

St Giles Christmas Card

Instead of sending a Christmas card to each other here at St Giles please consider signing the big Christmas card on the table by the information desk and making a donation to Heart for Kids who are helping to bring change to orphans and children living in poverty and abandonment in China. Your gifts will provide winter clothing and shoes for the children. Many thanks.

What's on this week ...

Mon 18th	9.30am	Staff prayers and meeting
	1.00pm	Wellbeing Cafe
	7.00pm	Older girls cell group
Tues 19th	9.30am	Prayer meeting in the Centre
Wed 20th	7.00pm	Bell Ringing Practice
	7.30pm	Young Adults & Students Christmas Social (Beckworth Ice Emporium)
Thur 21st	11.00am	Holy Communion - no lunch club
Fri 22nd	3.00pm	Family Christmas Film Afternoon

Sunday 24th December

10am **Morning Worship**
The song of Mary
Reading: Luke 1:39-56
Led by Jo Smith
Speaker: Maggie Kelly



3.30pm **Children's Carols**
Around the Crib
With seasonal readings

11pm **Late Night Holy Communion**
O holy night
With seasonal readings
Led by Tim Smith
Speaker: Steve Kelly

Staff days off this week...

Steve is off Friday
Jonny is off Saturday
Tim is off Friday
Diana is off Friday and Saturday
Maggie is working Mon, Wed and Thurs

Church Office hours this week:

Mon	Office closed all day
Tues- Fri	10.00am - 3.00pm

Our Vision Statement

Our vision is to see lives being changed by the power of Jesus, one person at a time.

New to St Giles?

Please introduce yourself at the information desk. We have various helpful leaflets. If you intend to worship regularly with us, please complete a 'New to St Giles?' card and return it so that we can get to know you!

Holy Communion

If you are visiting us and normally receive Communion in your own church you are welcome to join us at Communion here.

If you prefer to receive non-alcoholic wine and/or gluten-free wafers, they are available – please indicate to the person administering Communion.

Giving

We do not take up an offering during services. Please place any offering in one of the boxes by pillars near the doors. Gift Aid declaration forms and envelopes are available nearby and at the information desk - as are standing order forms for regular giving.

Food4Thought

Inspirational emails Monday to Friday. If you would like to receive them, please subscribe via our website: <http://stgilesnorthampton.org.uk/church-life/food-4-thought/>

Valuables

Please keep your handbag, keys, wallet, etc with you at all times.

Winter Glory - planting the heavens

Saturday 27th January A day conference for women of all ages ... with Amy Orr-Ewing and Tanya Walker. This is always a great day at the start of a new year - do come!! Visit www.winterglory.co.uk for more information and to book - Tickets are £5 cheaper if you buy before the end of December. Get your own ticket and share lifts - talk to a member of the BE team if you want to know more, or email: women@stgilesnorthampton.org.uk

The Hospital Carol Service will be held on Thursday 21st Dec at 12.30 pm in St Luke's Chapel and **Carol Singing around the wards** on Christmas eve from 6.45pm (meet in the restaurant on Hospital Street).

Are you up for a Welly Walk? The Jefferson Housegroup invite anyone to join them on a Welly Walk around Sywell reservoir on Friday December 29th. Meet at 1.30pm in the lower car park. (£3.00 car park fee)

Contact us:

tel: 01604 628623 (admin) or 230360 (pastoral)
e: enquiries@stgilesnorthampton.org.uk
w: www.stgilesnorthampton.org.uk
fb: [stgilesnorthampton](https://www.facebook.com/stgilesnorthampton)



Our Vicar writes...

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on His shoulders. And He will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. Isaiah 9:6-7



These have sometimes been called the *throne names* or *royal titles* of Jesus. They indicate the kind of *King* He would be and the kind of *kingdom* He would usher in.

Do you need wisdom for the future?

Do you need a miracle in your life?

Do you need a love that will never let you down and never let you go?

Are you searching for peace?

Then come and worship Christ the King! He is God's promised Messiah and the world's true King. All that we might need is found in Him!

Steve

Sunday 17th December

3rd Sunday of Advent
10am **Holy Communion**
Gabriel comes to Mary
Reading: Luke 1:26-38
Led by Steve Kelly & Jo Smith
Speaker: Jonny Dade



3pm **Hymns of Praise Carol Service**
With seasonal readings

7pm **Carols by Candlelight**
'O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel'
With seasonal readings
Led by Jonny Dade
Speaker: Steve Kelly

7pm **Youth Zone: Carols by Candlelight Service**

Growing Up...

Joining In...

Spreading Out...

Giving Away...

VACANCY:

Ministry Trainee (Students & Young Adults)

32 Hours p/w

St Giles and FISH have agreed and secured funding for a partnership pilot project involving a Student Support Worker on the university campus.

