



DECEMBER 2023 | ISSUE NO.4

# SANDERSTEAD PARISH POST CHURCH NEWS

All Saints' & St Antony's in the Parish of Sanderstead



## Eph 1 : 17- 23

I pray that God... may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places..... and God has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.





# Reflections from the Rector (designate)...



The season of Advent is a time to reflect on the unexpected nature of Jesus humble birth and join in the anticipation of when he will come again to reunite Heaven and Earth once and for all.

As we await Christ's return we have been reminded in the parables of Christ in Matthew's Gospel, to be prepared and ready, we are to use all that God has gifted us with - our money, talents, gifts, resources and time - to share God's love with those in need.



It is easy to share God's love with those we like, our friends and family, those whom we favour. The message of the parable of the sheep and the goats, preached on the Feast of Christ the King (Sunday 26th November 2023) makes clear the work to which we are called.

It reminds us that God will judge us according to our response to human need.

How we treat the least in society - the poor, the homeless, the asylum seeker, the refugee, the disabled, the mentally ill, the disaffected - shows what we think of Christ. Is he really King of our lives? Is he really King of our Church?

The culmination of the Parish Away Day and its distillation of comments, words both spoken and written, highlighted the importance and desire of growing in discipleship of Christ for all ages.

There were particular concerns for children and youth, the environment regarding church buildings and grounds and growing/nurturing the church community as well as the wider community.

The new parish wide vision for All Saints' and St Antony's in the Parish of Sanderstead and key priority areas on which to focus, agreed by the PCC is:

**Growing in Christ. Working together with the community and sharing God's love.**

**Priority areas over next 2-3yrs**

- Children and Youth
- Environment ( buildings and grounds)
- The church community and the wider community

In the new year there will be an invitation to form Working Groups for each of these areas. These will involve a variety of people from the congregations across both churches, with passion for a particular area.

They will meet to discuss some ideas and put forward some actions/projects to work towards achieving over the next 2-3 years.

These actions will be agreed by the PCC as the church's 2-3yr Mission Action Plan.



Everything we decide on should be inspired by the desire to see people growing in the knowledge and love of Christ, working together with each other, as well as the wider community in order to share God's love.

I pray that In this coming season of Advent and Christmas we would examine our hearts, reflecting on the gifts that God has given each one of us and indeed the gifts of our buildings, grounds and other resources. May we truly seek to live as citizens of the Kingdom of God being prepared and willing to share his gifts with those in need, as we venture into a new season for the Church.

*Revd Carol*





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# All Saints at Langley Oaks Care Home

The Rev Carol and the Rev Jeremy with some members of All Saints' have been visiting Langley Oaks Care Home on the afternoon of the third Tuesday of each month to hold a Communion Service for the residents there.



We are warmly welcomed by the staff who help support residents attending the service. The service included singing some hymns accompanied by Rev Carol on her guitar, or Rev Jeremy on his keyboard. One elderly gentleman told me that the song we were singing took him back to his schooldays. It is obvious that the service is meaningful to many residents, helping them access memories of when they went to church.

One lady told me that having the service had helped her settle down in the home when she first started to live there. Some residents share what they would like to pray for. It can be very moving and feels a privilege to take part in the service. Anyone from All Saints would be welcome to attend. We always receive a thank you from residents and staff and it is a good way to keep in touch with the residents living there.

*Sue Wragg*





## Caring for God's Acre

The Gardening Team gathered again in November in preparation for the Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial in All Saints' Upper Graveyard. The stone path around the memorial was cleared of weeds and grass, gravestones were cleared of ivy, moss and other damaging plant growth. There was also some litter picking.



Although the weather had turned quite chilly, the sun was out and the gardening, weeding and litter picking was good exercise. The Rector came and helped to clear the path around the memorial which was quite timely as about 12 people turned up for the 2 minute silence before 11am (it was 11th November after all).



Revd Carol led the 2 minute silence and finished with the words of the Kohima Epitaph.



Afterwards we enjoyed a lovely cuppa with some cake and biscuits on the bench outside and chatted about 'this and that'. It was a beautiful sunny day.

