



THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

MAYFIELD & FIVE ASHES

# NEWS from

# ST. DUNSTAN'S

## SUNDAY 22 NOVEMBER

# CHRIST THE KING



No St Dunstan's Services in church or online this week — please see over for other options.



### READINGS:

Ephesians 1:15-23  
Matthew 25:31-46

### COLLECT:

Eternal Father, whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of

heaven that he might rule over all things as Lord and King: keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of peace, and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

### PAUSE FOR THOUGHT

Perhaps too often God is regarded as an easy-going Father who will let us get away with anything as long as we say we are sorry but we are still accountable for our actions or inaction. When the King comes to his throne as depicted in our very threatening and 'hell-fire' Gospel (Matthew 25:31-46), in the last analysis, the question isn't about religious

faithfulness as much as what we have done for one another. Jesus Christ is with and in all those in need and goodness knows there are plenty of them at the moment.

**A renowned American preacher has shown us that if we take a pair of very sharp scissors and cut out from the Bible every reference to the poor, all that will be left will be like a piece of fragile lace!**

**Di**

### A PRAYER FOR THE WEEK .....

*The Lord sits enthroned over the flood;  
the Lord sits enthroned as king forever. (Psalm 29:10)*

God, our God,  
King over all,  
You are always enthroned on high  
You are always king.  
You alone are sovereign over this world You have made.  
In a time when we groan with uncertainty,  
when we are overwhelmed by the invisible flood of  
chaos, pandemic and panic,  
Be king.  
Be king over nations, and governments  
Be king over sickness and death.  
Be king over communities and families.  
Be king over me.  
Be king over the floods around me and the floods in me.  
For Jesus's sake. Amen

*Adapted from one in a series of 'Lockdown Prayers' by Esther Simpson*

### PRAYERS FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

**Giving thanks for:** Deacon Di, our Churchwardens and PCC, Nicky in the Office, and all those working hard to keep things going during the vacancy.

**For all who are missing their usual opportunities** to gather together socially.

**For those who are anxious or fearful** about the future.

**For all known to us who are sick in body, mind or spirit.**

**For the recently departed:** Lionel Robinson; and all who mourn: Felicity and all the family

**For those whose anniversaries fall this week:** Bert Lodge

### AND FOR THE NEEDS OF THE WIDER WORLD

**For our Queen and for her ministers** as they lead our nation.

**For all national leaders,** that they will be guided by a Godly wisdom rather than a selfish gain.

**For scientists** as they seek a coronavirus vaccine.

**All who work to alleviate poverty, hunger and disease .**

## THIS WEEK'S DIARY

Sun 22nd: 10-12noon—Church open for private prayer  
Wed 25th: 10-12noon—Church open for private prayer  
Fri 27th: Office closed  
Sun 29th: ADVENT SUNDAY (and Year B begins)  
10.15am St Dunstan's Online Service via YouTube  
10-12noon—Church open for private prayer



## ST DUNSTAN'S FESTIVE BAKE AND CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Saturday 12th December from 10am until 12noon (outside church and subject to lockdown restrictions)

Christmas cakes, puddings, 'everyday' cakes, preserves, chutneys etc. all very welcome.

All donations: a) to Nicky in the Parish Office - please phone first; b) leave them at the back of Church after a Service when we reopen; or c) any perishables can be brought direct to the stall on the morning of the sale.

Thank you to those who have already bought Raffle Tickets. The draw will take place on Sunday 13th December after the 10.15am Service. PRIZES: a Luxury Christmas Hamper, Christmas Drinks Hamper and the traditional Harrods Teddy - all well worth winning!

