportunity for us to come together as a church fellowship right at the start of the New Year to seek God's guidance as we commit ourselves, our church and plans, our community and the troubled world in which we live, to God. **Please join us for just one hour on Wednesday evening if you possibly can.**



Calling all Jars of Grace!

Where are you? As at the end of 2017, the tally of JARS/gifts received totals **56**. We have so far received **£3,213** (including Gift Aid tax refunds to come) compared with our final total of £3,531 from 73 Jars/gifts last year. So we still have some way to go to beat last year's total and even further to reach our target of £4,000! Every penny raised is shared between the work we support in Luweero and Tearfund's Children at Risk programme. So, if

you have a Jar of Grace still sitting at home, remember it wants to join its friends! Please bring it back as soon as possible. We will close the 2017 Jar of Grace Appeal on 21st February 2018 and announce the final total in the bulletin on 28th February 2018.. If you haven't used a Jar of Grace this time, you can donate by putting your gift in an envelope marked '**JAR OF GRACE**' and give it to our Treasurer, Andrew, or to one of the Churchwardens. **Cheques should be made payable to 'PCC of St. John's, Haydon Wick'**. Alternatively, you can transfer your donation straight into the St. John's bank account. For further details, please contact Andrew on 725526 or e-mail him on andrew-jeandean@ntlworld.com **Through your generosity we can still reach our target of £4,000!**

St John's on a Slippery Slope

If you go into the Lounge, you will perceive that the floor is no longer flat. From about halfway across it starts to dip downwards. If you walk to the end of the room and put your finger under the skirting board directly beneath the plaque, you will see just how far the floor has subsided. The FFG sub- team knows all about it and has been working on it. Sadly, it is unlikely that we will be able to claim on our insurance because subsidence of this nature seems to be excluded,. Sharon is investigating but it is likely that this will prove to be a very expensive repair.



Please Pray for Dr Bill Geers, a Christian friend of members of our 9am congregation. He was involved in a serious accident resulting in a fractured skull, broken leg damaged ear and is still unconscious in Queen Elizabeth hospital Birmingham. Bill was hit by a car that was out of control yesterday lunchtime, he and Geraldine, his wife were out for a walk at lunchtime. A number of our congregation are suffering from colds and flu.

Message from Felicity Fox:

Do we have your child's birthday so that I can give them a card this year on the big day? If not, please let Catherine know the child's name and date of birth. Thanks



Mon 8th	9.30am	Pram Club
Wed 10th	1.00-3.00pm 8-9pm	Craft Club in Church Room Church Prayer Meeting
Fri 12th	10.30-1.30pm	Rock Café

Please pray for our church family	
Mon 8th	Linda Frost
Tue 9th	Michael & Sheila Galvin
Wed 10th	Liz and Andy Gardner
Thurs 11th	Ben & Libby Gash & family
Fri 12th	Janet Gash
Sat 13th	Barbara Gates
Sun 14th	Eileen Gibson

In Case You Hadn't Heard

Teresa Townsend is on placement with us for the month of January. Many of you will have met her at services before Christmas and she will be preaching next week.

Teresa will be ordained in July.

Services Next Week			
Sunday	9am	Holy Communion 1662	Teresa Townsend
14th Jan	11am	Morning Praise	Teresa Townsend

Parish Office Email: parishoffice@stjohnshaydonwick.org.uk or Telephone 726000. All items for the bulletin to the office in writing by first thing on Wednesday. Thank you.

St John's Haydon Wick

Sunday, January 7th 2018

Epiphany 1

And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year:

"Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown."



And he replied:

"Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God. That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way."

Time	Service	Preacher	Readings
9.00am	Holy Communion	Raymond Adams	Isaiah 43: 1 -7 John 1:1-8
11.00am	All Age Service	Raymond Adams	Isaiah 43:1 – 3 John 1: 1 – 8