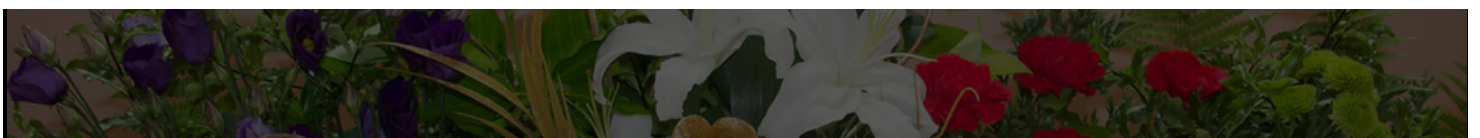
Volunteers are needed to form a Regular Graveyard Maintenance Team. All those able and willing to commit some time to this each month should contact:

**Ann Turner**

Tel: **020 8675 5224**

email: [annturner@go-plus.net](mailto:annturner@go-plus.net)

*Ann Turner*





## Family News



Maureen Palmer still attends a Home group and Sunday lunch at All Saints. She looks forward to receiving Home Communion and of course reading the latest Sanderstead Parish Post.

*Maureen Palmer*

## Poetry Corner

### What does Remembrance day mean to me

“

*It is a very sombre time, for those who recall  
Including my great Uncle -  
Major Ewan MacDougall  
He died in 1916 in World War I  
Never more to be able, to join in family fun.  
He died at Ypres in Belgium one day  
But his body was never found, I am sorry to say  
He is remembered on the Menin Memorial Gate  
Recalling fallen soldiers on their tragic date*

*Twenty One years later World War II began  
And life for me, as a little child, it ran and ran.  
The sirens were a haunting sound in my ears  
And there were times, when there were many  
tears. Bugles were heard, and Peace came at last  
But we will never forget the terrible past*

*Each November the 11th - we remember the dead  
Of those who have fallen, and much is said  
We pray for Peace, especially in this troubled  
world*

*And give thanks for our soldiers and all who care  
about Freedom, Friendship, Unity and PEACE*

Composed by *Margaret Quiney*

Hello from Anne Halliday who resides at Langley Oaks. She is always pleased and thankful for people coming to visit from her All Saints family. She is particularly grateful for the monthly Home Communion service and always greets church volunteers with her infectious smile.



*Anne Halliday*



# The red chair initiative



## Mothers' Union.

Have you seen the red chair in All Saints' Church?

As part of the United Nations 16 Days of Activism against gender based violence (25 November - 10 December) Mothers' Union (MU) has placed this red chair in church to highlight that globally, every 11 seconds, a woman or girl dies at the hand of an intimate partner or family member. These women or girls should still be with us.

We like to think that we stand for strong healthy families. But sadly, that is not always true. Marriage breakdown, emotional abuse and physical violence happen in relationships across communities, churches and cultures.

One important thing we can do is remind ourselves of how God views healthy, happy marriages and families.

And we can also acknowledge the extent and pain of abuse.

We can commit to responding compassionately to those who suffer, and to aid in their healing through practical and spiritual support: listen to women who say they are abused and take them seriously; create safe spaces where survivors are listened to, believed and loved.

Pray with them. We don't have to be experts and if there is a case of abuse, seek professional guidance.

Domestic Abuse can affect individuals and families of all backgrounds. It can happen to anyone from any walk of life. If you ever have concerns contact one of our Parish safeguarding Officers.

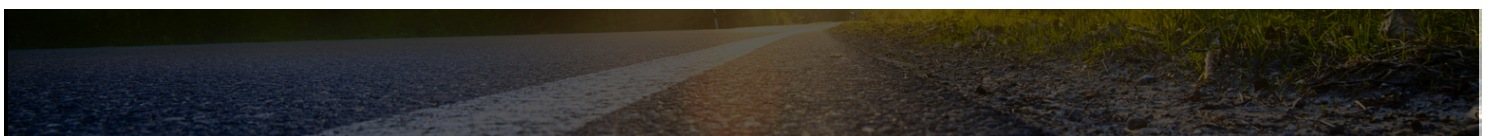


**Julie Marsh:** 8651 2109 - [julie.safeguarding@sanderstead-parish.org.uk](mailto:julie.safeguarding@sanderstead-parish.org.uk)

**Katheryn Hewitt:** 8651 6308 - [katheryn.safeguarding@sanderstead-parish.org.uk](mailto:katheryn.safeguarding@sanderstead-parish.org.uk)

(To find out more about the MU go to [www.mothersunion.org](http://www.mothersunion.org) or speak to one of our members at All Saints)

*Rosemary Kempell CBE*





# Confirmation service

On Sunday 29th October Marion Davies, Debbie Sutton and Gina Betts from All Saints were confirmed by Bishop Rosemarie at a Confirmation Service held at St Mary's Church, Sanderstead. Debbie was also baptised.



