

## Finchampstead & California Parish News 13<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Parish Office, Baptism, Wedding, or Funerals, please ring 0118 9730133

Church Centre bookings for St James'; Sue Sampson 0118 9732069

Parish Centre bookings St Mary & St John's; Marjorie Stalker 01344 779636

Email: office@stjames.finchampstead.co.uk Website: parish.finchampstead.co.uk

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Notices Contact: parishnotices@finchampstead.co.uk

Social Media: joannemyall@hotmail.co.uk



Facebook : <https://www.facebook.com/StJamesFinchampstead/>

You Tube : <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBROBFfWjqOwt9smqlzhv-w>

### **Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December – Advent 3**

**9.30am Family Service** - (Facebook or You Tube). Join Sam and Kate for this week's service - don't forget to download the Family Activities pack

**11.00am Parish Communion** – Join Revd. Julian on Facebook or You Tube - \*print off the Sermon and the Prayers from this mailing.

### **Week - days**

Use the **Thoughts for the Day** prepared by Canon John based on the readings for this week's Morning Prayer. To access Morning Prayer online go to <https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer>

### **Prayer**

God our Father, you have blessed our parish so greatly over the years; we pray for all its people at this difficult time and for our Christian witness together. Send us the right person as Rector, to lead us on the path you have chosen for us.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **Notices:**

#### **We are taking bookings again for services in church:**

Services at St James:	Services at St Elgius:
20 December 11am	20 December 11am - <i>Dress up as a character.</i>
24 December 11.30pm	<i>Refreshments and Carols afterwards weather permitting</i>
25 December 8am; 9.30am and 11am	24 December 11pm
27 December 11am	25 December 10.30am

**Please email or phone the office to register your desire to attend no later than the preceding Friday by 10am. St. James' remains open for private prayer on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays between 10am and 12pm**

### **Information from CMG re Opportunities to support Christmas Appeals**

At this time of year, we usually support The Children's Society at Christingle Services, Berkshire Women's Aid on a Gift Day at St. James.

Christian Aid by Card on the Tree at St. James and One Card at SMSJ and Link to Hope with shoeboxes.

Due to the unusual circumstances this year we suggest anyone who wishes to support any of these appeals donates directly through the relevant website. Each website gives details of the organisation's projects etc.

[www.childrenssociety.org.uk](http://www.childrenssociety.org.uk)

[www.berkshirewomensaid.org.uk](http://www.berkshirewomensaid.org.uk)

[www.christianaid.org.uk](http://www.christianaid.org.uk)

[www.linktohope.co.uk](http://www.linktohope.co.uk)

We will update this information if necessary.

### **Giving to God and his church – Can you help please?**

Thank you so much to everyone who gives regularly to support our parish and its mission, and those who have made recent gifts. During the pandemic we are continuing to monitor our finances very closely and reduce spending as much as we can. But it is clear that we face a very significant shortfall in income this year, currently estimated to be at least £40,000. If you can, there are at least 3 ways in which you might help. Perhaps you could make a Christmas gift to our parish in thanks that God is working through us all in this difficult year. Or could you increase your monthly gift to maintain its value, start to give by monthly bank transfer. Please send a cheque to the parish office, or give electronically if you prefer. Bank instruction forms are available in our churches and for convenience, our bank details follow. You are welcome to contact me if you have a question about this.

Please do help if you can at this really difficult time for the parish. Every good wish. Robert. [robert@alder.ndo.co.uk](mailto:robert@alder.ndo.co.uk)  
Parish of Finchampstead and California. CAF Bank. Sort Code 40-52-40, Account number 0002 2949

## **What's on at St Eligius**

### **Advent Reflection and Soaking prayer**

See flyer for information – please book for any service you would like to attend

*Tuesday @10am 8th / 15th / 22nd Dec.*

*Thursday @8pm 10<sup>th</sup> & 17th Dec.*

### **Sunday Services all 11am**

#### ***20<sup>th</sup> United Children's Nativity Service***

*Come dressed up as a character. Refreshments and Carols outside afterwards weather permitting*

### **Christmas Eve**

*11pm Communion Service*

### **Christmas Day**

*10.30 Family Communion*

### **Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> – No service at St Eligius**

### **Hamper Items**

This year we are simplifying the hampers we give to those in need in the Community. Working with WBC we have been asked to collect the following items for the hampers:

Cakes/Mince Pies, Biscuits / Sweets & Chocolate

If you would like to donate, please bring along any items to any of the services on or before 13<sup>th</sup> December and leave them in the box at the back of the church.

### **Angel Trail**

From 6<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> December there will be an Angel Trail around Arborfield Green. For detail of the trail and to download the questionnaire see the St Eligius Website [www.steligius.church](http://www.steligius.church)

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*Names are listed for one calendar month. Please contact the Parish Office each month to confirm names as needed.*

**Parish Intercessions List – Please pray for:** Joyce Beckett, Bridget, Sophie Hall, Thea, Kate, Ann Pask, Colin Ramsay McClaren, Natalie, Louise, Reuben, Rosalind Drury, Simon, Bernadette, Andrew, Dennis Hall, Sarah, Daniel, Jack, Mary Whalley, June & Tom Warr, Hazel & Maurice Levy, Ann, Bob Brooks, Ann Symmonds, Doreen and family, Linda Whiteside, Claire, Steve Prosser, the Thomas family, Amber and Paige, James, David Powell, Bob Helliwell, Pamela Redford, Meg Hostler, Barbara Hill and family, Harry Ranger, Brigitte, Colleen

**And those who mourn the loss of their loved ones:** Irene Fruin, Clive Hill