

St Gabriel's

Weekly Update for Sunday 12 December Advent 3

SUN 12 DEC - **Advent 3**

10.30am: Holy Communion - in person, no children's or youth groups this week, streamed live via St Gabriel's YouTube. To listen live instead, call 020 8191 0680.

3.00pm All Age Carols - a fun service of Carols and the Christmas story for all ages. In person only. Mince pies and drinks will be served afterwards!

(no evening service today)



UPDATED CORONAVIRUS RESTRICTIONS As far as we know, all our planned Christmas events and services are expected to go ahead unchanged - except for the requirement that instead of recommending mask wearing for parts of the service, **we are now obliged to mask wear at all times inside church,**

in the same manner as public transport, shops and other indoor spaces. We recognise that there are some people with valid exceptions to mask wearing and that not all exceptions are visible but please do wear a mask in church if you are able. Those operating on the platform will continue to remove masks when presenting and children under the age of 11 are also exempt.

We intend to continue providing hospitality and ask that you adjust your mask as little as possible to have a drink.

What's on this week?

Some of our regular activities have already stopped for a Christmas break - they will be back in the week beginning 10 January.

Mon 13 Dec 11:30am Funeral of Dorothy Bender

Mon 13 Dec 8.00pm English Conversation Class

Tue 14 Dec 7.15am Prayer Breakfast (online)

Tue 14 Dec 7pm **MAPESBURY DELL CAROLS** - a group of us are heading to the Mapesbury Dell to sing carols and invite people to join us in worshipping Jesus at St Gabriel's this Christmas. If you'd like to join the singing, please meet at church first at 6.30 - but all are welcome to come and lend your support in the Dell (off Hoveden Road NW2 3XD)

Fri 17 Dec 7.30pm Youth Christmas Fun



Next Sunday 19 Dec - **Advent 4**

10.30am Holy Communion - in-person, with groups for children, streamed live via St Gabriel's YouTube, available shortly thereafter. To listen live, call 020 8191 0680.

6.30pm: Carol Service - in-person and livestreamed via St Gabriel's YouTube



Our Christmas card - do take cards for those you'd like to invite to join you for a Christmas service.

*** Invite your friends and neighbours to Carols - today 3pm and next Sunday 19 Dec 6.30pm with our choir)**

This year we will give our Carols offerings

to GLASS DOOR - you can give on our website too - scan the QR code and follow the link. **GLASS DOOR** partners with churches and community centres to give shelter and support, because no-one should have to sleep on the streets of London. Please give generously this Christmas!



Christmas at St Gabriel's

Please visit st-gabriels.org/christmas for details of all our Christmas services or how to give to our Christmas appeal with Glass Door for a route out of homelessness.

Sun 12 Dec
3.00pm

All Age Carols
Family-friendly all age carol service with an interactive telling of the Christmas Story. Dressing up encouraged!

Sun 19 Dec
6.30pm

Carol Service
A service of carols and readings with a brief talk and our Christmas Choir

Fri 24 Dec
11.30pm

Midnight Communion
Celebrate Christmas at the stroke of Midnight with communion

Sat 25 Dec
10.30am

Christmas Day Service
Celebrate the birth of Jesus with us, all welcome, with communion



Why not try visiting online this year?
youtube.com/stgabrielscriclewood

ECO TIP OF THE WEEK

Eco tip: The average UK family uses at least 3.75 pints of milk a week. Older members of the congregation will remember when

milk was delivered to our homes in glass bottles that were then put out to be collected and reused. Nowadays most people get their milk in plastic bottles from the supermarket. This results in an enormous amount of one-use plastic being produced. To reduce this, you might like to consider the following suggestions. Firstly, cutting down on the amount of milk we use. This will not only reduce plastic use, but it is recommended that we all consume less dairy products to reduce global warming. If you do buy milk, please think about getting it in other forms of packaging. Supermarkets also sell UHT milk in cardboard cartons, and there are still traditional dairies that continue to deliver milk in glass bottles.



St Gabriel's

**At the heart
of Christmas**



St Gabriel's Christmas events - more information at st-gabriels.org/christmas

All Age Carols Sun 12 Dec 3pm

Mapesbury Dell Carol Singing Tue 14 Dec 6.30pm

Carol Service Sun 19 Dec 6.30pm

Midnight Communion Fri 24 Dec 11.30pm

All Age Christmas Communion Sat 25 Dec 10.30am

Simple Said Communion Service Sun 26 Dec 10.30am



Our Christmas Charity this year is Glass Door who work with churches to help the homeless in London.



Community Christmas Dinner at Cricklewood Baptist Church - they are again doing a free community dinner on Christmas Day. Folks can join for the service there at 10.30am or join for lunch at 1.00pm and stay for games, quizzes etc until 6pm. Christmas. For details of how to get involved, or to let them know you are planning to come, email Stephen at admin@cricklewoodbc.org (or talk to James or Sarah to help you get in touch).

Prayer Points

Do pray during the week for all our events at St Gabriel's, sharing the love in Cricklewood. Here are some additional topics for prayer:

- Thank God for Advent! As we prepare to celebrate Jesus' birth, his first coming, pray for us all to experience God coming to us in the ordinary things of life/ in the everyday. And ask God to prepare us to be ready for him when he comes again.
- Thank God for Christmas! Pray for God's Spirit to breathe through all our services and reveal the wonder of Immanuel, God with us. 
- Pray for people to come along, having seen our cards at the park run, through their door, handed to them in the street, or however! Pray that all who come will take a step nearer to Jesus, the heart of Christmas.
- Thank God for Glass Door, providing shelter and a way out of homelessness, and for them to have enough funds to help many. Pray for people to give generously in our carols offerings.
- Thank God for the freedom we have to sing carols and talk to people publicly about Christmas, and for being part of Mapesbury Dell Carols. May God bring the words alive as people join in singing them!
- Pray for God's protection from Covid, amid increasing cases and reintroduced measures to keep each other safe. 
- Continue to thank God for the successful appointment of our new Bishop. Pray for the Revd Canon Lusa Nsenga-Ngoy as he prepares to become Bishop of Willesden in January. Pray for those working on his house, for it to be ready, and for Lusa and Mirjam and their 3 children as they answer God's call and prepare for all the changes.