

Brooklands Church Update

Sunday#28 November

Dear Friends

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned." – Isaiah 9:2.

Welcome to church on this first Sunday of Advent. This morning we begin the anticipation of the coming of our Lord Jesus and to help us we'll light candles each Sunday leading up to Christmas. This morning's candle is traditionally known as the candle of hope.

I don't know about you, but I still feel like I'm coming off the high of last Sunday! There was much to be hopeful about. Continue to pray for those who were baptised as well as those who joined the church in membership. The conversation on baptism and membership is always open so please let me know if you would like to discuss either.

I'm happy to say that our church Christmas card is now (!) available and details our exciting program beginning this week and continuing through the month of December. Please take one for yourself and, if appropriate, some extras to distribute among your neighbours/friends/families. There are many events that would make an opportunity to invite others along. I'll do my best to keep us updated each week with what is going on but if you have any questions about the events then please speak to me.

We kick off today following our morning service with the Brooklands Community Market which we have the joy of hosting here in the church. It runs from 1.30pm-5.30pm and will have a range of stalls, tea and coffee and a Santa's Grotto. Pray as our church will be accessed by many of our neighbours.

Next week following the morning service we will be joining with other local churches for a 'Carols in the Park' event. The event is slightly different to previous years and will take place in the Rose Garden of Wythenshawe Park (on your right as you drive up the road to the car park). The choir are looking for 4-8 volunteers to join and bolster the leading of some traditional Christmas Carols – please let me know if you would like to participate. The event starts at 2.00pm (but please be there for 1.45pm if you are in the choir).

As well as our Christmas programme our regular church activities will also continue in the weeks leading up to Christmas so please see the Church calendar – included in this Update – for details.

Peace,

Mick



Brooklands Church of the Nazarene

Registered Charity No: 1159881

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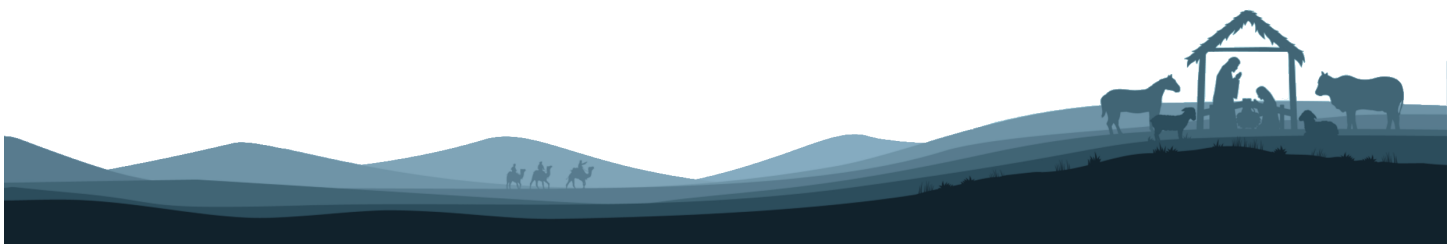


Church Calendar



MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Date	Event
Sunday 28 November 2021	First Sunday of Advent, 10:30 am
Sunday 28 November 2021	Community Christmas Market, 1:30 pm
Wednesday 1 December 2021	Toddle-In
Wednesday 1 December 2021	Church Zoom Prayer Meeting , 10:30 am
Wednesday 1 December 2021	FoodCycle free community meal at church at 5:00pm
Thursday 2 December 2021	Community Café, 11:00 am to 2:00 pm
Sunday 5 December 2021	Second Sunday of Advent, 10:30 am
Sunday 5 December 2021	Carols in the Park, 2:00 pm
Friday 10 December 2021	Musical Connections, 2-3:30 pm. See advert on page 5.
Sunday 12 December 2021	Third Sunday of Advent, 10:30 am—Kid's Church Nativity
Thursday 16 December 2021	Brooklands Community Santa's Grotto, 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm
Sunday 19 December 2021	Fourth Sunday of Advent, 10:30 am
Sunday 19 December 2021	Church Christmas Banquet, 5:00 pm (pre-booking only)
Tuesday 21 December 2021	Christmas Carols in the Community. Meet at church, 7:30pm
Saturday 25 December 2021	Christmas Morning celebration, 10:00 am to 10:30 am
Sunday 26 December 2021	Boxing Day service, 10:30 am
11-13 February 2022	Ladies' Weekend - Created to Create

