

Brooklands Church

18 DECEMBER 2022

BROOKLANDS CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE, WENDOVER ROAD, M23 9FN.
REGISTERED CHARITY NO: 1159881

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SECRETARY: MARK BOLTON, INFO@BROOKLANDSCHURCH.UK, 07890 676039



**"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son"
John 3:16.**

I'm sure you are familiar with this verse, even if you are new to church and Christianity. It has often been cited as the one verse of the Bible that captures the whole Scriptural narrative in a single sentence. However, we tend to think of the cross and resurrection when it comes to mind, I think.

But if the cross and resurrection are the culmination of this then we must think of the Christmas story as the beginning of its fulfilment. At Christmas we are reminded that God has come to us in his Son. The giving of the Son to be with us is motivated by one key characteristic of who God is: Love. Today we light the fourth candle of Advent, the candle of Love.

The candle will be lit by one of the three(!) families in our church who contain four generations. This is a beautiful reminder that not only does the truth of the Gospel go out, but it also travels down through families in love. What a wonderful thing to ponder and celebrate.

And how better to celebrate this than to give primacy of place in our service to our children as they lead us in telling the Christmas story. I know they have been working hard in all their preparations and we look forward to them leading us in worship in this unique and special way.

We are also delighted to be hosting the Manchester Gospel Choir who will perform some pieces for us at the beginning of the service.

Another 4 generation family celebrate a significant milestone in the church. John and Vera Packard mark 70 years of marriage on Monday. Following church this morning we will enjoy cake to mark the occasion.

Remember our carol service is tonight at 6pm where we will read and sing through the Christmas story as well as finish off our Advent preaching series with, "Advent: a Time to Love."

Next Sunday is Christmas day. We have arranged for a short gathering at our usual time of 10.30am. We will mark the birth of Christ with a family gathering. I look forward to seeing you there.

All of the midweek ministries of the church will break now until the new year. Let me take this opportunity to say a massive thank you to everyone who serves in our church. There truly would be no Brooklands Church of the Nazarene without you. Please enjoy a well-deserved rest.

Peace,

Mick

Daily Readings and Prayers

Date	Bible Reading	Pray For
Mon 19 Dec 2022	John 1:29-34	Tim and Alison Ingram
Tue 20 Dec 2022	John 1:35-42	Josh Jenkinson and wife Molly, and Miley, Jonah and Ezra
Wed 21 Dec 2022	John 1:43-51	Michael and Debbie Kane, and Mikey
Thu 22 Dec 2022	Isaiah 7:1-14	Eden Lai and Daisy Chen, and Samson and Sammu
Fri 23 Dec 2022	Isaiah 9:1-7	Samuel and Connie Law
Sat 24 Dec 2022	Genesis 3:8-15	Majid Saadouni
Sun 25 Dec 2022	Phil 2:1-11	Zizinha Mendes Marino

This Week at Brooklands

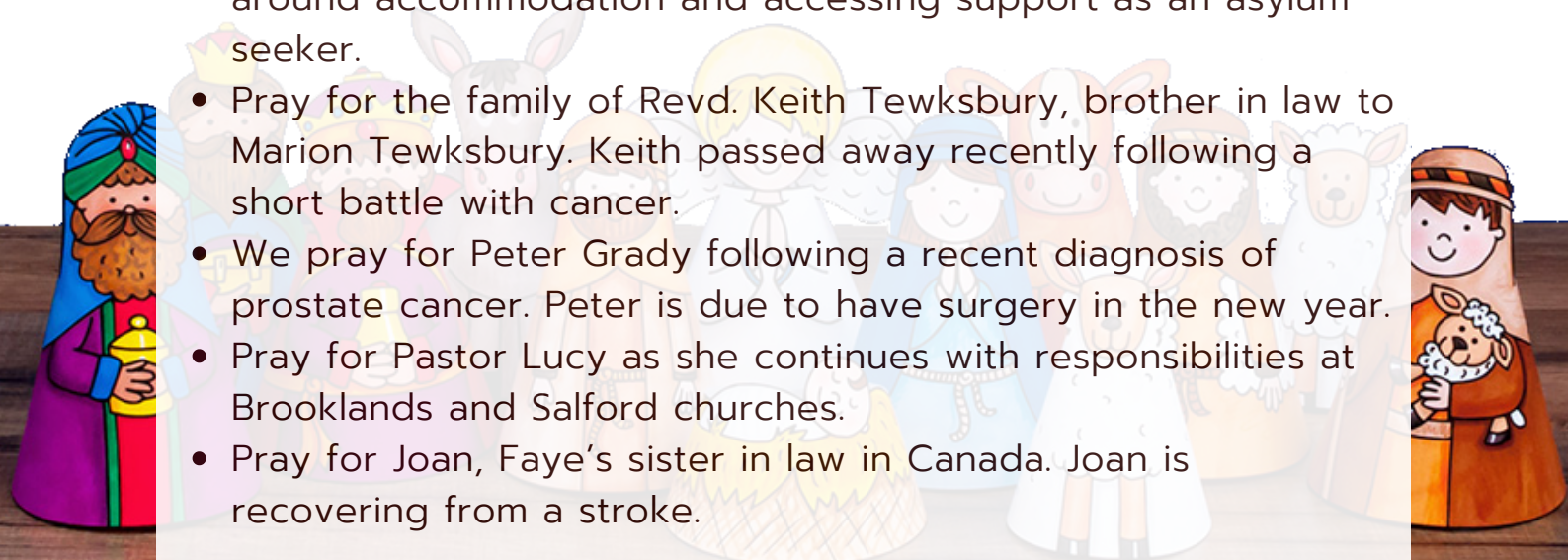
Date	Time	Event
Sun 18th Dec	10:30 am	Children's Nativity Presentation
Sun 18th Dec	6:00 pm	Advent 4: Carol Service, Mick
Wed 21st Dec	10:30 am	Prayer meeting on Zoom
Sun 25th Dec	10:30 am	Christmas Day Family Service

