

Welcome

A very warm welcome to you, whether you are new to St Matthew's and All Saints' or worship with us every week. We hope you will feel at home in our churches. Please introduce yourself to someone, and stay for coffee, which is served after most services. Please see the back page for useful information for visitors.

If you are a newcomer or visitor, do please consider filling in and returning a welcome card, so that we can be in touch with information about groups and activities of interest and how we can serve you.

SUNDAY 24TH DECEMBER

4th Sunday of Advent, Christmas Eve

9:30am Morning Worship at All Saints'

11:00am Morning Worship at St Matthew's

3:30pm Crib Service at St Matthew's

10:00pm Holy Communion at All Saints'

11.30pm Holy Communion at St Matthew's

No Youth Fellowship

MONDAY 25TH DECEMBER

Christmas Day

8:00am Holy Communion (BCP) at All Saints'

8:00am Holy Communion (BCP) at St Matthew's

9:30am All Age Worship at All Saints'

11:00am All Age Worship at St Matthew's

12:00pm Holy Communion at St Matthew's

SUNDAY 31ST DECEMBER

1st Sunday of Christmas

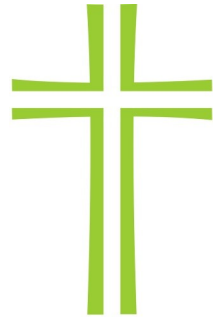
8:00am Holy Communion (BCP) at St Matthew's

9:30am Holy Communion at All Saints'

11:00am Holy Communion at St Matthew's

6.15pm Evening Prayer (Watchnight Service)
at All Saints'

Youth Fellowship (re-starts 7th January)



**HARWELL
CHILTON
CHURCHES**

CONTACTS

Jonathan Mobey

Rector - Tel: 799376
rector@harwellandchilton
churches.org.uk

Pam Rolls

Associate Minister
Tel: 834475
pamrolls@tiscali.co.uk

Post Vacant

Children and Families Worker
Tel: tba
Email: tba

Vicky Johnston

Church Administrator
& PA to the Rector - Tel: 834256
office@harwellandchilton
churches.org.uk
Mon/Tue/Thur/Fri 9.30-2.30

If you would like to
talk with the Rector
about any matter, please
contact Jonathan directly,
or via the Church Office

St Matthew's Harwell
with All Saints' Chilton

CAROL SERVICES



A huge thank you to all those involved in the Carols by Candlelight Services in Chilton and Harwell over

the last two weekends, setting up candles, providing mulled wine and mince pies, leading the music, and much more. Across the four services around 450 individuals attended.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

We would love to add Christmas greetings to friends around the world on our Facebook page. If you'd like to join in, please send an email to the Church Office with a Christmas message, and a photograph of yourself outside Harwell or Chilton Church. Thank you.

ST MATTHEW'S RE-ORDERING

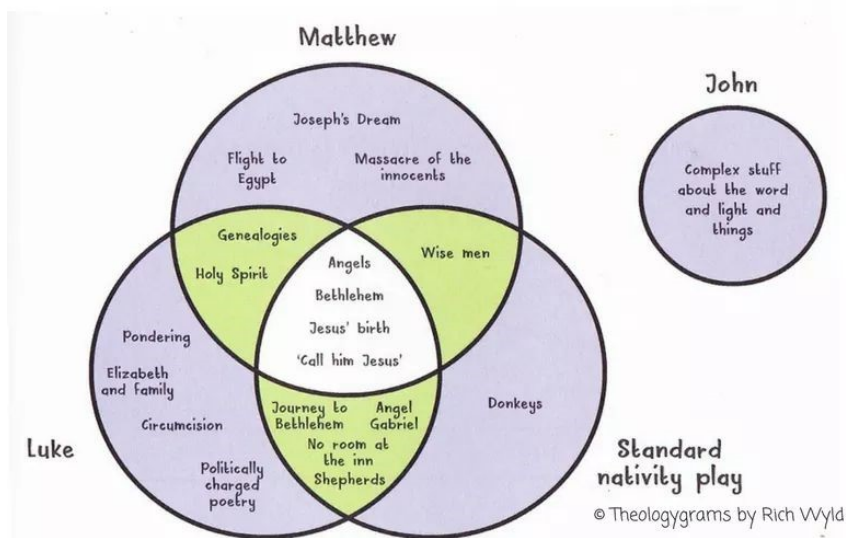
We have received a Faculty (permission) to replace the pews at St Matthew's with 200 'Abbey' chairs and to carpet the floor. We are now starting to look at planning the work in detail – what all the various associated tasks are, the order in which they should be undertaken, and when and what manpower will be required.