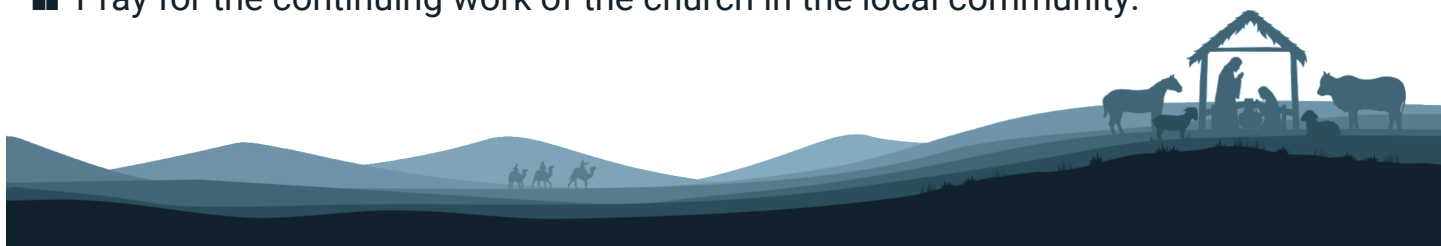


Church Prayer Requests



PRAYER REQUESTS

- 📖 Pray for our church as we enter the season of Advent with lots of important and exciting activities.
- 📖 We continue to uphold John and Ann Beattie in prayer.
- 📖 Jon Fisher's next bout of cancer treatment is scheduled to start on Tuesday; please pray he is well enough for this to go ahead.
- 📖 We give thanks that Isobel Cave has been feeling well recently. She is awaiting the results of an MRI scan so please continue to uphold her in prayer.
- 📖 Pray for Pastor Mick's dad, also called Mick, who needs a lot of prayer at this time.
- 📖 Pray for Chris Hoolihan who continues to experience arrhythmia of the heart. She is in working with her doctor as to how to resolve this.
- 📖 Pray for David and Chris Hoolihan's son Philip, in Vietnam, who has been in hospital recently. Pray for his wife, Hua also.
- 📖 We pray for Marie Vickers, family to David and Chris though marriage. Marie has received sudden news that she has a serious illness.
- 📖 Bill Ellis and Viv Best are now much better following health issues. We thank God for answered pray in these situations.
- 📖 We have been asked to pray for Myra's nephew, Lee Hickman. Lee is 45. He suffered a stroke and has been in hospital for 6 months. He is being fed through a tube. He bears these difficulties with a positive attitude, but we pray for healing for Lee.
- 📖 We continue to pray for Annette and Mike Jones and give thanks that Annette's condition is improving.
- 📖 Continue to pray for Brenda Cawley and family as her granddaughter's partner, Owen is very ill with cancer.
- 📖 We continue to remember Alan Roberts, son-in-law of Val Batty, who has cancer.
- 📖 We pray for others in our congregation who need healing. Including, Colin Dunbar and Claire. Also Christine Clarke has asked for prayer for sciatica.
- 📖 Pray for those we have recently come into contact with, and who are showing an interest in church.
- 📖 Pray for the continuing work of the church in the local community.



Sermon: The Forgotten Characters of Christmas

1: The Magi

Reading: Matthew 2: 1-12

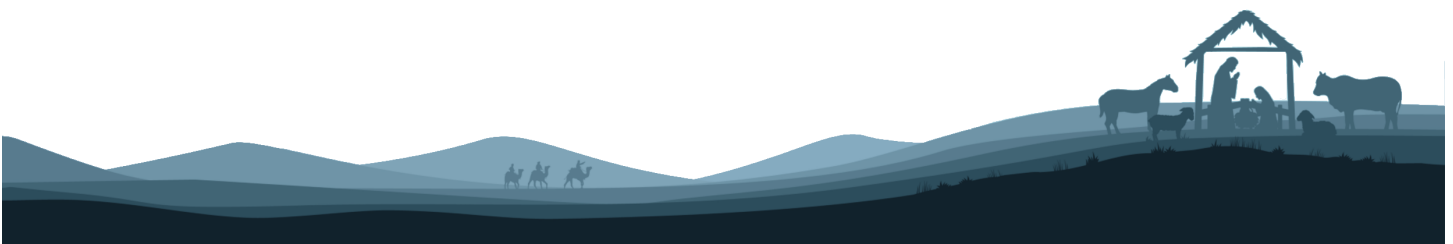
[1] After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem [2] and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”

[3] When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. [4] When he had called together all the people’s chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. [5] “In Bethlehem in Judea,” they replied, “for this is what the prophet has written:

[6] “‘But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.’”

[7] Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. [8] He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.”

