

And let the peace that comes from  
Christ rule in your hearts.  
For as members of one body  
you are called to live in peace.  
And always be thankful

Colossians 3:15 (NLT)



## Sunday 26th November 2023

10am – Oasis

### This Week

#### **Tuesday 28th November**

2pm Daytime Homegroup  
5:15pm Rainbows  
6pm Brownies  
7:30pm Guides

#### **Wednesday 29th November**

10am Midweek Communion  
10am Daytime homegroup  
1pm Toddlers  
5:30pm Puppets  
6pm Brownies  
7:30pm Guides

#### **Thursday 30th November**

11am Hong Kong group  
11am –1:30pm Café  
4:30pm Rainbows  
5:45pm Brownies  
7:15pm Guides  
8pm Christmas choir rehearsal

#### **Friday 1st December**

8pm Music Practice

#### **Saturday 2nd December**

6pm Christmas Decoration Evening

#### **Sunday 3rd December**

10am Holy Communion

#### **Pre-School**

Pre-School is open from 8:45am to  
3:45pm Mondays, Tuesdays,

#### **St James' Church Centre**

Kingfisher Drive, Woodley,  
RG5 3LH  
Tel: 0118 966 2568  
[www.stjameswoodley.org](http://www.stjameswoodley.org)

#### **Vicar Rev Laurence Smith**

(day off Friday)  
[laurence.smith@stjameswoodley.org](mailto:laurence.smith@stjameswoodley.org)  
07421 233951

#### **Office opening hours:**

Mon - Fri 9:30—1:00pm

#### **Administrator - Becki Whitlock**

[office@stjameswoodley.org](mailto:office@stjameswoodley.org)  
0118 966 2568

#### **Children and families worker -**

Linda Galpin (day off  
Monday)



## Notices

### Warwick Fry's Funeral

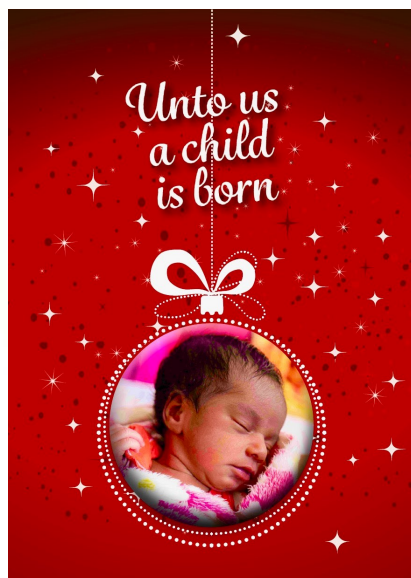
Most of you know that sadly Warwick passed away last Friday. His funeral will take place at St John's on Tuesday 5th December at 2pm. The service will be followed by a committal at Reading Crematorium for close friends and family. Everyone is welcome to join the Family afterwards at Rams Rugby Club, Old Bath Road, Sonning, Berkshire, RG4 6TQ.

### ALPHA 2024

We will be running an in person alpha course at St James in Feb and March of 2024. If you would like to be involved in supporting the delivery of the course, or you or a friend would like to know more about attending please see Jeremy Galpin or Laurence. Further details will follow and please start to pray

### Christmas card supporting LAMB Bangladesh

I will have these cards available after church most Sundays. Suggested donation is £2.50 for 5 cards. Thanks Judith Hansford



## Notices

### Christmas Decoration Evening

Saturday 2nd December Christmas Decoration evening. Enjoy making Christmas decorations followed by a tasty dinner.





## **Yeldall Manor Christmas Celebration service**

Join us to celebrate *Emmanuel — God with us*

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December, 7.30pm

Norreys Church, Norreys Avenue, Wokingham, RG40 1UU

Worship \* News \* Testimony \*

Followed by refreshments



### **Christmas Nativity Funday**

See flyer on the next page with all the details. Volunteers needed to help all day or for morning or afternoon sessions. We also need some cakes for refreshments throughout the day. If you can help please get in touch with Linda asap. Thank you

A festive illustration for a Nativity Funday. At the top, a string of colorful Christmas lights (red, orange, green) hangs against a dark blue background. A large, bright yellow star is the central focus. To the right, an angel with white wings and a halo floats. Below the star, the text 'FREE Christmas Nativity FUNDAY' is written in large, stylized letters. The date '2nd Dec 2023' and location 'Emmanuel Church Centre' are also present.

