

**Candle Recycling:** As part of our desire to become more sustainable we have begun a partnership with The Recycled Candle Company who, from January, will be coming to the Abbey monthly to collect the remnants of our candles. They melt down, clean, dye, and scent the leftover wax and use it to make new candles. They then recycle any containers as far as is possible.

If you use candles at home please bring in any which have burnt out that you would otherwise throw away and put them in the candle recycling bin which is in the welcome area. They can be any type of wax, colour, scent, size and in any container or without a container.

Do share this information with friends, family, other church contacts and encourage as many people as possible to join in. If you have any thoughts on other actions we can take to improve our impact on the environment please let Sarah Fielding, Visitor Services Manager know on [SFielding@bathabbey.org](mailto:SFielding@bathabbey.org) or 01225 303315.

#### For your prayers

**'...in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your request be made known to God,'** Philippians 4. 6

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

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**Prayer Focus – Reaching the Unreached:** As our thoughts start to turn towards Christmas, we think of Mary, the Mother of Jesus, preparing for the birth of the holy child, as we do.

- We give thanks for every one of the foster mothers who care for the children at RTU
- We pray especially for those among them who may have themselves been victims of cruelty and abuse - pray that they know the peace and comfort that your Son will bring to all
- We pray for justice and liberation for all women who are denied their rights and free expression. Amen.

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Pray for Home Group Leaders: Rebecca Day and Delyth Cardy  
Pray for Contact Group Leaders: Clare Hector and Fiona Barnes  
Pray for the Tower Tour Manager Holly Doughty and the Tower Tour Guides

Ministers: Every Member  
Rector: The Revd Canon Guy Bridgewater

Abbey Missioner: The Revd Stephen Girling  
Associate Priest: The Revd Evelyn Lee-Barber

Associate Minister: The Revd Ken Madden

Youth & Families Minister: Tim Norton

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Derek Smith – [DSmith@bathabbey.org](mailto:DSmith@bathabbey.org)  
(Tel: 07943 179194)

The Abbey Office, 11A York Street, Bath BA1 1NG Tel: 01225 422462

Email: [office@bathabbey.org](mailto:office@bathabbey.org) Website: [www.bathabbey.org](http://www.bathabbey.org)

**ABBEY OFFICE OPENING HOURS**

**Monday 10.00am – 3.30pm, Tuesday – Friday 9.00am – 3.30pm**

# Welcome

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2019

## First Sunday of Advent

On this Advent Sunday we celebrate Christ's coming – he has come and he comes again. Hallelujah.

### 8.00 am Holy Communion

Old Testament Isaiah 2:1-5 (p 641)  
Gospel Matthew 24:36-44 (p 26)  
Preacher The Revd Stephen Girling

### 9.30 am Parish Communion

**There is a crèche and groups for young people**

Old Testament Isaiah 2:1-5 (p 641)  
Gospel Matthew 24:36-44 (p 26)  
Preacher The Revd Stephen Girling

### 11.15 am Sung Eucharist with the Abbey Choir of Boys and Lay-Clerks

Old Testament Isaiah 2:1-5 (p 641)  
Gospel Matthew 24:36-44 (p 26)  
Preacher The Revd Stephen Girling  
*The setting is Mass in G by F Schubert*

