

Making Disciples who make Jesus known

HEADLINE NEWS!

JOINT SERVICES IN DECEMBER

Please note changes to the usual Sunday pattern of services in the Parish this month:

Sunday 8th December - Joint 10.30am service at **ST JOHN'S**

Sunday 22nd December - Joint 10.30am service at **ST LUKE'S**

Sunday 29th December - Joint 10.30am service at **ST LUKE'S**

There will be the 9.00am Holy Communion service at St John's each Sunday throughout December as usual and also on Christmas Day morning. For all other services please check out the leaflet on page 3.



On Sunday 1st December we held our Parade/Toy Service at St John's. Representatives from **MARTIN HOUSE CHILDREN'S HOSPICE** and 'Marty Bear' came along to meet the children and to collect the HUGE amount of donations of good quality used toys that were given for sale in their shop on Commercial Street. They would like to once again thank everyone for giving so generously as the money they generate will really help them with the planned works at the hospice next year to enable them to provide the amazing service to even more families in the future.

Thank you to everyone that organised and supported the **CHRISTMAS FAIR** at St Luke's last Saturday, over £1500 was raised for church funds, which is a truly wonderful amount. There are a number of raffle prizes at the church office that need to be collected: **Green** 618, 637, 721, 737, 801, **Pink** 14, 121, 124 and **Yellow** 306.

TODAY'S SERVICES AND EVENTS

SUNDAY 8TH DECEMBER (*Second Sunday of Advent*)

9.00am Holy Communion (SJ)

10.30am **JOINT** Holy Communion (**SJ**)

Readings: Malachi 3:1-4; Luke 3:1-6

4.00pm Café Church Carols and Afternoon Tea (SL)

6-7.15pm Ignite (Year 7+ Youth Group) (SL)

CHURCH LIFE



UNEXPECTED GUEST

Will you join our tradition of setting a place for an unexpected guest (who might be Jesus)?

Rather than turkey and all the trimmings, we put onto the plate what the meal would have cost, and bring that to either church.

This year all donations received will go to **Harrogate Homeless Project**. Plates are available for collection now.

COMFORT BEREAVEMENT CAFÉ

will be at St John's on Tuesday 10th December, 2-3.30pm.

Comfort is a place to be alongside others who are experiencing grief and share the pain of loss. People will be there to listen to you as an individual and respect your story.

Afternoon tea will be served and there will be an opportunity to light a candle for a loved one.

A warm welcome awaits.

There is no need to book, all are welcome.



Comfort
bereavement café



Come and join us to sing Christmas Carols at **LILYPAD** on Kings Road on Thursday 19th December, 8pm.



YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S WORK

IGNITE
SUNDAYS
6-7.15pm
St LUKE'S CHURCH

THIS WEEK:
the BIG Christmas Quiz!

a St Aidan's
lunchtime club

10:10

DOES CHRIST MAS!!

A PLACE TO CHAT,
PLAY GAMES,
MAKE FRIENDS,
EXPLORE THEMES

wednesdays
12.35-1.20
in the chapel.
bring your lunch

St John's Church, Bilton Lane, HG1 3DT

St Luke's Church, Franklin Square, HG1 5EL

www.stjohnsandstlukes.org.uk



Advent and Christmas Services and Events at St John's & St Luke's

Saturday 30th November

Christmas Fair 10.30am-1pm @ St Luke's Church

Sunday 1st December

Advent Carols 6.30pm @ St John's Church

Sunday 8th December

Christmas Carols and Afternoon Tea 4pm @ St Luke's Church

Saturday 14th December

Christmas Coffee Morning 10am-12noon @ St John's Church Hall

Sunday 15th December

Christingle Service 5pm @ St John's Church

Sunday 22nd December

Nine Lessons & Carols 6.30pm @ St John's Church

Tuesday 24th December

Nativity Service 4.00pm @ St John's Church

Midnight Holy Communion 11.30pm @ St John's Church

Wednesday 25th December

Christmas Holy Communion 10.30am @ St John's Church





The
Children's
Society



Let's come together to **celebrate** **Christingle.**

Christingle is a great way for communities everywhere to get together this Christmas to catch up, make some special memories, and have fun.

Come and join us!

Location: **St John's Church, Bilton Lane,
HG1 3DT**

Date: **15th December** **Time:** **5pm**

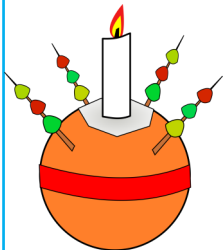
To find out more, contact:

www.stjohnsandstlukes.org.uk

christingle.org

Scan the
QR code
to find
out more.





We will be making **CHRISTINGLES** at the coffee morning but are encouraging those that are able to, to make them at home and bring them along.

You can pick up your pack to make your Christingles at home from both churches.

If you would like to make your own Christingles at home, you can follow this video to see how and why to do it [How to make a Christingle on Vimeo](#)

USED POSTAGE STAMPS are once again being collected by local Girlguiding to raise funds to finish off the rebuild of Birk Crag. Stamps can be dropped off in the parish office, at 22 Albany Avenue or 52 Hill Top Avenue

Jonathan Gough, Archdeacon of Richmond and Craven, will be leaving the diocese in January next year. He is moving because his wife, Flora Winfield, has now taken up her responsibilities as the Bishop of Selby in the Diocese of York. If individuals wish to contribute to a farewell gift, please could you do so by **Friday 10th January 2024**. Cheques should be made payable to **Bishop of Leeds Special Fund**, and sent to the Finance Officer at Hollin House, Weetwood Avenue, Leeds LS16 5NG. Alternatively, payments can be made to the same account at **Lloyds Bank, sort code: 30 91 12, account number: 00018083** with 'Ven Jonathan Gough' as the reference.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

FRONT OF HOUSE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Around 30 volunteers give 4 hours of their time on a regular basis to help run our library during its opening hours. Could you spare some time to join them and become part of the team? You would:

- Create a welcoming environment for everyone.
- Help children and adults find and engage with books, information, services and activities.
- Use and maintain the library IT system.
- Manage the borrowing, return and rotation of books and resources.