“

Being Confirmed will be the beginning of a new chapter in my life, where I will learn more about the Lord Jesus Christ and learn more about myself as a Christian”

*Marion Davies*



“

The reason for getting confirmed was to bring me closer to God and become more united with the church. The actual confirmation service strengthened my journey of faith and I pray that with this, I will become a better person knowing that Jesus will surround me with his love”

*Debbie Sutton*

“

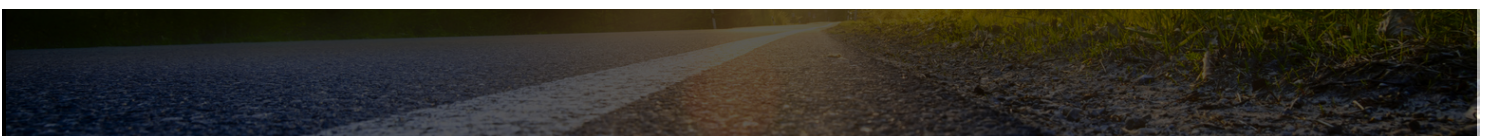
For me and after a period of illness, the desire to be confirmed was as natural as breathing. It felt as though there was a missing part of me and when the bishop placed her hands on me I felt a rush of emotions, like I was being restored. My confirmation has allowed me to feel confident in my faith and to build upon my relationship with God, whilst it has prepared me for my onward journey”

*Georgina Betts*



O Lord, you have searched me out and known me; you know my sitting down and my rising up; you discern my thoughts from afar. You mark out my journeys and my resting place and are acquainted with all my ways. Amen.

**Psalm 139:1-2**





## The Geoffrey Coffin Organ part 1...

The Geoffrey Coffin organ in St Antony's Church started life as a somewhat unique and controversial project.

In 1970 the St Antony's Team Vicar at that time was a pipe organ enthusiast and Geoffrey Coffin was the parish organist at All Saints'. Geoffrey was invited to draw up a scheme to acquire a second-hand pipe organ and rebuild it in St Antony's using help from the congregation with a team led by the vicar, the Rev John Hamilton.



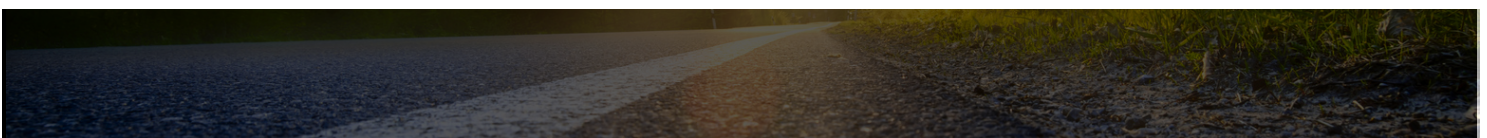
During the summer of 1970, pipework and soundboards were acquired via a student's bedroom in Thames Ditton and transported back to Hamsey Green. A working party from the men's social group was formed and work commenced on cleaning the pipework. New direct electric chests for the bottom octaves of the 8' fluework, Swell reed and Pedal division were constructed by Geoffrey together with new electro-pneumatic actions for the Swell and Great organs, pneumatic stop actions and new reservoirs for the winding. The soundboards were overhauled, splits attended to and slider seals fitted. The building team led by the vicar assembled the building frame, installed the chests, built the mobile console and installed the low voltage wiring.

The organ was completed over two years and Geoffrey gave the opening recital on the 16th February 1973. The Organ stands in memory of Mr Kenneth Eagle, a member of the building team, who died in a motor accident whilst the organ was being constructed. His widow Audrey provided continuing financial support for the upkeep of the instrument until she died in 2014.



