

ALL SAINTS NEWS

17th December 2023
Advent 3

Gaudete in Domino semper

The Latin Introit for today may be translated as:

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Let your forbearance be known to all, for the Lord is near at hand; have no anxiety about anything, but in all things, by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be known to God. Lord, you have blessed your land; you have turned away the captivity of Jacob."



Derived from: Philippians 4:4–6; and Psalm 85

The word “gaudete” comes from the Latin words “gaudium,” joy, and “gaudeo,” to rejoice or be glad. Gaudete Sunday occurs eight to thirteen days before Christmas, and the nearness of the feast is reason for great joy.

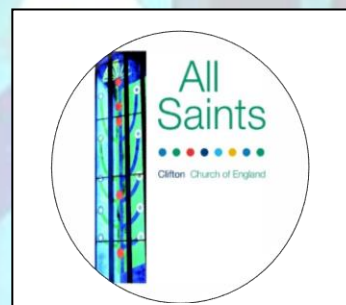
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Hanukkah

The Jewish festival of lights, called Hanukkah, is celebrated around the world. It lasts for eight days and ended during the course of this week. The inspiration for the festival dates back for more than two thousand years.

In 175 B.C., King Antiochus, whose ancient kingdom included Judea (located in present-day Israel), made it against the law for people who lived there to practice their religion, Judaism. Instead, he wanted Jews to worship Greek gods. When they refused, he ordered his troops to destroy the Temple of Jerusalem, an important place of worship for Jews. He replaced the Jewish symbols with an altar dedicated to Zeus, the king of the Greek gods.

The Jews, led by Judah the Maccabee, rebelled against King Antiochus. Many historians believe that they battled for about three years to become an independent region so they could practice their religion. Finally, around 164 B.C., the Maccabees, as they were called, defeated King Antiochus and his troops.

When the Maccabees returned to their ransacked temple, they found only one jar of oil - just enough to light the temple's candles for one day. But according to the Talmud (one of Judaism's holy texts), the oil miraculously burned for eight days, enough time for the victorious Maccabees to find more oil for their sacred candles.



Restoring the temple and driving out King Antiochus didn't end the conflict. His followers continued to battle with the Jews for more than 22 years. Finally, in the year 142, the warring groups signed a peace treaty, and the Jews formed their own independent region.

Hanukkah is an Advent Story

While Hanukkah has its own meaning, in some ways, it is actually an Advent story. Without Hanukkah, there would be no Christmas. If Antiochus had carried out his plan, there would have been no Mary, Joseph, or Jesus. There would have been no Messiah of Israel, no Savior of the World. And we would not be Christians today.

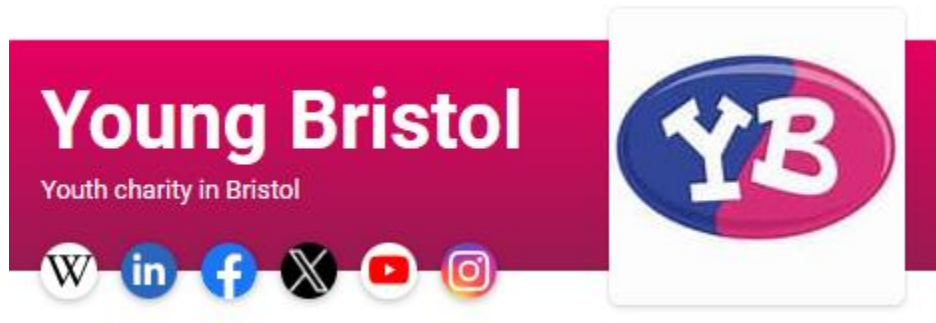
And so, amid this Advent Season, let us remember this Jewish festival makes a major Christian one possible. Even though Hanukkah is mentioned once in the New Testament, it's an important backdrop to one of his most profound statements. It was on the Feast of Dedication (Hanukkah) that Jesus said: *"The Father and I are one."* (Look at John 10:22-30)

This statement of unity has the power to change the world.

