

Free to
come along!

No pre-
booking!

Whitstable

General Election

Hustings*

Friday 29th November, doors 7pm

St Peter's Church
59 Sydenham St, Whitstable CT5 1HN

*A hustings is when election candidates are asked questions. This is a great opportunity to hear about their vision for the future, their hopes and their solutions to the problems of Whitstable, Canterbury and the country. It can also help you decide who to vote for.

Boxing Day Lunch 26th December at
Seasalter Christian Centre
Don't eat alone today - join us for good food
and good company
Contact Chris if you would like to come;
chris.skingley@btinternet.com or 272508

MOTHERS' UNION IN DECEMBER

Tuesday 3rd December 10am Seasalter Christian Centre - Meditations
for Advent led by David Sims

Thursday 19th December 2pm Thorpe Room All Saints' Hall.
Christmas Carols, mince pies, cards etc.

Wishing all our Members a very Happy Christmas

EVENTS AT ST ALPHEGE WHITSTABLE

Wednesday 11th
December 2pm
Art Talk on St
Francis of Assisi

Please note the café
is closed 26th
December to 31st
December and will
reopen on New
Year's day

New Year's Eve
The church will be
open for
contemplative
prayer from 2pm to
4pm

UNITY UPDATE

Christmas 2019

Rev David Vannerley writes:

Do you know the poem that ends:
'God was man in Palestine ... and
lives today in bread and wine?'

Words of John Betjeman in his
reflection on the Advent season
called Christmas. I have this real
struggle with starting Christmas the
day after we put our poppies aside
for another year – it means that we
do not stop to think about the need
to get ready for Christmas at all.
Advent is there for a good reason: it
calls on us to stop, to reflect and to
pray that the Christchild will truly be
present to us all. Not just in
sentiment. Not just in fripperies.
Especially not in excessive eating and
drinking.

The Feast of the Nativity is a spiritual
challenge to everyone to make room
for Christ the Lord in the heart of
our lives. Yes, he did once come and
live as a human person, experiencing
all the joys and tragedies of human
life, including his own awful death
and suffering but that was not the
end. He was so full of the
superabundance of God's life that
not even death could stop him:

and his life continues to abide with
us. That is the significance of the
church's family meal of the Eucharist,
his life energising our lives to
continue his mission to our world.

So do, please, have a very merry
Christmas but not until you have first
had a prayerful, engaged and
worshipful Advent: the Christmas
that follows will then be all the more
powerful and blessing for us all.

Every Blessing

David

God's Love

May the incredible love of
Christ the Saviour
and the joy of His coming
bless you anew
this Christmas.

*"There is none like you, O Lord; you are great,
and your name is great in might."
Jeremiah 10:6 ESV*

CHRISTMAS SERVICES IN THE WHITSTABLE TEAM MINISTRY

A very Blessed Advent and Christmas to you and God's richest blessings for you and your loved ones for 2020!



St John's Swalecliffe

(all at St John's church unless otherwise mentioned)

Sunday 1st December 4pm Christingle service

Saturday 7th December 5pm 6th Whitstable Scouts Carols

Sun 15th Dec 6.30 pm Christmas Village Praise in the WI Hall, Chestfield Road

Tues 17th Dec 10am Carols at Coffee Break in St John's Centre. Until noon

Sunday 22nd December 6.30pm Carols by Candlelight

Christmas Eve 10am Christmas Eve Holy Communion, in St John's Centre

Then, back at St John's church,

Crib services at 3.30pm and 5pm on Christmas Eve followed by

11.30pm First Eucharist of Christmas

Christmas Day 10.30am Family Holy Communion

St Peter's Whitstable

Sunday 22nd December 3.30pm Christingle service

Christmas Eve 11.30pm Midnight Mass and Blessing of the Crib

Christmas Day 10am Christmas Day Eucharist

Because of space issues only specifically Christmas themed services are mentioned. Each church may have additional church services on that particular day or Sunday so please note your usual church notices for details of these.

We have also had to stop at Christmas Day and not beyond that but we know you will continue to worship into the New Year!

Rev Simon Tillotson

St Alphege Seasalter

Sunday 15th December 10.30am The Nativity - retelling of the Christmas Story

4pm Carols by Candlelight

Tuesday 17th December 6.30pm Carols in the car park

Sunday 22nd December 10.30am All-Age worship with Christingle
Christmas Eve 4pm Crib Service

Christmas Day 11.30pm Midnight Holy Communion
10am Holy Communion for everyone

All Saints' Whitstable

Sunday 1st December 6.30pm Advent Carol service

Saturday 14th December 4pm Christingle Service

Sunday 15th December 6.30pm Traditional Carol Service of Nine Lessons and Carols

Wednesday 18th December 7pm Carol Singing under the Yew Tree (or in the church if weather is poor)

Christmas Eve Crib Services 3pm and 4.30pm

Christmas Day 11.15pm Midnight Communion
8am and 10am Holy Communion

St Alphege Whitstable

Sunday 1st December 4.30pm "Blue" Christmas for any who struggle at this time of year

Sunday 14th December 4.30pm Café "Christingle" at St Andrew's Church CT5 4LH

Sunday 22nd December 4.30pm Service of Nine Lessons and Carols
Christmas Eve 4pm Crib Service

Christmas Day 11.30pm Midnight Mass
8am Holy Communion (traditional)
10am Holy Communion (sung)

Please visit church websites or contact your local vicar or churchwarden or church office for more activities and services happening over the seasonal period and where information of times or venues is missing.

Rev Simon Tillotson – editor 01227 272308 tillotsons@gmail.com