In the early hours of Christmas Eve 2013, the church roof suffered major storm damage and the organ suffered major water damage. It was estimated that vast sums of money would be needed for it to be repaired.

During investigations this year, by Revd Carol, to remove the organ in order to build in extra storage space for the church, the diocesan Organ Inspectors found that the organ was playing very well with only a few keys not playing and stated there was nothing to justify its removal - it just needed tuning!







## The Geoffrey Coffin Organ part 2...

This would cost at least £812 for a regular annual tuning contract and the organ would need playing regularly to keep in good condition. Derek Funnell, a previous Church Warden came to mind.

After sending him a copy of the newsletter, Revd Carol asked if he would be willing to come and tune the organ (he had done this in previous years but now lives in Wiltshire).



Derek and his wife Hilary were so pleased to hear that St Antony's had re-opened as a parish church again that they agreed to tune the organ as a labour of love, in thanks to God. Derek had also helped to build this organ when he was a teenager!

The Geoffrey Organ Pipe organ is now fully functioning and tuned and will be re-launched at the Carol Service at St Antony's on December 10th at 3pm. John Jones will be the Organist and there will be a joint All Saints' and St Antony's Choir. Revd Cecil Heatley, another St Antony's previous Team Vicar from the 70's, will be the Speaker at this service. All are very welcome to come.

### ATTENTION ORGANISTS

**Please contact Paul Shipley, Parish Administrator Parish of Sanderstead, to book some time each month to play the organ at St Antony's Church.**

Tel: 020 8657 0665

*Revd Carol*



The All Saints' Craft Club, 'Crafty People', is happy to report that our annual charity craft sale has raised approximately £950 this year.



40% per of the proceeds will go to Dementia UK and 40% percent of the proceeds will go to Croydon Nightwatch. The remaining 20% will go to All Saints. Thank you to all the crafters and shoppers who supported the event.



Crafty People meet on the first Friday of the month in All Saints small hall, Onslow Gardens. All welcome. NB There will be no meeting in January due to the halls being used for a pantomime.

*Katheryn Hewitt*

*Sue Chillman*



# Table Top Sale



I am so happy to report the good things happening here at St Antony's. We took note of what was badly needed and long overdue in Hamsey Green. We are now trying to put all this into action! The Cafe Church is doing well and very enjoyable. Wednesday Drop In (Place of Welcome) brings hope it will garner some momentum, being very well thought out with plenty to do. T4U is doing very well and has been running for over 10 years. The WSG is also a joy, which has also been operating for 50 years non-stop.

Our Table Top Sale was splendid indeed, we had a full and heart-warming church. We subsequently received great interest for booking the hall for Parties! A fantastic start!

*Barbara Webster Dudley*



A cross was placed outside the church entrance inviting anyone to add a message of their own! Lest we forget!

We are now looking forward to the Carol service, on the 10th Dec. 3pm, the newly refurbished organ brought back to life will be played for the first time in many years. Thanks and gratitude to Derek and Hilary Funnell.





# Remembrance Sunday service

On Sunday 12th November the All Saints Remembrance Sunday service was led by many children and young people from the 16th Purley Scouts, Cubs and Beavers. Many of them read Bible readings and prayers during the service, in front of a full church congregation. One youngster read a Biography from Thomas Dewing, 34th Division, Royal Engineers during WW1.



It was encouraging to see so many of them involved and keen to take part when asked to help out, and they felt very 'at home' in the church. Their parents would be very proud of them. It was great to see so many (total of 59 children) and their families joining with us for worship. The service continued after the final hymn - Lead us Heavenly Father, lead us- with an Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial at 11am precisely.



