



The Benefice of All Saints', Highbrook & St Margaret of Antioch, West Hoathly

Benefice Notices for the 2nd Sunday before Advent Sunday 17th November 2024

Worship & upcoming services

Wed. 20th November 9.30am, St Margaret's - Holy Communion

Fri. 22nd November 11am, St Margaret's – Funeral of Mary Mays

5.30pm, St Margaret's - Evening Prayer (BCP)

Next Sunday (24th November)

Christ The King

9am Holy Communion (BCP)

All Saints', Highbrook

10.30am Eucharist

St Margaret's, West Hoathly

Parish Christmas cards: The parish Christmas cards will be available in the coming days. Please be ready to help us to spread the invitation to every house in the Benefice by offering to deliver the cards to a road or two. The cards will be at the back of each church, and in St Margaret's will be divided into roads or areas. Thank you!

Mission – joining in with God's work of love in the world.

Gifts for FSW at Christmas: Gifts for families primarily in Cuckfield Deanery, but also throughout Sussex, would be very much appreciated. They may be brought to the **All Age Eucharist at St Margaret's, West Hoathly at 10.30am on Sunday 1st December.**



Our local practitioner, Alison Green, would like to give each child under her care a Cadbury's section box at their Christmas party, so *cash donations for these* would be helpful, although books & toys are also welcome. (The children are mainly 5-15 years old.)

Also *gifts for the children to give to their parents* at Christmas would be appreciated. *Food donations* for their party would be welcome too, as would all the food items listed on the poster here.

Please leave the gifts unwrapped. If you are not able to donate on Sunday 1st December, items may also be left in the porch at Luctons, but please may we have these by Thursday 5th December.

Thank you so much for your continuing support of FSW.

Food items for **Crawley Open House** and the **East Grinstead Foodbank** (see poster here and in St Margaret's) may be left in the Church Porch or the porch at Luctons too. It would be helpful if you could mark gifts specifically for them, and please leave them by Monday 2nd December.

Many thanks for your generosity in these difficult times.

Stewardship - generous giving to and through God

All Saints' Church cleaning: Next one will be on Thursday 28th November from 11am - 1pm. Please bring dusters, cobweb brushes, gloves etc.

Be a star! Kind folk needed to greet visitors to All Saints' during their Festival of Nativities (30th November & 1st December). Also, would you be willing to lend your Nativity set for the display? Please be assured that all nativity sets will be carefully looked after and not handled by public. If you can help in either of these ways, please email Heather Chapman (Heather.chapman99@googlemail.com) or Sophie Hill (sophiedianahill@gmail.com). Many thanks.

Our Advent and Christmas preparations: We will need help in various ways in the run up to Christmas. **Please can you help?**

- ***Sponsorship of our Christmas Events for the village:*** Would you be willing to help sponsor Carols in the Square, and the lighting that will last during the Christmas period?
- ***Giving of your time:*** Volunteers will be needed to help with Carols in the Square on Sun. 8th Dec. Could you spare some time to lend a hand?
- ***Refreshments after the Carols in the Square*** – Please could you let us know if you can help in any way with the refreshments that we plan to serve.

Please speak with Rev'd Heather, Derek or the churchwardens if you can help in any of these ways. *Your support you will be truly appreciated. Thank you.*



Events – growing together as a community.

COFFEE MORNING AT ST MARGARET'S This Tuesday, 19th November, 10am – 12pm



All welcome.

In this season of remembrance there will be a place to light a candle and remember those we love but see no longer.



Images © Pixabay

Christmas is coming...



Image © Pixabay

This Saturday 23rd November from 1.00 until 5.00pm

Lantern Making Workshop in West Hoathly Village Hall. Please email Derek at derekshurvell@gmail.com for more information.

Saturday 30th November from 10am until 3pm

A Festival of Nativities at All Saints' Church, Highbrook, and also a *Christmas Market* in the Highbrook Village Hall.

The Festival of Nativities will also be open on **Sunday 1st Dec. from 11am-4pm**, with an *Advent Service of music and readings* at 4pm.

Sunday 8th December at 6pm

Carols in the Square, Queen's Square, West Hoathly. (Preceded by the *Lantern Procession* which will begin at 5.40pm from Finche Field.)

Studying – Understanding God.

From the Church of England: *Follow the Star: Calm and Bright.* Taking



Image courtesy of the Church of England

inspiration from the world-famous carol 'Silent Night', it invites us to step into the still centre of the Christmas story where 'All is calm, All is bright'. Copies of the booklet are available in St

Margaret's Church, in which you will find a meditation for each day from Christmas Eve to the Eve of Epiphany (5th January), with a reflection, challenge and prayer based on a short Bible reading, designed to help us find moments of calm as well as bright joy through the season.

Prayer - spending time with God.



Evening Prayer on Fridays at 5.30pm in St Margaret's: You are invited to leave your prayers on the prayer tree (and they can be anonymous if you wish). All prayers left each week are offered up to God at Evening Prayer.

Prayer for the week: *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*

For our Prayers: Please remember to pray for yourself, for our communities, for our nation, and for the whole world.

The sick and housebound or in need of especial guidance: Mary Darlinson, Joyce Fish, Glen, Debbie, Mary Cocking, HM King Charles III, Gill Couchy, The Princess of Wales, Annie.

The recently departed, for George Delfas, Mary Mays, Margaret Ockenden and Ann Francis, and for those whose anniversary of death falls this week, for Pamela Willie and Barrie Shier, and all who are grieving for them.

For God's blessing on the homes of our parish – this week we pray for all who live in Hook Lane and Cob Lane.

For God's blessing on the life of the church families of our deanery – this week we pray for the Clergy & Church Family of St Wilfrid's, Haywards Heath.

If you would like to add someone's name to the prayer list, please email Rev'd Heather (heather.wilkin78@gmail.com). If you are asking for someone else, please make sure you have their permission to have their name added publicly.

For details of how to join others online for prayer, worship, study, and community life, and for updates, please check our website:

www.allsaints-highbrook.org.uk & www.westhoathly.org.uk

And social media:

Facebook - [@stmargaretswesthoathlyallsaintshighbrook](https://www.facebook.com/@stmargaretswesthoathlyallsaintshighbrook)

Twitter - [@StMargarets_WH](https://www.twitter.com/@StMargarets_WH)

YouTube - search for 'St Margarets West Hoathly All Saints Highbrook'

CONTACT DETAILS

Vicar: The Reverend Heather Wilkin

Email: heather.wilkin78@gmail.com Telephone: 01342 529047

Heather's rest day is usually Monday.

Churchwardens of St Margaret's:

Ann Hutchings (churchwardenstmargarets@outlook.com or 01342 810 742) or

Tim Baker (churchwardenstmargarets@outlook.com)

Churchwardens of All Saints':

Adam Hackett (adamjhackett@outlook.com) or

Roger Cobden-Ramsay (Roger.cobdenramsay@gmail.com)

Items for inclusion on the weekly Benefice Notice sheet:

Please send to Karen Blackman (by 12noon Wednesday) at brkb410@gmail.com