# FREE Christmas Nativity FUNDAY

2nd Dec 2023  
Emmanuel Church Centre



10-12pm or 2-4pm

crafts, puppets, story, messy  
play, minecraft, selfie station,  
bouncy castle, treasure hunt,

free refreshments

Emmanuel and St James  
Churches invite you to join us for  
a Christmas Nativity Funday for  
all the family.

Scan QR code  
for tickets





## Notices

### Café Christmas Lunch

Will take place on Thursday 14th December from 11:30am until 1:30pm. Please let Sue Karsten know if you plan on coming. Please see below flyer for more details.

### St James Cafe Christmas Lunch

Thursday 14th December  
11:30am-1:30pm



Roast turkey and trimmings  
Vegetarian alternative  
Choice of desserts  
Tea, coffee, soft drinks  
£7 per head

email - [karsten222@btinternet.com](mailto:karsten222@btinternet.com)

# Prayers

## Church family & community

Give thanks for all that God has done in our lives. As we seek to be "church without walls", pray for the Oasis Service this Sunday, and the preparations underway by the choir and others for Christmas. Pray for the RE Inspired Team, as they present Jesus in schools this month. Pray for the sick, especially Mike, Sue, Eoin, Fiona & others we know.

## National

Pray for new Ministers in our Govt after the re-shuffle, and for wisdom in tackling inflation, immigration & hospital waiting lists. Pray that the Chancellor's Autumn Statement will bring some positive impacts for the less well off. Pray for Christians in politics. Pray for the outworking of recent decisions by the C of E General Synod and for unity in the Church.

## Mission Links

Pray for the Fletcher family, spending the year in UK, but keeping contacts with Thailand and returning in July 2024. The Rays are adjusting to life in Arusha, with the young NGO SAFi, whilst the Adams have taken over leadership at Neema. Pray for the team at Kimbilio DRC, and for Ian Harvey in UK; pray for funds for the Day Care Centre. Pray for LAMB Hospital, celebrating 40 years & locally for JAC and staff & residents at Yeldall Manor.

## Wider World

### Israel and Palestine

Pray that the intended cease-fire and exchange of hostages and prisoners will go smoothly, and be extended for a few more days to allow more movement of aid, especially food, water, medical supplies and fuel. Pray for a longer-term peace agreement, and that the conflict will not escalate into other countries. Pray for peace also in other conflict areas - Ukraine, Sudan, Syria and Yemen.

### Nepal Earthquake

A powerful earthquake hit remote western areas earlier this month, killing 160 people and damaging 62,000 homes. Nearly 900 schools were hit and 150,000 people still require relief goods, especially for water and sanitation. Pray for them.

### Horn of Africa

After prolonged drought, parts of Kenya, Somalia & Ethiopia have suffered a month of torrential rain, linked with the El Nino climate effect. Nearly 800,000 are displaced by floods and at least 100 have died, plus homes destroyed. Pray for them.

### COP 28 Conference

Preparations are well underway for the 28th UN Climate Conference in Dubai, starting 30th Nov. Pray that the heavy presence of oil-industry lobby-ists (over 600 attended last-year!) will not dilute the carbon-cutting plans of delegates. A recent study concluded we are heading for a damaging 3 deg temperature rise, not 1.5 - 2.0 deg which scientists had wanted. Pray for ambitious targets & binding agreements.



## Homegroups

Please see below details of some of the homegroups that meet during the week and contact details for each:

**Monday** 7:45pm at 104 Wheble Drive, contact - Alison Mullens - 07904039363.

**Tuesday** 2pm Daytime homegroup at St James, contact David Bagwell - davidgbagwell@gmail.com

**Wednesday** 9:45am Daytime homegroup at St James, contact Judith Hansford.

**Wednesday** 7:45pm various homes, contact Pete and Chris Clarke - 07742953071  
peteandchris@talktalk.net

**Wednesday** 8.15 pm on Zoom , contact - Jane Fulford - 0776 494 7495  
jane.fulford@btinternet.com

**Wednesday** 8pm weekly at 97 Reading Road. Contact Laurence or Hannah - laurence.smith@stjameswoodley.org

**Thursday** 8pm at 17 Harris Close, Woodley. Kelly Robinson and Jeremy Galpin are joint leaders and would love some new members.