“

*They shall grow not old,  
as we that are left grow old;  
age shall not weary them,  
nor the years condemn.*

*At the going down of the sun  
and in the morning,  
we will remember them.*

*We will remember them.*

*When you go home  
tell them of us and say,  
for your tomorrow  
we gave our today.*

*Chris Bates*



## *Men's Group trip to watch the 2023 Veteran Car Run*



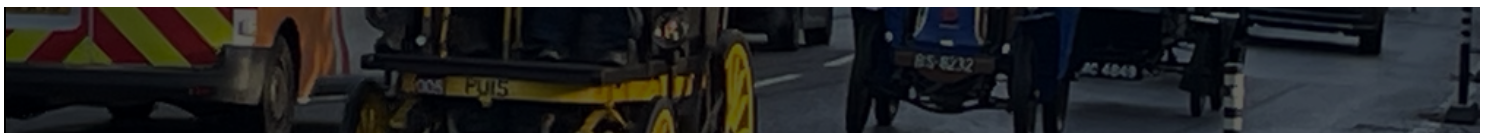
On Sunday 5th November, a small group of us gathered on the Brighton Road at about 7.50 am to watch the old cars go past on their way to Brighton. The first car we saw (almost immediately) was about 10 minutes ahead of any others but by 8.30 am they were coming thick and (occasionally) fast.

The official entrants were all well over 100 years old and came in all shapes and sizes, at least one carrying six people and several being steam driven. There were also a number of old motor cycles, bicycles and other unusual cars to keep us interested. We waved encouragement and most people waved back, including the cyclists. Imagine – 65 miles on a penny farthing!



Before we knew it, it was 9.15 and time to head up to All Saints for the morning service, with a minor delay caused by some of us getting into the wrong car. No names!

*Dick Hibberd* Secretary to the PCC





# Notices

## PARISH CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Dear **Guests**, we still have a few spaces for guests at the Parish Christmas Day lunch. If you or someone you know will be on your own on Christmas Day please contact the Parish Office as soon as possible for an invitation.

**Donations** As in previous years, we should be very grateful for donations towards the Parish Christmas day lunch. There is a list of requirements at the back of All Saints, for perishable and non-perishable items. Please sign up for anything you can provide. We should also be grateful for any monetary donations or offers to give guests a lift to and / or from the lunch.

Electronic donations should be made payable to:

**Sanderstead All Saints PCC Sort code:** 55-70-30 **Account no:** 34786996 **REF: Christmas lunch**, or by cheque / cash in an envelope to the Parish Office, clearly marked "Christmas Lunch".

*Dick Hibberd* Secretary to the PCC

Donations can also be made in the Parish Office by Card.  
Many thanks in advance for your generosity.

**Dick:** 07775 824743, [dick.hibberd@gmail.com](mailto:dick.hibberd@gmail.com)

**Corrie:** 07891 693315, [corinna.hibberd@gmail.com](mailto:corinna.hibberd@gmail.com)

**Both:** 020 8657 4562



## Editors Notes



*George Braimah*

email:  
[sandersteadparishnews@outlook.com](mailto:sandersteadparishnews@outlook.com)

*All glorious articles to George by 20th December please. The next edition will be issued early January.*

## RECTOR'S OFFICE NOTICES

### General Synod

Revd Carol was at the November General Synod and has written a report for the Croydon South Deanery. This is available in the church foyers (both churches) for church members to read, should they be interested.

### 27 Nov to 1 December

Revd Carol was away on a Nuts & Bolts Residential Diocesan Course at Wychcroft Retreat & Resource Centre, Redhill. This is for incumbents in their first two years of ministry.

### 4 – 6 December

Revd Carol will be on annual leave.

### 16 December

Home Communion Pastoral Team meeting at 10am in All Saints Church.

### 30 December – 7 January

Revd Carol will be on annual leave.

MERRY  
*Christmas*



## A Christmas Invitation

At All Saints' Sanderstead  
Sunday 17 December  
6.30pm

# Carols by *Candlelight*

Lessons & carols, followed by mulled wine and mince pies.  
[www.sanderstead-parish.org.uk](http://www.sanderstead-parish.org.uk)

St. Antony's Church, Wentworth Way, Hamsey Green, CR2 9EW  
[www.sanderstead-parish.org.uk](http://www.sanderstead-parish.org.uk)

# Carols by Candlelight

Sunday 10th December  
3.00pm

Speaker: Cecil Heatley  
(Former Team Vicar)

*Re-launch of the original pipe organ*



# A Christmas Invitation

## A Christmas Invitation

from

All Saints & St. Antony's  
in the Parish of Sanderstead



### Christmas Services 2023

Wishing you a very happy Christmas from All Saints & St. Antony's.  
We warmly invite you to...

