

# The Church in Warden Hill



The Church in Warden Hill  
(Anglican & URC)



# Welcome

## CRIB VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We are looking for a whole host of people to get involved to help make our Christmas Eve Crib Blessing event @St. Peter's happen! The two key roles we are looking to recruit are:

1. Stewards - To help host the event safely. Commitment: 1.5 hour slot (either 3-4.30pm or 4.30-6pm) plus a pre-event zoom briefing.
2. Actors - To play a variety of nativity based roles individually or in bubbles (very simple script). Commitment: 1 hour of the event (3-4pm, 4-5pm or 5-6pm) plus a pre-event zoom briefing.

Ideally we are looking for 50 people for the whole event so if you are willing to sign up or for more information please contact Rev Sarah McDonald Haden at [sarah@cnc.church](mailto:sarah@cnc.church). Thank you if you have already been in touch with one of the church offices, your name has already been forwarded to Sarah!  
Many thanks, Revd Gary.

## A Conversation with Saint Francis

There will be a lunchtime event by Zoom at 12 noon on **Wednesday 18th November** to hear stories about Saint Francis and to respond with related stories of our own. This is a story-telling event in the diocese's 'Everyday Faith' programme, presented by the Franciscan Third Order. To register an interest, please go to the diocesan website [www.gloucester.anglican.org/event/everyday-faith-a-conversation-with-st-francis/](http://www.gloucester.anglican.org/event/everyday-faith-a-conversation-with-st-francis/). Alternatively, you can email John Ansell or Pauline Godfrey on [jsansell@hotmail.com](mailto:jsansell@hotmail.com) or [pgodfrey@glosdioc.org.uk](mailto:pgodfrey@glosdioc.org.uk), or Tel. 07974 432562.

## THE GRAPEVINE 15th NOVEMBER 2020 SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT

### The Collect

Heavenly Lord, you long for the world's salvation: stir us from apathy, restrain us from excess and revive in us new hope that all creation will one day be healed in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

### This Sunday

There will be a Holy Communion live streamed from St. Christopher's at 10am, led by Revd John Horan, Revd Gary will be preaching.

[www.facebook.com/pipandjims](https://www.facebook.com/pipandjims) or [www.stpetersleck.org](http://www.stpetersleck.org)

*Readings: Matthew 25.14-30 & Zephaniah 1.7,12-18*

### Devotional Bible readings for the coming week

*A good way to stay connected is to read the Bible and see what scripture is saying to you each day, and what you might want to pray about. Morning Prayer will continue to be live-streamed at 9am during the week.*

#### Monday

*Psalm 46,47  
Daniel 8.1-14  
Revelation 10*

#### Wednesday

*Psalm 56  
Daniel 9.1-19  
Revelation 11.15-end*

#### Friday

*Psalm 63  
Daniel 10.1-11.1  
Revelation 13.1-10*

#### Tuesday

*Psalm 48  
Daniel 8.15-end  
Revelation 11.1-14*

#### Thursday

*Psalm 57  
Daniel 9.20-end  
Revelation 12*

#### Saturday

*Psalm 68  
Daniel 12  
Revelation 13.11-end*

Arrangements for Thanksgiving for the Birth of a Child, Baptism, Confirmation, Banns of Marriage, etc., should be made with Revd Gary Grady.

If you are aware of anyone who is ill, in hospital, or in need of a pastoral visit please contact Clergy, Elders or Readers.

Safeguarding Officer: Debbie Cypher

If you have anything for the Grapevine please send it to

Edna Willox ([grapevine@tcivh.org.uk](mailto:grapevine@tcivh.org.uk) Tel 510773) by midday on Wednesday.

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

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## MESSAGE FROM REVD GARY

The passage from Zephaniah is not an easy one to read or hear, especially amidst a pandemic! He describes a people who are complacent (verse 12); they are well housed and well fed, and believe that this material comfort means that they have a good life. They believe that they can keep God at a safe distance, after all, their wealth has enabled them to keep the 'uncomfortable' things in life at bay, so why not God also?

It's not that they don't believe in God, it's just that they want to keep him 'neutral' so that he won't interfere! In fact, God is likened to a hostile and destructive army, who takes away all their comfort and security, giving them only 'distress' (verse 17). There is no 'good news' for them in this, so they prefer 'no news' and don't want to hear anything about God at all; they *want* to keep God neutral. Unfortunately, in God's world, that's 'not' an option.

In this week's gospel reading, God gives out his gifts (referred to as talents). Are we ready for God to interfere, and to accept the gifts of love that he gives us? What will *you* do with the gift of love he gives to you? Bury it away and ignore it, or perhaps invest it in some way, and see how it grows?

## SUNDAY LIVESTREAMS

The South Cheltenham Team will be live-streaming from one of our church buildings throughout November, as follows:

15th Nov - 10am, St. Christopher's

22nd Nov - 10am, St. Stephen's

29th Nov - 8am, St. Peter's (BCP) & 10am, Emmanuel

It is good to be worshipping together as a team during this time, and you can of course sing at home! The order of service for each Sunday will be sent out each week. Above all though, look out for one another, keep in touch with those who are having to shield or isolate, be generous to those who are in need, and keep praying for wisdom and deliverance in these unusual times. May the peace of Christ be with you. Revd Gary.

## TEATIME CHURCH

Nick Davies will be holding a Teatime church at 4pm this Sunday for children and families on the theme of 'Jesus as our King'. Please see weekly update from Rev Gary for Zoom details, or email him: [revgarygrady@btinternet.com](mailto:revgarygrady@btinternet.com)

# The Church in Warden Hill

**PLEASE PRAY FOR** those struggling with the on-going lockdown restrictions; those who are sick in body, mind or spirit; and those who mourn the loss of loved ones. We pray too for those whose earthly life has ended.

**GIVE THANKS** for our clergy and ministry team who are working hard to provide streamed services during the pandemic.

## WEEKLY PRAYER FOCUS

15th	The bereaved	19th	Gardeners & Litterpickers
16th	Churchwardens & Elders	20th	Local hospitals & surgeries
17th	Church halls and users	21st	Musicians & singers
18th	S. Cheltenham team clergy	22nd	Parish Council

## REMINDER

There will be a Joint PCC Meeting on Sunday 15th November at midday.

**LANTERN** Alison is starting to think about the December Lantern. Again this month it will be an online edition only. Please send any articles, pretty pictures, thoughts etc. to Alison by Sunday 22nd November.

**BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES and CELEBRATIONS** let's celebrate together:

Duncan Westerman has a birthday on 16th November

and Daniel Smith will be 5 on 17th November

Please let me know of any future birthdays that we can celebrate together.

**Brian Miles.**

## USED POSTAGE STAMPS

Now that the usual charity can no longer find an outlet for our used postage stamps, I have had a message from the Bible Society that they will be grateful for them. Their address is - Bible Society, Stamp Appeal, Post Room, Stonehill Green, Westlea, Swindon, SN15 7 DG.

Obviously we have to send them to that address, but once church is open again they can be put in the top tray of the set in the Entrance Room and Margaret will collect them and send them off.