**Thank you, as always, for your support.**

## FEAST OF ST NICHOLAS TOY SERVICE

10.15am SUNDAY 6 DECEMBER  
ALL TOGETHER PARISH EUCHARIST



We will once again this year be collecting toys for families supported by FSW. Please bring along your gifts, new and unwrapped and in original packaging, to the service on 6th December. Suggested items for both boys and girls, aged 2 to 17:

Gift vouchers Board Games Lego  
Toiletry Sets Books  
Socks/Hats/Gloves But please NO soft toys

Should the current lockdown not be lifted, we will carry on with the collection - please place toys in the box provided at the foot of the stairs in London House. The toys will be distributed in good time for Christmas and we hope this will help some of our local families in what has been a very difficult year for everyone.

## CHURCHWARDENS' BULLETIN

♦ The office is open please no visitors. Please phone with any enquiries: 01435 873484.

♦ Stewards needed 10.30pm Christmas Eve—please contact Philip on 872665 or [james153fish@gmail.com](mailto:james153fish@gmail.com)

♦ If you, or anyone you know, would like a friendly chat over the phone, please do contact Maggie Holliday on 01435873822, Denise Packham on 01892523704 or Karen Mack on 01435872607.



## #PrayerfortheNation

It's not too late to join in this nationwide November prayer initiative—daily at 6pm.

St Dunstan's Bells 6pm Mon and Thurs

<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-churches/call-prayer-nation>

### Daily themes

Sunday: Family, friends and loved ones

Monday: Schools/colleges; children/young people

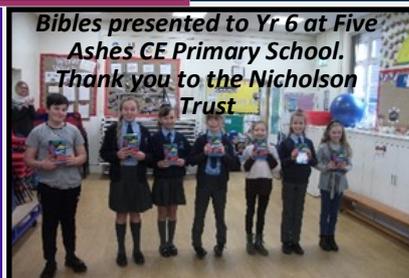
Tuesday: Elderly; the isolated and vulnerable

Wednesday: Businesses, the workplace and economic wellbeing

Thursday: NHS; other key workers

Friday: National and Local government

Saturday: All who are grieving; all suffering physical and mental ill-health



EACH WEEK Margaret Neve posts activities for our younger members.

Please see the Church website:

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



## PLANNED GIVING NEWS – UPDATE

Thank you to those who responded to our appeal earlier in the year which resulted in Planned Giving increasing by 11%. This is a heartening result and lessens the amount the PCC will have to draw on its reserves over time simply to keep the Parish running. **It's not too late if anyone is interested in joining or increasing their giving!** Please do contact Robin Holliday on 01435 873822 or [robinandmaggieholliday@gmail.com](mailto:robinandmaggieholliday@gmail.com) Thank you.



## SUNDAY ONLINE OPTIONS

For BBC Radio 4 Sunday Services (and lots more):

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006qnds>

For BBC 1 Services: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m000h05p/episodes/player>

C of E Services: <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/church-online>

For those unable to access online church services:



## CHRISTMAS WILL BE DIFFERENT THIS YEAR

but we're very much hoping that the church will be open for:

6pm December 20: Carol Service 1

6pm December 22: Carol Service 2

10.30pm December 24: Midnight Eucharist

10.15am December 25: Christmas Day Eucharist

With the congregation limited to 75 (because of social distancing), we will be



ticketing the services.

PLEASE EMAIL OR PHONE NICKY IN THE OFFICE TO SECURE YOUR SEAT (contact details below).

The tickets are free but you will be encouraged to donate to help with the costs of running our beautiful church. Hopefully, there will be oodles of wonderful music, traditional readings and liturgy to help us all share together in the wonder of Christmas. Despite strictly no singing out loud from the congregation, the Choir will be in good voice. Come and let your heart sing! Churchwardens

## USEFUL CONTACTS:

Parish Office Tel: 873484 ; e-mail [stdunstan@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:stdunstan@tiscali.co.uk)

PLEASE BE IN TOUCH IF YOU WOULD LIKE NAMES ADDED TO OUR PRAYER LIST.

Website: [www.stdunstansmayfield.org.uk](http://www.stdunstansmayfield.org.uk)

MAYFACS Helpline: 01435 873888