#### Advent Carols

Sunday 3 December, 3.00 pm at All Saints  
Come & celebrate the beginning of Advent.

#### Christingle

Sunday 10 December, 9.30 am at All Saints  
Every child will be given a Christingle.  
Retiring collection for The Children's Society

#### Carols by Candlelight

Sunday 10 December, 3.00 pm at St. Antony's  
Re-launch of the original pipe organ. Speaker: Cecil Heatley  
Retiring collection for Crisis

#### Carols by Candlelight

Sunday 17 December, 6.30 pm at All Saints  
Retiring collection for Jerusalem & Middle East Church Association

#### Crib Service

Christmas Eve, 3.00 pm at All Saints  
Retiring collection for Croydon Refugee Day Centre

#### Midnight Mass

Christmas Eve, 11.30pm at All Saints  
Retiring collection for All Saints' & St. Antony's Mission

#### Parish Eucharist

Christmas Day, 9.30 am at All Saints  
Come & worship the Christ child, born this day.  
Retiring collection for All Saints' & St. Antony's Mission





# Service Calendar



## All Saints' & St Antony's in the PARISH of SANDERSTEAD


All Sunday 9.30am services at All Saints Church are livestreamed.

[www.sanderstead-parish.org.uk](http://www.sanderstead-parish.org.uk)

## DECEMBER 2023 - All Saints' Church

<b>Sunday 3 December</b> <b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Traditional Parish Eucharist</b> with choir & healing prayer. Speaker: Revd Kevin Garrett	
<i>Come &amp; celebrate the beginning of Advent</i>	<b>3.00pm</b>	<b>ADVENT CAROL SERVICE</b> Speaker: Revd Carol Bates	
<b>Sunday 10 December</b> <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent</b> <b>CHRISTINGLE</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Parish Eucharist</b> Speaker: Sandra Sfeir (Children's Society) <b>PARADE SERVICE</b>	
<b>Sunday 17 December</b> <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Traditional Parish Eucharist</b> with choir. Speaker: Revd Carol Bates	
	<b>6.30 pm</b>	<b>CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT</b> Speaker: Revd Carol Bates	
<b>Thursday 21 December</b>	<b>12.30pm</b>	<b>Midweek Holy Communion</b>	
<b>Sunday 24 December</b> <b>Christmas Eve</b>	<b>8.00am</b>	<b>Said Eucharist</b> Speaker: Revd Kevin Garrett	
	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Parish Eucharist</b> - modern songs Speaker: Revd Carol Bates	
	<b>3.00 pm</b>	<b>CRIB SERVICE</b> <i>For children of all ages, and their parents/carers.</i>	
	<b>11.30pm</b>	<b>MIDNIGHT MASS</b> Speaker: Revd Carol Bates	
<b>Christmas Day</b> <i>(Monday)</i>	<b>9.30 am</b>	<b>Parish Eucharist</b> Speaker: Revd Carol Bates <i>Followed by Christmas Lunch for those who have signed up.</i>	
<b>Saturday 30 December</b>	<b>9.00 am</b>	<b>PARISH PRAYER</b> In St. Catherine's Aisle	
<b>Sunday 31 December</b> <b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas</b>	<b>9.30 am</b>	<b>Parish Eucharist</b> - modern songs Speaker: Revd Kevin Garrett	

## St. Antony's Church

<b>Sunday 3 December</b>	<b>3.00 pm</b>	<b>CAFÉ CHURCH - 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent</b>	
<b>Sunday 10 December</b> Speaker: Revd Carol Bates	<b>3.00 pm</b>	<b>CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT</b> <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent</b>	
<b>Mon 11 December</b>	<b>2.00 pm</b>	<b>T4U</b> ( <i>T4U on Mon 25<sup>th</sup> Dec is cancelled.</i> )	
<b>Sundays 17, 24 &amp; 31 December</b>	<b>3.00 pm</b>	<b>CAFÉ CHURCH - 3<sup>rd</sup> &amp; 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of Advent &amp; 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas</b>	