

DIARY OF THE COMING WEEK		
<i>Morning Prayer Mon, Tues, Weds, Thurs and Friday at 9.15am</i>		
Tues 19th	12Noon	Ribston Hall School Carol Service
	7.00pm	Music Group
Weds 20th	10.00am	Holy Communion
Thurs 21st	2.00pm	Funeral in church
Sun 24th	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Sunday Worship with Communion
	4.00pm	Crib Service
	11.00pm	Midnight Mass
Sun 25th	9.00am	Christmas Day Celebration with Communion

St Barnabas

December 17th 2017

Church Matters

Welcome to St Barnabas.

If you are visiting, or with us for the first time, do please introduce yourself to members of the church and to the clergy. We are delighted to welcome you and hope you enjoy worshipping here. Please fill in a yellow "welcome card". Coffee, tea and cold drinks are served after the worship.

If you have a particular need on your heart for which you would like prayer, please make your way to the Lady Chapel after the service where a member of the team will be available to pray with you.

Please remember in your prayers this week:

For our church:

- Ministry Team: Clergy and Readers.
- For those attending our church services for this Christmas.

For the wider church:

- Wyoming, USA.
- Vale and Cotswold Edge Benefice.

For our community:

- Westbourne Nursing Home and Shooting Stars Day Nursery.
- Those travelling for Christmas.
- Those who live in Dale Close and Darwin Road.
- The sick: Dermot Brown, Michelle Hyett, Janet Powell, Suzie Laughton, Rose, Alex Bayliss, Richard Lawrence, John Singleton, Colin Prosser, Malcolm Leslie, Tim, Mick, Megan Jones-Griffiths, David Butler, Joan Clifford, Noel Hitchings, Phyllis Dyer, Lindsay Mitchell and Rachel.
- Those who have died; Keith Elton, Dennis Ellison and Joan Mustoe, and those who grieve.

Parish office: Tues and Thurs 10 am – 12noon 524173 office@stbarnabasgloucester.org.uk
 Revd Janet Faulk (Vicar) 545366 vicar@stbarnabasgloucester.org.uk
 Revd Sarah Todd (Curate) 07534720160 stbarnabascurate@gmail.com
 Myra Bowen - Davies (Churchwarden) 302508 myrabowendavies@me.com
 Katherine Kear (Churchwarden) 528508 katherine@katherinekear.co.uk

Welcome to Worship

- 8.00am** Holy Communion
- 10.00am** Family Praise Christmas Service
- 11.30am** Holy Communion - a short said service in the Lady Chapel

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Next Sunday : December 24th Christmas Eve

- 8.00am** Holy Communion
- 10.00am** Sunday Worship with Communion
- 4.00pm** Crib Service - A service for all the family with a Nativity Play for all children to take part.
- 11.00pm** Midnight Mass - A traditional candlelit Midnight Communion Service capturing the wonder and beauty of Christmas

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Christmas Day

- 9.00am** Christmas Day Celebration with Communion

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The Collect and Readings for Sunday 17th December

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

1 Thessalonians 5.16-24

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil.

May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

The Collect

God for whom we watch and wait,
you sent John the Baptist to prepare
the way of your Son:
give us courage to speak the truth,
to hunger for justice,
and to suffer for the cause of right,
with Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

John 1.6-8,19-28

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, 'I am not the Messiah.' And they asked him, 'What then? Are you Elijah?' He said, 'I am not.' 'Are you the prophet?' He answered, 'No.' Then they said to him, 'Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?' He said, 'I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, "Make straight the way of the Lord"', as the prophet Isaiah said.

Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, 'Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?' John answered them, 'I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal.' This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

News and Events

Crib Service - Call for people to help with the Crib Service on Sunday 24th at 4pm. Please speak to Janet.

Christmas Stocking Appeal - Children of Myanmar - If you would like to make a donation instead of sending Christmas cards to friends in the congregation, please sign your name on the Christmas card on the notice board and place your donation in the Christmas stocking.

Christmas Flowers - Donations towards the cost of flowers for Christmas would be gratefully received by Rosemary Watkin. Thank you.

Crib Service - Christmas Eve 4pm. A fun service with all your favourite carols. Children are welcome to dress up and take part. Come and focus on the true meaning of Christmas as candles are lit in the darkness and Away in a Manger is sung.

Midnight Mass - A service of Holy Communion at 11pm in which we anticipate the birth of Christ on this holy night.

Christmas Day Celebration with Communion - 9am - We offer Praise and Worship to Jesus our newborn King.

Christmas Day lunch Come to St Barnabas Christmas Day Lunch in the Church Hall from 12.30. Book a place by ringing Kathryn or David on 501145. A good day to be together for some Christmas cheer.

No Morning Prayer 26th Dec-2nd Jan inclusive

Vestry Time - There will be no Vestry Time on 21st Dec, 28th Dec.

Harvest Charity - St Barnabas donated £190 to Water Aid through our harvest collection and donations. This sum will be increased by 25% because it was gift aided. The UK government are match funding donations at 100%, so our donation becomes £475. An astonishing result. Thank you to all who contributed.

Christingle Collection - We raised £179 for The Children's Society at the recent Christingle Service

Sunday Roasts - Thankyou to David Hargreaves for the Sunday Roasts, for his care of the community and his tasty meals. Please note that these have now stopped but that the Wednesday Lunches continue.

Readings for next week
Romans 16.25-end Luke 1.26-38

Important dates:

24th Dec
24th Dec
25th Dec

Crib Service 4pm
Midnight Communion 11pm
Christmas Day Communion 9am