

## Next Week and Beyond

**NEXT SUNDAY, 31<sup>st</sup> December**

**10.30 am All-age Celebration Service**  
**Everyone Welcome**  
*No 6pm Service*

### **Mid-week Holy Communion:**

Wednesdays at 10 am

A friendly, relaxed style of service, with the opportunity to stay and chat afterwards with tea or coffee in the Lounge (toasted teacakes also available)

Recommencing in the New Year on 3 January

See back of church for cards from Barbara Blackwell, Karen & Leon Flack, Georgean & Peter Schofield, and Emma, Jake, Sophia & Millie Wylie to the Christ Church family.

### **PLEASE NOTE**

**During winter evening services will start at 5.00 pm (from December)**

**EXCEPT 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays which remain at 6.00 pm followed by Young @ Heart**

**Vicar**, Rev Simon Roscoe, 01702 582585,  
vicar@christchurchsouthend.org.uk

### **Church Wardens:**

Mrs Joanne Buss, Mr Graham Lock

**Christ Church Office**, 01702 588468  
(weekday mornings/answerphone)

**e-mail:** admin@christchurchsouthend.org.uk  
Pastoral Care: Barbara (07713 627610)  
or Keith (588398)

### **Visit our website:**

[www.christchurchsouthend.org.uk](http://www.christchurchsouthend.org.uk)



**A very warm welcome  
to Christ Church**

**Weekly Notices for week commencing  
24<sup>th</sup> December 2017**

# Welcome

A very warm welcome, especially to anyone here today for the first time. We hope you enjoy being with us. Please join us in the lounge for tea or coffee following the service.

If you are new to Christ Church and would like further details, please speak to Simon, our Vicar, or one of those involved in leading the service, or one of our Church Wardens.

## Services this Christmas period

**SUNDAY, 24th December**  
**Christmas Eve**

10.30 am All Age Family Holy Communion  
4 pm **Family Christingle**  
11.30 pm **Midnight Service** (HC)



**MONDAY, 25th December**  
**Christmas Day**

**10.00 am Family Worship** for Christmas Day  
(please note earlier start)  
followed by short Holy Communion (optional)  
*No other Service on Christmas Day*

*(No Mid Week Holy Communion on 27 Dec)*



**Prayer Ministry** is available following services. Please ask the service leader for someone to pray with you.

**Prayer Requests** may be entered in the book at the back of the Church. A candle on the votive stand may be lit as a symbol of ongoing prayer.

**Home Groups** meet regularly to explore the Bible and enjoy a time of fellowship together. If you would like to join a Home Group, please contact Simon (01702 582585).

## Prayer Items



**Our Parish:** We pray especially this week for all the residents in Woodgrange Drive.

### **Our Charity of the Month for December:**

**The Children's Society** works with families trapped in debt, young carers, child runaways, as well as refugee and migrant young people. Some of the issues affecting children and young people include: mental and emotional health; substance misuse; child sexual exploitation; issues related to being in care or transitioning out of care.

Pray that **The Children's Society** will continue to win campaigns and influence Government policy to bring life-changing support to these children.

Pray for the children and young people in Southend and across the UK who are troubled by such issues and pray that they would have the courage and strength to speak out and find help so that their lives may be transformed. Pray that they would have hope and be filled with God's love and experience His peace.



### **Our Country:**

**Lord**, we give thanks that the Brexit negotiations are moving forward and pray for the work still to be done.

We pray for those struggling to cope with illness, families, job loss, homelessness worsened by the winter. **Open** our hearts, homes, cheque books and hands to help where possible.

### **Our World:**

**We pray for those who have been hit by the forces of nature.**

In the southern island of Mindanao and Palawan in the southern Philippines, so far 180 are thought to have been killed.

We also pray for the fires in California, now thought to have affected an area greater than New York City, Brussels and Paris combined.

We also pray for the cholera epidemic in the Yemen, now affecting 1 million people with 2,226 deaths since April. More than 80% of Yemenis lack food, fuel, water and access to healthcare.

As we approach Christmas, 'the festive season', we pray for all those for whom it will be a time of struggle, for families that cannot be together, for families where the pressure of commercial expectations leads to greater debt. For children in homes broken by abuse and a lack of love or compassion, locally, nationally and around the world. Pray that the light of Christ break in to their darkness this Christmas and remain with them in the coming years.

## Notices for this week

### **Christmas Cards for church members**

There is a table in church for Christmas cards for **regular church members only**. We regret that we cannot deliver cards so please do not leave cards for people who do not attend church. We regret that any cards still remaining on Christmas Day will be disposed of after the Service. Please leave a donation for our heating fund in the woolly sheep (slot at the back)!

### **Baby Boy!**

Great news this Christmas!  
Janene had her baby this week - a boy, Noah!  
Congratulations to both Janene & Simon

We wish them every joy with this new blessing.

### **Fundraising to Heat the Church**

As part of much-needed fundraising to improve the heating system in the church please use [www.giveasyoulive.com](http://www.giveasyoulive.com) when shopping online, selecting charity number 1130922 (Christ Church Southchurch) as your chosen charity. There are over 4300 retailers to choose from including the big supermarkets and major high street chains so whether you are **Christmas shopping**, shopping for the **home** or for **clothes** or just doing your regular **food** shopping on-line, this is a great way to help us raise funds without it costing you any extra!

Another way you can help raise funds is by choosing the church's insurers (Ecclesiastical Insurance) to **insure your homes** - for each new home insurance cover they are offering £130 to your nominated church in 2018. Please speak to Mary Ann for details, though official details are not yet available. We also understand that there will be discounts available for church members.

### **PRAY FOR FAMILY & FRIENDS:**

**Long term:** Belinda, Barbara Blackwell, Betty, Marie Bradley, Terry Cann, Peter Colledge, Rita Colledge, Jakki, Michelle, Jo Moore (ME), Heather Reeve, Eileen Retallick, Jill Seeley and Grace White.

**Current:** Vicky Maynard, Marina (MS); Tim Evans (recovering from his heart operation); Mike Buss; Sue Ashton, Eileen Retallick; Stella's daughter Josephine Moore; Ben Fraser (son of Kaye's friend) ;  
Also for Angela Smith whose husband, Ken passed away this week.