### 4.30 pm Advent Service - Admission by free ticket only

Leader The Revd Evelyn Lee-Barber

### 7.00 pm Advent Service - Admission by free ticket only

Leader The Revd Evelyn Lee-Barber

BathAbbey



**NB: Due to carol services and rehearsals there is no Evening Prayer during December**

<b>Mon 2</b>	The Abbey will be open for visiting from 9.30am-5.30pm 8.30 am Morning Prayer
<b>Tues 3</b>	The Abbey will be open for visiting from 9am-5.30pm 8.30 am Morning Prayer
<b>Wed 4</b>	The Abbey will be open for visiting from 9am-5.30pm 8.30 am Morning Prayer
<b>Thurs 5</b>	The Abbey will be open for visiting from 9.00am-11.45am & 3.15pm-5.30pm 8.30 am Morning Prayer 10.30 am Holy Communion 12.30 pm Shoppers' Carols 2.00 pm Shoppers' Carols
<b>Fri 6</b>	The Abbey will be open for visiting from 9.00am-11.45am & 3.15pm-5.30pm 8.30 am Holy Communion 9.00 am First Friday Prayers 12.30 pm Shoppers' Carols 2.00 pm Shoppers' Carols 7.30 pm Bath Choral Society – Handel's Messiah <i>Tickets from Bath Box Office</i>
<b>Sat 7</b>	The Abbey will be open for visiting from 9.00am-11.45am 12.30 pm Shoppers' Carols 2.00 pm Shoppers' Carols 3.30 pm Shoppers' Carols 7.30 pm Bath Choral Society – Handel's Messiah <i>Tickets from Bath Box Office</i>
<b>Sunday 8 - Second Sunday of Advent</b>	The Abbey will be open for visiting 1.00pm-2.30pm and 4.30pm-6.00pm 8.00 am Holy Communion 9.30 am Parish Communion 11.15 am Sung Eucharist 3.30 pm Choral Evensong 6.30 pm Informal Evening Service

## NOTICES

**Donations to Lifeline please:** We would be grateful for donations of warm clothes for both men and women, in particular, jeans, sweatshirts, fleeces, trousers, socks, underwear, T-shirts, coats, trainers and boots. We also require bedding, blankets, duvets, pillows, towels and tea towels. Rucksacks and holdalls would also be greatly appreciated. Donations directly to Lifeline, Gateway Centre, London Road, Bath, BA1 6DH weekdays from 10am-12 noon or contact Lifeline direct on 01225 439384.

**December SPCK Book of the Month: *Love Set You Going: Poems of the Heart* by Janet Morley.** Love is fundamental to our being, our growth, our development and our happiness. Love enables us to make meaning of our lives in the world, and it gives us hope for what lies beyond. It is completely humdrum and ordinary – yet mysterious beyond words. In this unmissable anthology, Janet Morley demonstrates how such poems reveal what our hearts eventually discern – love has its seasons and ambiguities, its certainties and passions. Love is never simple at all. **Available in Bath Abbey Shop for £12.99.**

**Members of The Friends of Bath Abbey** are asked to collect their envelope from the south aisle this morning, please.

**Ticketing for Nine Lessons and Carols:** Application forms are available either by downloading the form from the Abbey website or collecting a hard copy from the Abbey Office. Please note the services this year are on Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup> December at 5pm and 7.30pm. All application forms must be returned to the Abbey office with a sae. Tickets limited and going fast.

**A Christmas Celebration:** Join us for our Christmas Celebration concert featuring the Girls' Choir and Melody Makers with carols for choir and audience, taking place on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December. Tickets are available from the Bath Box Office: [www.bathboxoffice.org.uk](http://www.bathboxoffice.org.uk) / 01225 463362.

**Open Christmas:** There could be many empty chairs at the Big Christmas Day Party unless we find more party goers. Open Christmas, supported by the churches for many years, is not about food poverty. It's more about social poverty. Those who attend value the opportunity for a friendly chat, often leading to new friendships, over a meal. They get the works! Plenty of turkey with all the trimmings. We cater for vegetarians, vegans and other dietary needs. Tel: 01225 312271 or 07392 974405. It can be done by the person who wants to attend or by a friend or relative. It's not just for elderly people. Thank you.

**Shoppers' Carols:** Because of reduced seating we have increased the number of Shoppers' Carol Services (still 20 minutes) from 15 to 21. Thank you to all those who have volunteered to help, please pray for all the logistics and that people will feel warmly welcomed and freshly engaged with the Christmas story.

**The Genesis Trust Christmas Appeal** has launched to raise money to support their Lifeline Centre on the London Road. Donations will help some of the most marginalised and disadvantaged in our local community by providing practical support such as hot breakfasts, showers and laundry facilities to anyone visiting the Lifeline Centre. They will also help the staff to offer individual support sessions to visitors, helping them to tackle critical problems with housing, addiction and benefits. There is a short film on their website <http://genesistrust.org.uk/>. If you would like to donate please visit <https://www.totalgiving.co.uk/appeal/genesistrustlifeline2019>. Thank you.

**Second chance to act:** If you would like to take part in One Good Friday Bath, there is a second workshop and audition, for those who missed the first one, on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December between 10am-12.30pm at the Church Rooms, Holy Trinity, Combe Down, Bath BA2 5EE. Please sign up at our website [www.onegoodfriday](http://www.onegoodfriday). Thank you to those of you who came along to the first workshop and audition in November.