All Saints Charities 2023

The two charities for our Missional Giving in 2023 have been selected as:

Young Bristol



Young Bristol is a youth-driven charity that works to offer a choice of opportunities and experiences for all young people. Founded in 1928, their work has evolved into one of Bristol's leading youth charities, providing critical out-of-school services for young people of 8 – 25 years in communities across the city.

Today they are recognised as Bristol's leading provider of community-based youth services, through a community youth club network based in some of Bristol's most challenging communities, and are a valued provider of outdoor activities, mobile youth services, creative arts, outdoor employment, and informal educational programmes for young people.

Young Bristol, believes that every young person has the right to discover what they're capable of; helping young people to aspire to be confident, healthy, resilient, responsible and successful.

Médecins Sans Frontières



Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) translates to Doctors without Borders. They provide medical assistance to people affected by conflict, epidemics, disasters, or exclusion from healthcare. Their teams are made up of tens of thousands of health professionals, logistic and administrative staff - bound together by our charter. Their actions are guided by medical ethics and the principles of impartiality, independence and neutrality. They are a non-profit, self-governed, member-based organisation.

MSF was founded in 1971 in Paris by a group of journalists and doctors. Today, they are a worldwide movement of nearly 68,000 people.

MSF is one of the few medical providers continuing to work in Gaza.

All Saints Food Point



All donations taken during the Christmas services will be used to support the All Saints Food Point.

The need for The Food Point continues to grow as the weather becomes colder and changes to the Universal Credit System come into effect. Food banks across Bristol report an increasing need and the availability of food vouchers has been reduced.

The All Saints Food point is open to anyone who has a need, is totally non discriminating and is not reliant on vouchers or paperwork.

As such it plays an important part in supporting a wide community of people through difficult times. Donations can be placed on the collection tray or in the wall safe in the porch, Gift Aid adds 25% to your donation if you are a Tax payer – slips can be found in the church.

Thank you for your continuing support of the Food Point.

All Saints Church
Pembroke Road
Clifton, Bristol

December
24th
4.30 pm
Carols & Story
5pm

**The
Christmas
Story**

A short service
for all ages
telling the story
of the first
Christmas, with
familiar carols
around the Crib,
Come at 4.30
for hot
chocolate and
festive nibbles

Advent Pilgrimage

Sunday 17th December at 6.00pm

Our Advent Pilgrimage is a special act of worship which includes carefully chosen readings and music designed to help people reflect on the meaning of Advent and prepare for the coming of Christ this Advent season.



Everyone is welcome to attend this beautiful, reflective service.

ASC Advent Calendar:

Each day of December the ASC Advent Calendar will have a new window on the website – do have a look!!





Your PCC

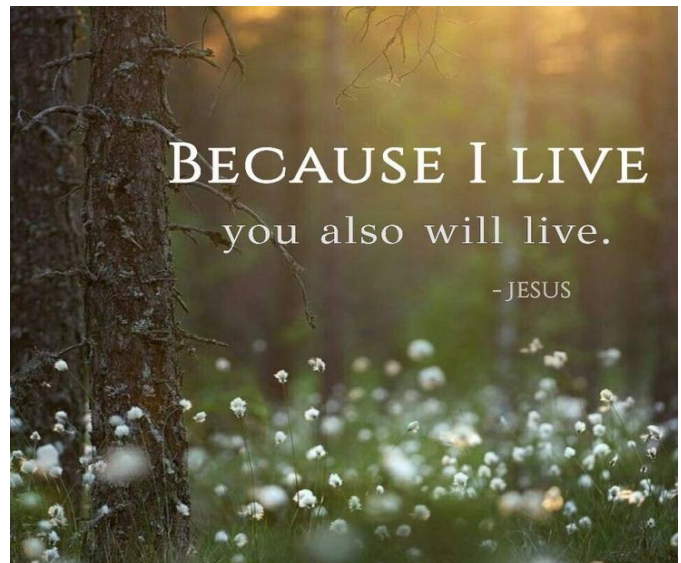
Minutes of the 2023 PCC meetings will be placed on the All Saints website.
The 2024 minutes will be added shortly after each meeting.
Paper copies will also be available from the Parish Office on request.

