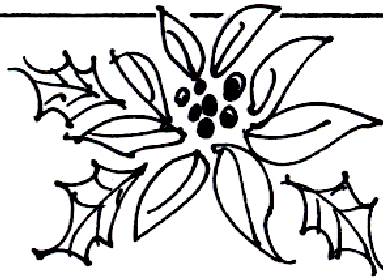


# December



2011

## Every Week

Unless otherwise noted

**WEDNESDAY** 10.00am Holy Communion in St Luke's  
2.30pm Afternoon Tea in St Paul's Church Hall  
**THURSDAY** 10.30am Drop In For Coffee at St Luke's

## SUNDAY 4<sup>TH</sup>

## ADVENT 2



8.00am Holy Communion at St Paul's (Set A)  
9.30am Sung Communion at St Paul's (Set A)  
11.00am **CHRISTINGLE GIFT SERVICE** at St Luke's (Special)  
5.00pm Evening Prayer (BCP) at St Paul's (Set B)

**THURSDAY** 8<sup>TH</sup>

7.30pm **CHRISTMAS CONCERT BY TADLEY SINGERS:** St Paul's Church

**SATURDAY** 10<sup>TH</sup>

4.30pm 'NATIVITY IN A STABLE' AT BURRELLS FARM  
Main Road Tadley – Tickets £3 – Proceeds to charity

## SUNDAY 11<sup>TH</sup>

## ADVENT 3

9.30am **CHRISTINGLE GIFT SERVICE** at St Paul's (Special)  
11.00am Family Communion at St Luke's (Set A)  
5.00pm Holy Communion (BCP) at St Paul's (Set A)

**MONDAY** 12<sup>TH</sup>

11.45am Monthly Prayer Lunch – see weekly Bulletin for details

**WEDNESDAY** 14<sup>TH</sup>

6.30pm Scouts in St Paul's Church for their Carol Service

**THURSDAY** 15<sup>TH</sup>

2.30pm Afternoon Teas, Carols & Mince Pies in St Paul's Hall

10.30am Morning Coffee, Carols & Mince Pies in St Luke's

## SUNDAY 18<sup>TH</sup>

## ADVENT 4



8.00am Holy Communion at St Luke's  
9.30am Sung Communion at St Paul's  
11.00am **FAMILY CAROLS & NATIVITY** at St Luke's  
3.00pm Carols at Peach Cottage  
6.00pm **CANDLELIT CAROLS & READINGS** at St Paul's

**MONDAY** 19<sup>TH</sup>

7.00pm Carols at Basingstoke Hospital, see magazine page 7

**WEDNESDAY** 21<sup>ST</sup>

NO Teas in St Paul's Hall this week or next – resumes 4<sup>th</sup> January

**THURSDAY** 22<sup>ND</sup>

NO Coffee in St Luke's this week or next – resumes 5<sup>th</sup> January



## Saturday 24<sup>TH</sup> CHRISTMAS EVE

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- 4.30pm CRIB SERVICE with Tadley Concert Brass in St Paul's  
11.30pm MIDNIGHT COMMUNION with Carols at St Luke's  
11.30pm MIDNIGHT COMMUNION with Carols at St Paul's

## Sunday 25<sup>TH</sup> CHRISTMAS DAY

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- 9.30am HOLY COMMUNION (1662 Prayer Book : said) at St Peter's  
10.30am CHRISTMAS FAMILY COMMUNION with Carols at St Luke's  
11.00am CHRISTMAS FAMILY WORSHIP at St Paul's

**FURTHER DETAILS OF ALL CHRISTMAS EVENTS ON BACK COVER**

**WEDNESDAY 28<sup>TH</sup>**

NO Teas in St Paul's Hall – resumes 4<sup>th</sup> January

**THURSDAY 29<sup>TH</sup>**

NO Midweek Communion this week – resumes 4<sup>th</sup> January

NO Coffee in St Luke's – resumes 5<sup>th</sup> January

**PLEASE TURN TO PAGE 16 FOR JANUARY'S CHURCH SERVICES & EVENTS**

A couple of years ago it struck Nigel Beeton that, if you'd lived in the house next door to the inn and the stable on that first Christmas Eve, you'd most probably have woken the next morning none the wiser as to what had happened. The 'Silent Gift' is the result.

### The Silent Gift

The gift of God came silently,  
With surreptitious grace,  
To a dark, concealed, stable block  
In an unfamiliar place.

No ceremonial pomp was there,  
No fanfare in the street,  
When the sacred gift from God was given –  
And creation made complete.

To no rich men were tidings given,  
But to shepherds in the fields.  
The angel-song so clear for them,  
Was from other men concealed.  
The nobles of the neighbourhood  
Saw nothing of a star;  
The heavenly sign of divine love  
Came to Wise Men from afar!

When the Son of God came down from Heaven  
To give his life for all,  
A rough-hewn cross of wood was his  
Outside Jerusalem's wall.  
The greatest gift that ever was,  
That freed us all from blame,  
Was thus wrapped up in pain and blood  
And ignominious shame.

So, how shall we, this Christmas time  
Our varied gifts present?  
How shall we be mindful, then  
Of what they represent?  
No matter what we buy, or give  
Or what we can afford,  
However well we wrap them up,  
We can't outgive the Lord.

By Nigel Beeton