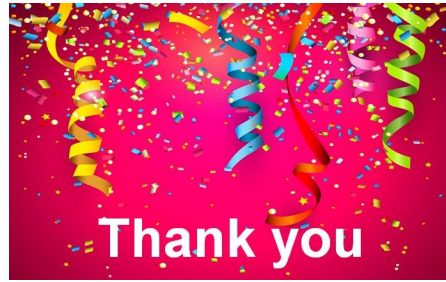


The Seniors' Christmas Lunch:

We want to say a special thank you to all those who took part in the lunch last Saturday. That includes all those of you who provided food for the event, not least the last minute trifles. It was probably the earliest Christmas lunch we have ever had, just scraping into December. However, it gave the children a chance to sing some Christmas carols and of course, "Jingle Bells". It went down very well with the audience. You will get a chance to hear them at Christingle.

Well done to Richard and Gail, and **Faure and Louise** for bringing it all together.



Christingle in St John's:

When we started doing Christingle, it was pretty well the only one in this area. However, since then the popularity of this service has mushroomed, and children are likely to encounter more than one Christingle service each year. However, our St John's Christingle is something special. It takes place in the dark, and despite all the fun, manages to focus on Christ, the Light of the World. This year, Raymond will be doing his "One Man Nativity" once again when he plays all the characters in the Christmas story. The last time we did this at Christingle was 2009, so if you have a good memory, you might just recall it.



Christingle Factory Needed:

Just when it looked as though we had solved the Christingle question for good, we discover we have to do it all over again... It takes a lot of people to put together a hundred oranges, candles, sweets, ribbon and cocktail sticks so when the Craft Club offered to tackle this for us last year, we were delighted. But – and it is a big but – we now have a second Christingle. That takes place at St Francis School and on Christmas Eve at 4:30 PM in the afternoon. If last year is anything to go by, it is likely to be jam-packed. So, we will be running a Christingle factory in church on Saturday morning (23rd) – two days before Christmas Eve. I know this is a lot to ask on such a busy day. But, if you are able to help us with that, then we will be able to get this all sorted at 10:00 AM on Saturday morning in the church kitchen.



Christmas Carols and Crafts:

At the time of writing this event has not yet taken place, but we would value your prayers, if you are reading this on Friday afternoon. Hundreds of invitations have gone out to schools as we seek to engage with the community.



Gusting to Gale Force

Unfortunately, Paul Nichol's best efforts at putting up the banner at the front of church where wiped out less than a week later by ferocious gusts of wind, strong enough to rip the banner. He and Chris Hawkes have had another go, and you will see have managed to put up a second banner as well, on the side of the church facing Morrison's. Many thanks both for all your hard work to keep the local community informed about St. John's.



One Down — Two to Go

Two people have kindly volunteered to look after coffee at Christingle at St Francis.



We really still need volunteers for our: **Christingle service on December 16** and at the **Carol Service on December 23,** here in church.

If you can help, we would love to hear from you.

Mulled Wine Party Raymond and Alison will be holding their annual mulled wine party on **Tuesday December 18th from 7.30 pm onwards.** Do please come along and join us.



A Christmas Message from Russell and Jill Riggs who moved this year:

"We send love and greetings at this special time of year. We are excited about the next stage in our Christian journey walking with new friends and family at Mariners Church in the Gloucester docks. A BIG thank you to you for your prayers, support and well wishes as we move on together. Do please visit if you happen to be in the Frampton on Severn neighbourhood, we want to be in touch with those who have been so important in Russ's journey in particular and in the meantime send our own prayers for a happy, peaceful Festive Season and hoping paths will cross sometime next year."

It is great to hear that they have found their new church home in Gloucester.

Prayers: **Shelley Osborne** has had an accident at work which left her suffering from concussion. **Hong** (from 9am) has broken her wrist in an accident at home; Give thanks for **Mary Smith's** continuing improvement after her operation as she aims for full mobility and freedom from pain in her shoulder. We pray for **Howard and Mary** as they move to Malmesbury, and for **David and Viv** as they prepare for the funeral service following the death of David's mum. **Cath Shel-drake** who has a painful inflamed fluid sac behind the knee.

Mon 10th	9.30am 2pm	Pram Club Christmas Party Homegroup in Quiet Room
Tues 11th	8pm 8pm	Homegroup at 20 Furlong Close Homegroup 27 Garraways, RWB
Wed 12th	1.00-3.00pm 7.30pm	Craft Club in Church Room Homegroup 17 Rother Close
Thurs 13th	7.30pm 7.00pm	Alpha Course in Quiet Room WI Christmas Carol Concert
Fri 14th	10.30am-1.30pm	Rock Café
Sat 15th	1pm	Craft Club Christingle Making in Church Room

Please pray for our church family	
Mon 10th	Lindsey Mason
Tue 11th	June Matthews
Wed 12th	Yvonne McCracken
Thurs 13th	Amy Mead
Fri 14th	Brian & Lesley Mead
Sat 15th	Christian Mead
Sun 16th	Daniel Mead

SCOUT POST

If you want to send cards to people in Swindon, the scout post is the cheapest way to do it. This year, you will be able to get your stamps in church from the scouts themselves. You can have your cards delivered and support those who work hard in these organisations.

Services Next Week			
16th Dec	9am	Holy Communion	Raymond Adams
	11am	Morning Praise	Raymond Adams
	4.30pm	Christingle Service	Raymond Adams



Sunday Dec 09

2nd of Advent

Please note that midnight communion this year will start half an hour earlier at 11.00pm



**The Road
That
Leads to
Life**

Time	Service	Preacher	Readings
9.00am	Holy Communion	Raymond Adams	Proverbs 2: 1-11 Luke 2: 39-52
11.00am	Morning Praise	Raymond Adams	Proverbs 2: 1-11