[9] After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. [10] When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. [11] On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. [12] And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.



O Come, O Come, Immanuel

A prayer journey through Advent

Advent has always been one of the great pillars of the Christian year. The word itself means 'coming, ' and the Church has used it as a season of preparation.

It's a time when we look at the world around us, with all of its brokenness and mess, and remind ourselves that this is not the end- it's only the beginning. Death doesn't get the last word- life does; darkness doesn't get the last word- light does; sin doesn't get the last word- love does.

Many of our congregations will embody and enact this fact every week throughout the season of Advent- as we light the candles of hope, peace, joy, and love, culminating in the Christ candle on Christmas Day, every week we will see more and more darkness being dispelled and driven out by divine light, because *"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."* [John 1:5]

This prayer resource is intended to help us experience that journey in a more meaningful and significant way. Each day of the Advent season there will be a short Scripture reference taken from the Daily Lectionary, a calendar of readings followed by Christians from all over the faith family tree.

Then there will be a prayer composed by various members and friends of our District, concluding with themes for further personal prayer.

It will be shared on the District social media, and we would invite you to make use of it both as individuals and as local Church families.

Our hope is that this resource will be a tool that enhances and supplements our mutual prayer life through this journey to Christmas.

May it help us all as we prepare to celebrate the first Advent, the first Coming of Christ to the world He loves, and may it help us to better anticipate His Second and Final Advent, when He comes in glory to make all things once again good and very good.

Thank you for being a part of this adventure. And just as He did at Bethlehem, may Christ come to each of us in a way that changes everything.

Rev David Gilmour
District Secretary

Rev Carl McCann
District Superintendent

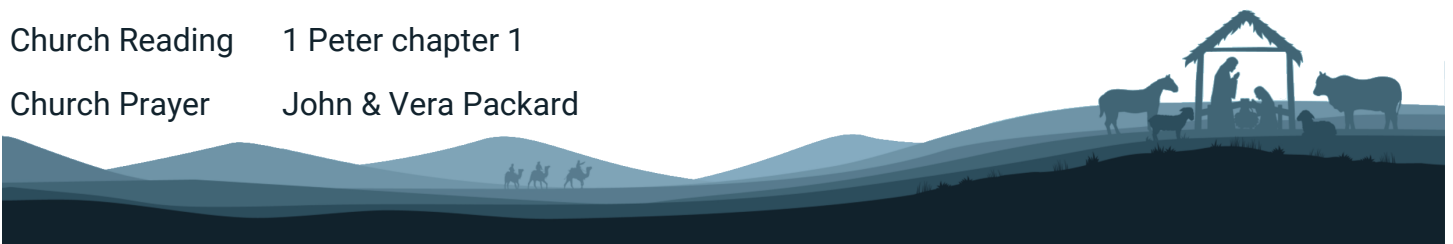


Week One

HOPE



Date	Sunday 28th November 2021
Advent Reading	Luke 21:28—A sure and certain hope
Prayer by	Rev David Gilmour (Llay)
Prayer	God of all hope, We thank you that you are the solid Rock and sure Foundation; That you never change, but are more certain than the rising of the sun. We thank you that our hope is not like that of the world. A vague wishing that things will be well; No, our hope is an anchor for the soul, That will keep us deeply and immovably rooted amidst all the storms of life. As we journey through Advent in a stormy world, help us to lift up our heads, knowing that our redeemer has come and is coming, and in some incredible way is even with us every step along the road. For we pray it through His name. Amen.
Collective Prayer	Pray that God would keep you and yours steadfast in the midst of the storms of life.
Church Reading	James 4:13–5:20
Church Prayer	Michael Okechukwa and family
Date	Monday 29th November 2021
Advent Reading	Psalm 90:2—From everlasting to everlasting you are God
Prayer by	Rev Don Mentch
Prayer	Everlasting Father, You are without beginning and without ending and beyond our understanding. A day with you is like a thousand years and a thousand years are like a day. In your time you sent Jesus into the world to be our Saviour. Your patience with us means salvation. You have promised that He will come again to reign as King. This promise gives us hope: the hope of life everlasting and of a New Heaven and a New Earth, where righteousness dwells. Our lives and our times are in your hands. Like the grass and the flowers we are here today and gone tomorrow. Teach us to number our days that we may live wisely. In His Name. Amen.
Collective Prayer	Pray patiently for family and friends that in God's timing they will have the hope of Salvation.
Church Reading	1 Peter chapter 1
Church Prayer	John & Vera Packard