Other events coming up

Sun 1st Jan 2023	10:30 am	Morning Worship
February 2023		Ladies retreat. Info to follow

Prayer Points

- Pray for the work of the Church this Advent and Christmas season.
- We rejoice that Norma has returned home from hospital after 10 months. Pray for her as she readjusts to living at home again.
- Remember Anna Holme in your prayers. Anna has been in hospital this week, and is awaiting the results of a biopsy.
- We had been praying for Diane, a close friend of Babs Hewitt. Diane died last week after a battle with cancer. We pray for Diane's family and Babs in this time. We pray for Pete Hewitt too who will conduct the funeral service.
- Pray for Bill Graham who is recovering following double cataract surgery this past week.
- Pray for David and Christine Hoolihan's granddaughter, Lyla, who has been ill after receiving her flu vaccination.
- Pray for Lyla, granddaughter of David and Chris Hoolihan, who has been unwell following her flu vaccine some weeks ago.
- Sue Ellis has been experiencing pain in her leg this week and would value prayer.
- Cameron Preece's dad has returned home following some time in hospital. However he still has some infections being treated. Cameron would like to thank the church for their prayers in these days.
- Pray for Majid Saadouni who has had serious challenges around accommodation and accessing support as an asylum seeker.
- Pray for the family of Revd. Keith Tewksbury, brother in law to Marion Tewksbury. Keith passed away recently following a short battle with cancer.
- We pray for Peter Grady following a recent diagnosis of prostate cancer. Peter is due to have surgery in the new year.
- Pray for Pastor Lucy as she continues with responsibilities at Brooklands and Salford churches.
- Pray for Joan, Faye's sister in law in Canada. Joan is recovering from a stroke.



Prayer Points (page 2)

- Pray for the family of John Beattie, Anne in particular, as the family gathered this week to inter John's ashes. Pastor Mick conducted a short ceremony.
- Continue to pray for Barbara Edwards, the sister of Jean Walker. Barbara is also recovering from a stroke.
- Pray for Gilbert and Amie and the children, and especially for Amie, as she receives medical attention. Amie had further scans this week and is awaiting results.
- Pray for Lauren, in her role as Associate Pastor for Children, Youth and Families.
- Pray for Ron, the brother of Sylvia Findlay who is undergoing treatment for his kidneys. He is being considered for dialysis but Sylvia's prayer is that such healing would take place that he would not need this. UPDATE: Ron has seen improvements in his health recently!
- Pray for Ron and Jenny Hearn, for healing and strength. Jenny will go into a care home this week for some respite care and assessment.
- Pray for those struggling with the Cost-of-Living Crisis. We pray that our Food Pantry will be a real support for those in need in our area. Pray for Gert, Charmaine and others who help to run this ministry.
- Pray for our local councillors - Sue Cooley, Glynn Evans and Julia Baker Smith. Pray also for our MP, Mike Kane.
- We continue to pray for the situation in Ukraine, and for protection for Christians who are being conscripted to join the armed forces.
- Pray for the work of the Church here in the community of Brooklands, as new faces continue to engage with us.

Please contact Mick, Lucy, Lauren or Mark if you have any specific prayer requests, or answers to prayer for us to share.



This Week's Sermon (Sunday evening) – Mick Kane
A Time to Love – Matthew 1: 18-25

18 This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. 19 Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

20 But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. 21 She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: 23 "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us").

24 When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. 25 But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

CHURCH IMPORTANT INFORMATION

This week we have changed the locks on the main doors of church. If you have a key, it will no longer open the church door, but it will still be able to open the door to the sanctuary.

If you need to access the church building outside of normal church hours, speak to Mark Bolton, who will be able to help you.