Prayers Requests

'In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live.'

(John 14: 19).

Please let Fr Charles know of anyone who would like to be remembered within the weekly prayer list or anyone who you would like to be remembered in prayer.



Those who we remember in our Prayers.

Sunday Tabitha Clark, Ruth and Richard Harding, Katie Norman, Neal Gordon, Joyce Shepherd, Cynthia Ashford Sue Hilliar Mary Greenacre Nadine Benn Lorna Osbon Elisabeth Morgan Andrew Casimir June Matthews Sathia Aruliah Ryan Lindsey

Monday

Tuesday.

Wednesday , Katrina and Katherine King, Philip Miles, Diana Verity, Samantha Tucker, Hugh Farry Maureen Mumford George Lymperopoulos

Thursday

Friday Charlotte Hopkins, Andy & Gina Ford, Caroline Semon, Nicole Kaneza.

Saturday

The Departed

Joanne Wilkins Eileen Davies Len Hughes John Morley-Bunker (Pr)) Albert Loveday Ruth Burrows O.M.C Erna Sacof Betty Shaw Nick Ball (Pr)

Years' Minds - this week we remember

John Dowden Joan Flynn Michael Houghton (Bp) Christine Malet Chellathurai Arulanantham James Ostler Alec Benton Geoff Knott Samuel Racy Leslie James

ALL SAINTS PRAYERS

Mon 18	O Adonai (O Lord) Heavenly Father, you prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son: grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour, so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our judge
Tue 19	O Radix Jesse (O Root of Jesse) O Root of Jesse, that stands for an ensign of the people, before whom the kings keep silence and unto whom the Gentiles shall make supplication: come, to deliver us, and tarry not.
Wed 20	Mass 10.00am O Clavis David (O Key of David) O Key of David, and sceptre of the house of Israel, who opens and no man shuts, who shuts and no man opens: come, and lead forth the captive who sits in the shadows from his prison.
Thurs 21	O Oriens (O Dayspring) O dawn of the east, brightness of light eternal, and sun of justice: come, and enlighten those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death.
Fri 22	Mass 10.00am O Rex Gentium (O King of the nations) O King of the gentiles and their desired One, the cornerstone that makes both one: come, and deliver man, whom you formed out of the dust of the earth.
Sat 23	O Emmanuel (O With Us is God) O Emmanuel, king and lawgiver, desire of the nations, Saviour of all people: Come and set us free, Lord our God. Pray for refugees and migrants. People have been migrating to all different parts of the world for hundreds of years in search of a better place to live, worship and raise their families, motivated by everything from religious prosecution to hunger and poverty in their own countries, to taking part in great wars that made our world what it is today, so it stands to reason that everyone would find something interesting about their own family history.
Sunday 24	4th Sunday of Advent God our redeemer, who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son: grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour, so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our judge. Morning Prayers 9.00am Parish Mass 10.30am Christmas Eve Almighty God, as we prepare with joy to celebrate the gift of the Christ-child, embrace the earth with your glory and be for us a living hope. Christmas Story 5.00pm Christmas Midnight Mass 10.30 -11.30pm

If you would like to give regularly to the Church, please set up a standing order to the church account, details below

Parochial Church Council of All Saints

Account No. 65256747

sort code 08 92 99

Gift Aid forms are available from the office
office@allsaintsclifton.org

We are committed to safeguarding children, young people, victims of domestic abuse and vulnerable adults.

If you have any Safeguarding concerns please contact :
The Parish Safeguarding Officer - Stephen O'Keefe
stephen.c.okeefe@gmail.com and Caroline Davenport
c2davbristol@hotmail.com