

25th December | Notices

SJ-St James', SJCC-St James' Church Centre,
SMSJ-St Mary & St John's at Gorse Ride Junior School,
SMSJPC-SMSJ Parish Centre, SE-St Eligius Church
AGCC - Arborfield Green Community Centre

Sunday 25th	Christmas Day
8.00am	Holy Communion BCP (SJ)
9.30am	Family Communion (SJ)
10.00am	Joint service for SMSJ and SE (SE) **No service at SMSJ**
11.00am	Parish Communion (SJ)
Sunday 1st	2nd Sunday of Christmas
11.00am	Parish Communion (SJ) – joint service for the whole parish
Wednesday 4th	
9.15am	Toddler Praise (SE)
Sunday 8th	Epiphany
8.00am	Holy Communion BCP (SJ)
9.30am	Café Church (SJ)
9.30am	Holy Communion (SMSJ)
11.00am	Parish Communion (SJ)
11.00am	Holy Communion (SE)
6.00pm	Evensong (SJ)

Parish Office

The Parish office is closed and will reopen on Thursday 5th January. For urgent enquiries please contact Robert Alder on 07772 052065 robert@alder.ndo.co.uk or Revd. Leonard on 07415042442 or rector@finchampstead.co.uk

Fledgelings Baby and Toddler Group and Toddler Praise

Toddler Praise will be back on Wednesday 4th and Fledgelings on Monday 9th January 2023.

Card on the Tree in SJCC & at SMSJ in aid of Christian Aid's Christmas Appeal - Too late to add a card but you can still donate by phone on 020 7523 2269 or online by visiting www.caid.org.uk/eastafricaappeal

Quiz with Supper: Saturday 21st January, 7pm in St James' Church Centre. Everyone welcome. Tickets are £15 each which includes a two-course supper. Come as a team of 6 or just come along and join others to make up a team. Tickets available after most Sunday Services, visit our website pfc-church.uk or call the Parish office on 0118 973 0133 to reserve your tickets. We look forward to seeing you.

Finchampstead and Barkham Relief in Sickness Fund

If you are ill, convalescent, disabled or infirm, living in the Parishes of Finchampstead and Barkham, and need items or support which you cannot afford, the Finchampstead and Barkham Relief in Sickness Fund may be able to help. Please contact Cllr Steve Bromley (0118) 973 3553 steve.bromley@btopenworld.com; Cllr Roland Cundy (0118) 9731056 roland@finchampstead.net or Revd. Leonard (0118) 9732102 rector@finchampstead.co.uk

One Joint Service on New Year's Day (1 Jan)

What a glorious way to welcome the new year by joining together to worship as a parish at St James' at 11am. All most welcome.

An Appeal from our Green Team

Please do try to do what you can for our environment by disposing of all the Christmas cards, wrapping paper, food waste, bottles etc as carefully as you can. We know it takes extra time to sort it properly, but it will make such a difference to God's creation. Thank you.

Youth Club – New Year, Fresh Start

Fri 13th Jan 6.30-8pm at St Eligius Church, Arborfield

Join us for our first session for 2023! We will be planning the year ahead and would love **your** input! In this session you can help us create activities **you** want. This will be a creative session, so bring big and small ideas.

Confirmation Service Sunday 26th March at St Paul's

Wokingham We have been offered the opportunity to join with St Paul's Church and All Saints' Church Wokingham to present candidates for confirmation on 26th March. Preparation classes will begin at St James' Church Centre on Sunday 15th January 5-6pm. Please contact the office if you are interested office@stjames.finchampstead.co.uk

Emotionally Healthy Spirituality – 7.30pm 12th January SJCC

A group will be meeting on four Thursdays in the new year to explore the Emotionally Healthy Spirituality course at St James Church Centre. All are invited to join in the fun and conversation over some light refreshments. We meet from 7.15pm for tea, coffee, and cakes, for a 7.30pm start. Let us know you're coming office@stjames.finchampstead.co.uk



Save the Date

12 Jan 2pm Mothers' Union Meeting (SJCC)

21 Jan Quiz evening with supper (SJCC)

31 Jan 7.30pm Parish Prayer Meeting (SJCC)

11 Mar Churchyard Spring Tea (SJCC)

18 Mar Family bingo with afternoon tea (SJCC)

1 July Church Fete on Memorial Park

Parish Intercessions List – Please pray for: Joyce Beckett, Sophie Hall, Ann Pask, Colin Ramsay McClaren, Linda Whiteside, Gerry and Steve Prosser, David Powell, Bob Helliwell, Pamela Redford, Mo Nottage, Daniel, Helen & Chris Goble, John Coombs, Tina Worrell, Alison Woodrow, Ginger Timms, Regina and Bella, Hannah and Tom Edwards, Jamie-Marie Hemming, Rob

And those who mourn the loss of loved ones: Patricia Bunn, Malcolm Heppolette, Brenda Barker, Liz Cooper

Readings and Prayers for 25 December 2022: CHRISTMAS DAY

Isaiah 52:7-10

⁷ How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, 'Your God reigns.' ⁸ Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the LORD to Zion. ⁹ Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the LORD has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. ¹⁰ The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Hebrews 1:1-4

¹ Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, ² but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. ³ He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴ having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

John 1:1-14

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴ in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸ He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹ The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹² But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Luke 2:[1-7,] 8-20

[¹ In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius

was governor of Syria. ³ All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴ Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵ He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.]

⁸ In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹ to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ¹⁴ 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours.'

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' ¹⁶ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Christmas night - Collect

Eternal God, in the stillness of this night you sent your almighty Word to pierce the world's darkness with the light of salvation: give to the earth the peace that we long for and fill our hearts with the joy of heaven through our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Post Communion

God our Father, in this night you have made known to us again the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ: confirm our faith and fix our eyes on him until the day dawns and Christ the Morning Star rises in our hearts. To him be glory both now and for ever.

Christmas Day - Collect

Lord Jesus Christ, your birth at Bethlehem draws us to kneel in wonder at heaven touching earth: accept our heartfelt praise as we worship you, our Saviour and our eternal God.

Post Communion

God our Father, whose Word has come among us in the Holy Child of Bethlehem: may the light of faith illumine our hearts and shine in our words and deeds; through him who is Christ the Lord.