The full cost of the project is £59,000. We have already raised/secured £31,500, and the PCC has underwritten £15,000 from a legacy received, but we still have £12,500 to raise. Would you please consider donating towards this, for example by sponsoring a chair? See separate fundraising leaflet for further information.

WATCHNIGHT SERVICE

We have a special service on New Year's Eve at All Saints' Chilton, starting at 6.15 pm. It is going to be a time of reflection, looking back on 2017 but also looking forward to 2018. There will be time for quiet prayer as well as praying for each other and the needs of the world.

The time was chosen so that those who will be celebrating New Year's Eve with others can attend before going out. Equally, those with visitors might find the time to attend before their party, or bring their visitors along, too.



OUTREACH FROM YOUR ARMCHAIR!



If you have a Facebook or Twitter account, it would be great if you would 'like' (on Facebook) Harwell and Chilton Churches and/or 'follow' (on Twitter) @hcchurches. Once you do, you should start receiving daily posts from the Church accounts which you could 'share' or 'retweet' to help us get out the message about our Christmas services. Who knows? Your one or two clicks might remind someone who is expecting a lonely Christmas that there are people around who would love to see them, or give a newcomer who has never been to our Churches the nudge to try us out this Christmas. If you're not sure what you're doing on social media but would like to have a go, why not make this the excuse to get to grips with one or the other type? Contact Liz on 07745 80 20 30 for help in your home.

RIDGEWAY BROADSHEET

Please note that - following our usual practice - there will be no January edition of the Ridgeway Broadsheet.

We have vacancies in both Chilton and Harwell for deliverers of the Broadsheet. There are eight issues a year, plus cards at Christmas and Easter. Please let Vicky know if you are interested in helping the church communicate with the wider community in this very practical way.

CAP (DIDCOT AREA) PRAYER MEETING

christians
against
poverty

CAP

Please note there is a change of venue for this prayer meeting, starting from Friday 12th January. We will be meeting from 9.15am to 10.00am on each 2nd and 4th Friday of the month in the meeting room at St Matthew's Church, Church Lane, Didcot OX11 0EZ. Anyone wishing to support the work of the debt centre in prayer is welcome to attend.

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

We are looking for a female to join the leadership team on Sunday evenings at St Matthew's Church Hall. Please contact either Tim Brook or Vicky Johnston if you would like to be involved.

DIDCOT FOODBANK

The Didcot Food Bank are short of supplies for Christmas and are asking for help to give the area's struggling families a proper treat and ensure nobody goes hungry.

Pasta, rice, tea and tinned tomatoes are especially needed. Didcot Food Bank is hoping to offer Christmas hampers with puddings and mince pies.

Please leave your donations in All Saints' or St Matthew's and we'll take them to the Foodbank.

Thank you.
Margaret & Mel Gibson

21ST JANUARY

SAVE THE DATE!

On 21st January we'll be having a commissioning service for our new Children and Families' Workers, Sarah Barrett and Melanie Shields. We will then be having a bring and share lunch at Chilton Village Hall. All very welcome to join us!



HAPPY CHRISTMAS!



VISITORS' INFO

Children and young people are especially welcome at our services, and there are groups for children and young people in Harwell, and for primary aged and pre-school children in Chilton, along with a family area in both churches.

At our services of Holy Communion all who love the Lord are welcome to share with us. If you require a gluten-free wafer please indicate this to the sidespeople before the service.

Both churches have a hearing loop, and large print service and weekly noticesheets are available. Toilets are at the back of the church in Harwell and accessed from outside at Chilton.

NOTICESHEET ITEMS

Please submit noticesheet items to Vicky by Wednesday of the preceding week, either via the website, by email, by phone, or by leaving a note in the vestry. The deadline for Broadsheet items is the 2nd Wednesday of the month.

News items also appear on our website. You need to be logged-in to see some of them: <http://HCChurches.org>

P R A Y E R F O C U S

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

Please pray for...

- The governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established (Rom 13:1)
- Those who live in Crafts End in Chilton, and in Jennings Lane in Harwell
- Our PCC members, secretaries, treasurers and bookkeepers
- Those who are homeless and cold especially in this bitter weather; draw near and comfort them in spirit, and bless those who work to provide them with shelter, food and friendship
- For all who attend our Advent and Christmas services, that they would encounter God-with-us

Collect for 4th Sunday of Advent

God our redeemer, who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son: grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour, so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our judge; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Collect for Christmas Night

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. Amen.

Collect for Christmas Day

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. Amen.

There are many church groups and activities happening every week and space does not permit inclusion of all of them. You can find details of all church events and groups on the church website: <http://HCChurches.org>

St Matthew's Registered Charity Number 1158861