Full training will be given. For more information email the library on info@biltonandwoodfield.org.uk or call into the library for an application form.



ST JOHN'S CHURCH BILTON

CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING

SATURDAY 14th DECEMBER

ENTRANCE £1

10AM-12NOON

(accompanied children free)

Refreshments included in entry fee

Home-made cakes

Hand-made cards

Large choice of books

Christingle making

Raffle

Tombola



**RAISING MONEY FOR
THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY**





For unto us
a child is born!



Nativity Service

4.00pm

24th December 2024,
St John's Church, Bilton Lane,
HGI 3DT

Invite your friends and family to join us on a Journey to Bethlehem as we hear the Christmas story unfold. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Fancy dress welcome!

Website: www.stjohnsandstlukes.org.uk
Phone: 01423 565129
Email: church@stjohnsandstlukes.org.uk

THE GREEN TEAM

HOW TO HAVE AN ECO-CHRISTMAS

Top Tips

- Look out for gifts that come with as little packaging as possible, or some you can recycle.
- Doing a family Secret Santa means you don't have to buy a present for everyone.
- Choose second hand. If you're doing a Secret Santa, how's about saying that it has to be bought from a charity shop?
- Make something yourself, such as biscuits or fudge. You can choose your own packaging, and the personal effort involved makes a gift priceless.
- Give an experience.
- Buy sustainable products.
- If you are sending Christmas cards, recycle last year's to make your own cards.
- Alternatively, send an eCard that saves on paper and stamps.

SUPPORTING MINISTRY & MISSION

A big thank you to our amazing supporters who raise free funds for us on **EASYFUNDRAISING**. If you're not signed up yet, please join today and you can raise free donations for Bilton St John & St Luke - Yorkshire every time you shop online for Christmas. All the big names like John Lewis & Partners, M&S, Argos, eBay and many more are ready to make a free donation at no extra cost to you. Join here: <https://join.easyfundraising.org.uk/biltonstjohnandstluke/3K3MLA/c2s/ZdU7Z020/CE941/facebook/>



Choose the UK's most trusted home insurer and we'll donate **£130** to your church. At Ecclesiastical, we pride ourselves on providing honest and specialist insurance, and our home insurance is no different. To benefit, all you have to do is quote **'Trust130'** when you take out your policy, and we will arrange the rest. To get a quote: speak to one of our team who will be happy to help: phone 0345 777 3322; or email household@ecclesiastical.com; or visit www.ecclesiastical.com/trust130



We love welcoming everyone into our churches, whether it's to mark an important time in someone's life, to worship regularly, or to come together in the heart of the community.

If you'd like to support your local church, perhaps you'd consider making a gift?

You can make a regular or one-off gift simply and safely online, through the

PGS, scan the QR code to find out more.



THIS WEEK'S DIARY

MONDAY 9 DECEMBER

- 9-9.30am Morning Prayer (SJ)
10.00am Bilton Grange School
Nativity (SJ)
1.30pm Bilton Grange School
Nativity (SJ)

TUESDAY 10 DECEMBER

- 9-9.30am Morning Prayer (SJ)
10.00am Bilton Grange School
Nativity (SJ)
10.00am Walking Group (SJ)
2-3.30pm Comfort Café (SJ)

WEDNESDAY 11 DECEMBER

- 9-9.30am Morning Prayer (SJ)
10.30am Holy Communion (SJ)
10.30am Thirst—Coffee at Dene
Park Community Centre
12.15pm Christmas Community
Lunch at Bilton
Community Centre
1.00pm Funeral: Beryl Sallery
(Stonefall)
1.30pm Bilton Grange School
Nativity (SJ)

THURSDAY 12 DECEMBER

- 9-9.30am Morning Prayer (SJ)
9.30-11.30am Little Fishes (Parent
& Child Group) (SL)

- 11.00am Funeral: Maureen
Walden (SJ)
1.30pm Bilton Grange School
Nativity (SJ)

FRIDAY 13 DECEMBER

- 1-3.00pm Wellbeing Café (SL)
6.30-7.15pm Junior Choir Practice
(SJ)
7-7.45pm Adult Choir Practice (SJ)

SATURDAY 14 DECEMBER

- 10.00am-12noon Coffee Morning in
Church Hall (SJ)

SUNDAY 15 DECEMBER *(Third Sunday of Advent)*

- 9.00am Holy Communion (SJ)
10.30am Morning Worship (SJ)
*Readings: Philippians 4:4-7
Luke 3:7-18*
4.00pm Morning Worship (SL)
*Readings: Philippians 4:4-7
Luke 3:7-18*
5.00pm Christingle Service (SJ)
6.30-7.45pm Ignite Christmas
Party (Year 7+ Youth
Group) (SL)

CONTACT US

SAFEGUARDING

For any queries or concerns, contact

Gill Clarke (Parish Safeguarding Officer)

safeguarding.sjsl@outlook.com Tel: 07837 186435 / 01423 565129

THE MINISTRY TEAM

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