

IN YOUR PRAYERS...as we head towards the festive season, we especially remember those we have loved and lost. In very recent times, we have lost members of our own community, please hold the families of Dave Keats, Jim Milroy, Harold Pratt, Ted Johnson, David Tew and Mary Franklin in your prayers at this very sad time.

CHRISTMAS DAY AND BOXING DAY AT DEDDINGTON CHURCH

If you, or anyone you know finds Christmas hard, either because of loneliness or of difficult memories, then there is somewhere to go where there will be warmth, food and good company. Deddington church will be open on Christmas Day and Boxing Day between 1pm and 4pm, so if you, or anyone you know would like to come and join us, then please add your name to the list at the back of one of the churches in the Benefice or alternatively, contact Revd Annie on 01869 336880, email vicar@deddingtonchurch.org

CHRISTINGLE PREPARATIONS - DEDDINGTON CHURCH – We urgently need help to construct Christingles for the service on Christmas Eve. The more who come to help, the quicker they will be made!! Please come and help on Saturday 23rd December at 2pm

SQUEALS AND WHEELS IS CHANGING TO – BUMPS & BUNDLES AND TINY TOTS - a great place to meet parents, carers and babies, from bump to 3 yrs. Every Thursday from 2:00 to 3.30pm in Deddington Church. All welcome. Contact Revd. Paula Smith 01869 337884, curate@deddingtonchurch.org

THE NATIVITY IN BARFORD ST MICHAEL – SATURDAY 23RD DECEMBER

We will be re-enacting the key points of the Nativity as we walk around the village. We will start in Broad Close; please be there from 3.45 so we can make a prompt start at 4.00pm. There will be light refreshments following the stable scene in the church. Wrap up warm and bring a torch. Dress in costume if you wish!

DEDDINGTON CHURCH – A reminder to any volunteers who are able to help with the pre Christmas cleaning of the Church on Monday 18 December 9.15am onwards.

CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT

Longing for peace, our world is troubled.

Longing for hope, many despair.

Your word alone has pow'r to save us.

Make us your living voice

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness

Christ, be our light. Shine in your Church gathered today.

Church Website: www.deddingtonchurch.org

Anyone with an enquiry about Weddings or Baptisms should speak to the Vicar after a service.

For all other church bookings please contact:

Judy Ward, Parish Administrator (bookings@deddingtonchurch.org)

Items for inclusion in this weekly news sheet should be sent to Judy by 12 noon on Wednesdays.

The opening of John's Gospel is chiefly about Christ's person and significance, but the writers rather surprisingly insert passages about John the Baptist, emphasizing his secondary yet important role. Perhaps there were followers of the Baptist who gave him a higher place and needed correcting? Paul makes plain the basic duties placed on the shoulders of those who await God's fulfilment. We need ideas in order to know where to place our efforts and our hopes. Ordinary duties are not exciting but are basic to the rhythm of our lives. Jesus stands as our best and heaven-sent guide to God's character and purpose.

AT DEDDINGTON CHURCH THIS WEEK

Monday – Friday	08.45	Morning Prayer
Tuesday	10.00	Primary School Carol Service
Wednesday	10.00	Holy Communion Service
	14.30	Thanksgiving Service – Ted Johnson
Thursday	11.00	Funeral – Mary Franklin
	14.00	Bumps & Bundles and tiny tots – A great place to meet for parents, carers and babies, from bump to 3 years of age.

BARFORD CHURCH

Monday	12.00	Funeral – David Tew
Saturday	16.00	Live Nativity around Barford St Michael

SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY (24th DECEMBER)

Deddington	10.30	Benefice Holy Communion
	16.00	Crib Service & Christingle
	23.30	Midnight Mass
Barford	14.00	Crib Service
	23.30	Midnight Mass

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Old Testament	2 Samuel 7: 1-11. 16
New Testament	Romans 16: 25-27
Gospel	Luke 1: 26-38

READINGS FOR MIDNIGHT MASS

Old Testament	Isaiah 52: 7-10
New Testament	Hebrews 1: 1-12
Gospel	John 1: 1-14

Churchwardens:

Deddington	George Fenemore	338203
	Iain Gillespie	338367
Barfords	Cubby Brett	338300
	Tony Elvidge	338214

Vicar:

Rev'd Annie Goldthorp	(01869) 336880
Judy Ward	vicar@deddingtonchurch.org
Parish Administrator	The Vicarage, Earls Close, Deddington OX15 0RY

Curate:

Rev'd Paula Smith	(01869) 337884
	curate@deddingtonchurch.org