Date Tuesday 30th November 2021

Advent Thought God is our dwelling place

Prayer by Rev Michelle Lynam

Prayer God, we thank you that you are our dwelling place. That as the dark nights grow longer and the cold creeps in - we thank you that we find light, strength, hope, comfort and security in you. We thank you for the invitation to simply and humbly 'be' with you. As we dwell with you, Lord - renew us. As we rest in you - restore us. As we draw close to you - refill us. As we look to you - refresh our vision. As we worship you - remind us of your love and the hope we find in you. As we go about our day - help us to step forward, confident in your presence and as beacons of hope, truth and light to those around us. In Jesus Name, Amen

Collective Prayer Enjoy time in God's presence and pray for opportunities to bring God's hope to those around you today.

Church Reading 1 Peter chapter 2

Church Prayer Sandra & Mike Pitt & family

Date Wednesday 1st December 2021

Advent Reading Psalm 90:17—Establish your work

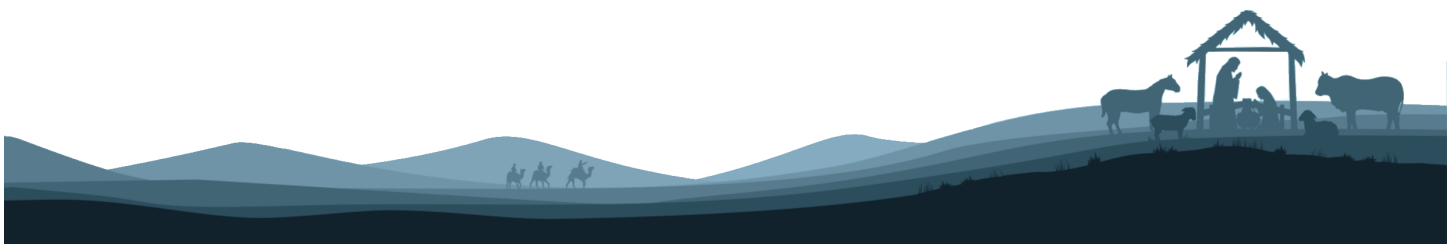
Prayer by Rev David Gilmour (Llay)

Prayer Almighty God, father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit. We lay before you the ministries of our congregations in this Advent season, that they may be blessed, fruitful, and a faithful declaration of the salvation story. For those who will engage with the life of your Church in a way that they never would throughout the rest of the year, open their eyes to see, their ears to hear, and their hearts to respond in an eternal way. We pray in the Name of Christ Jesus. Amen.

Collective Prayer Pray that God would use you in a meaningful way in the life of your Church through this Advent season.

Church Reading 1 Peter chapter 3

Church Prayer Grant & Crys Pettitt



Date Thursday 2nd December 2021

Advent Reading Luke 1:68—Past and future hope

Prayer by Rev David Gilmour (Llay)

Prayer God of glory and of grace, God of majesty and splendour, we praise you that you are unfailingly faithful. As you promised through the prophets, your son came to your people and redeemed us. Thank you that you can be trusted, and that we have an eternity's worth of your fulfilled promises to lean on. As such, we hold on to the sure and certain hope of the final coming of our Lord as surely as he came at Bethlehem, so he will come again to make all things once again good and very good. As we wait in hope, keep us as your good and faithful servants. We pray in the Name of Jesus. Amen.

Collective Prayer Thank God for answered prayers in your life and the lives of those you love.