This is an exciting opportunity to serve the church and the wider mission of God for an 18 month period (early 2018-summer 2019). Ideally suited to a person* exploring a call to Christian ministry, this role will focus on developing mission and ministry with University students and young adults. The role includes a 12hr p/w secondment to FISH to work with international students. Training and stipend provided (full details available on request).

Contact Jonny Dade for an informal discussion or see the website for application details.

(<http://www.stgilesnorthampton.org.uk/church-life/job-vacancies/>)

APPLICATION DEADLINE: 29th December

**St Giles Church is an equal opportunities employer. However, the funding criteria for part of this post means we would be looking to engage a younger person.*

A huge thank you....to everyone who has been involved in any way in the **World of Difference Fairs** over the years. Since 2003 we have supported 28 different Christian Missions and charities working in the developing world. This year's sales came to **£5,458.80** and more than 400 people came through the doors. As this was the last Fair I'll be organising, it was especially encouraging! The final **THANK YOU** though comes from all the children and adults whose lives you have helped to transform and to whom you have given hope. *Judith Cooper.*

.... Another BIG thank you to all the folk that gave up their Saturday morning on 2nd December. Many useful jobs have been completed - thank you.

Care & Prayer Directory update

Last day TODAY! Please check the enlarged copy of the Care & Prayer Directory TODAY. Initial your entry if correct, amend if it has changed. Thank you!

Family Christmas Film Afternoon – Friday 22nd December

We will be watching “Nativity”, film starts at 3pm. Snacks will be provided. Please can you let Jo know if you are coming jo@stgilesnorthampton.org.uk

Children's Carol service – Christmas Eve

3.30pm. Come dressed in a nativity costume. There will be some costumes available on the day!

Gifts for Ladies at Eve

We would like to give gifts of toiletries to the ladies of Eve (formerly NVCF Refuge). Please put unwrapped gift sets (suitable for younger women) in the box by the information desk so we can deliver them on the 3rd, 10th or 17th December. Many thanks.

Rotas for January 2018

The hospitality, sound and video rota has been emailed to everyone, unless we do not have your email address, in which case you should find your copy in the pigeon holes near the organ. You will also find the service rotas here. Please collect as soon as possible. Many thanks.

Thursday morning service

The final service is next Thursday 21st at 11am. There will be no lunch club. Services will resume on 4th January with a simple lunch.

Goodbye to Chris from Zone

Just to let you know that there will be a Zone meeting tonight at 5.30pm so all the young people can say goodbye to Chris and the family. Snacks will be provided.

Ready for Retirement is a new course being piloted by the national Livability charity and St Giles are hosting in January. Two Tuesday evenings and one Sat: 9th, 13th and 16th January. To register interest please email Maggie asap. assistantminster@stgilesnorthampton.org.uk

Prayer Points...

We are asked to pray especially this week for:

- ⇒ Ruth and Izaias
- ⇒ Kings Heath Church
- ⇒ Divided families and people hurting as a result of divorce and separation

Those who are unwell or bereaved, especially:

- ⇒ Simon Challoner for continued recovery at home.
 - ⇒ Peggy Brewer who is poorly.
 - ⇒ Yoke and her daughter Gabrielle.
 - ⇒ David Smart and his family after the passing of his mother-in-law, Sylvia.
 - ⇒ Tim Walker suffering with vertigo.
 - ⇒ Hubert Garrett, neighbour of Linda Ashdown, who is very poorly.
 - ⇒ Carole Lewis' mum Deva Bailey in convalescent care after a fall. Thank God for His healing and grace and pray for continued progress.
 - ⇒ Laurie Brown
 - ⇒ Peter Ford, Lois's friend, who has secondary cancer.
- If you know someone who needs our prayers, please contact the clergy or the parish office. **We will only include their name here for 2 weeks; please contact us after that time if you would like them to be included for a further 2 weeks.**

For Israel & the Middle East

Merciful Father, we pray that You become known to/by refugee children through the visits of Arabic staff from SAT-7, to hold storytelling work-shops. Father, in such a safe place enable each child to think freely and discover themselves to be no longer a victim, but truly affirmed.

Riding Lights will be visiting St Giles on

February 4th to present “Faith in the Questions” a one act play followed by a question and answer session with a panel of professional scientists who are also Christians. Hywel Rees-Jones is arranging the visit and **would appreciate help from a small number of volunteers to publicise and organise the event.** If you are interested then please contact Hywel.

Prayer Diary and Mission in Touch: Dec/Jan

There are copies of these publications on the information desk if you haven't picked one up previously.

News sheet deadline: All items must be with the church office by 9am on Thursday of each week. Items received after this deadline may not make it into the news sheet!