Church Reading 1 Peter chapters 4 and 5

Church Prayer Fay Powell

Date Friday 3rd December 2021

Advent Reading Philippians 1:18—God of deliverance

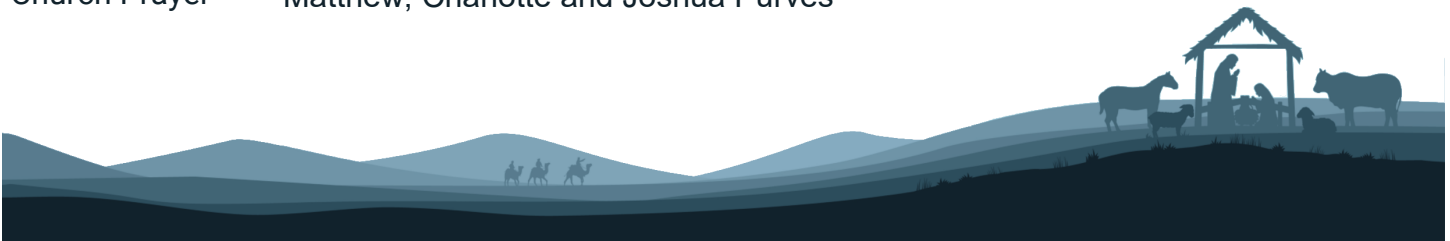
Prayer by Rev Dr Svetlana Khobnya

Prayer Glory and praise to you, our Lord, because you came in Christ to redeem us and to lead us out of darkness into your light under the guidance of the Spirit of Christ. We thank you for this wonderful gift and ask you to continuously remind us to rely on you in all circumstances, knowing that deliverance will always come in your timing and in your way! Teach us, o Lord, to pray for others as a sign of our faith and confidence in you and as a tool to build up your Kingdom on earth as it is in Heaven, where love and care prevail over chaos and distress, where reconciliation and peace come through prayers and your provision of the spirit of Jesus Christ! Amen.

Collective Prayer Pray that God will work in you by the power of the Spirit of Christ to bring you comfort and peace, and to bless all whom your lives touch.

Church Reading 2 Peter chapter 1

Church Prayer Matthew, Charlotte and Joshua Purves



Date	Saturday 4th December 2021
Advent Reading	Malachi 4:2—Healing
Prayer by	Rev David Gilmour (Llay)
Prayer	Lord Almighty, we thank you for the healing that can only be found in and through Christ. Healing of wounds much deeper than flesh healing in mind and heart and soul. And most especially, we thank you for healing the poisonous wound that broke our relationship with you. We thank you that through Christ, the Son of Righteousness, we can once again enjoy the full, flourishing, abundant life that is your will for the world you love. We anticipate the day when that healing will perfectly flood every corner of creation, when we will no longer need to hope, because every hope has been utterly fulfilled. Until that day, make us agents of healing we pray. Through Jesus our Lord. Amen.
Collective Prayer	Pray for healing for the wounds you carry that no-one but God can see.
Church Reading	Catch up
Church Prayer	Adriana, Philip, David, Joseph, Pete & Rebecca Richmond and Dona Zizinha

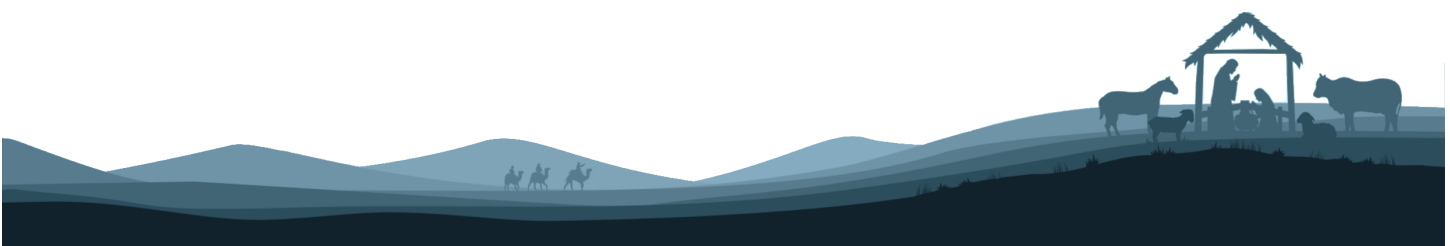
And finally...

If anyone is able to help us deliver Christmas cards to the houses on the estate, please let Mark, our Church Secretary know.

If you live locally, it would be helpful if you could deliver to the houses around where you live.

Alternatively, if you are free on Monday at 10am for an hour, you can meet us at church, and we will deliver cards to the houses nearest to church.

As always, thanks for your support with this important task.



NEXT YEAR
BISD Ladies' Weekend

*Created
to Create*

11th - 13th February 2022

Kings Park Conference Centre,
Northampton



Come in!
For tasty food
and good company



**Free meals
Wednesdays
5.00pm**

Everyone is welcome

FoodCycle Wythenshawe
Brooklands
Brooklands Church
of the Nazarene
Wendover Rd
M23 9FN



Musical Connections at Christmas

STRING OF
HEARTS

buzz
Manchester
Health & Wellbeing
Service

Over 50s are invited to a christmas music session with String of Hearts and Buzz Health & Wellbeing Service!

Join in with some well-known christmas tunes and explore your musical interests with local professional musicians.

- Have some fun
- Connect with local people
- No musical experience required

Friday 10th December, 2 - 3.30 pm
Brooklands Church of the Nazarene,
Wendover Road, Brooklands M23 9FN

The session is free to attend and
drinks & snacks will be provided.



Please contact Lucy at String of Hearts to
register your interest: 07392 154 743

