

ALL SAINTS'



ALIVE

All Saints' Welcomes Everyone



Looking Ahead to Advent

As the leaves turn amber and the clocks go back, November brings a distinct shift in rhythm. It is a month when our focus turns naturally to memory, gratitude, and the quiet movement of time.

Like you I'm sure, I noted recently, new consultations on shaping the future growth of East Herts to ongoing discussions across Hertfordshire about becoming a community of refuge and sanctuary—and both reminded of a fundamental truth: how we build, welcome, and care for one another as a community matters deeply.

With that in mind, following the visit from Lois Bosatta, Director of the Clewer Initiative (www.clewer.org.uk), who spoke at the Parish Communion on Anti-Slavery Day (18/10/26), a number of people asked about what we do in response. If we want to be a community that welcomes and cares, we also need to be a community that sees injustice and prays and works for its undoing.

If, like me, you were deeply moved by what Lois said, the Church of England offers a free course to help us spot the signs of modern slavery and human trafficking in our own communities, and equips us to respond pastorally to potential victims. The course is online and you can enrol on this page: <http://safeguardingtraining.cofeportal.org/course/view.php?id=560>. Feel free to take the course which lasts an hour, and please let Lyn Paddon, our Safeguarding Officer, know if you do.

The church calendar in November leads us towards two significant spiritual markers:

Christ the King (22nd November)

Before we enter Advent, a season traditionally focussed on God's justice, we celebrate the Feast of Christ the King. In a world full of noise, shifting headlines, and uncertainty, this day anchors us. It reminds us that our primary allegiance is to a King whose reign is defined not by dominance, but by justice, mercy, and welcoming the stranger.

We will take the opportunity in this service, to remember those who have died and now dwell in the heavenly Kingdom forever. Full details of the service and how to add names of loved ones to lists will be shared shortly. We will be moving this service to become a standalone Service of Loving Remembrance on a Sunday in the warmer lighter months of 2027.

Advent & The Advent Carol Service (29th November)

The following weekend brings the start of Advent. On Sunday, 29th November at 6:30 pm, we will gather for our traditional Advent Carol Service. Moving from darkness into light through scripture, prayer, and choral music, this service sets the tone for the entire season—a moment to pause, breathe, and prepare our hearts for the arrival of Christ. Advent has a dual focus to it - preparing for Christ's return whilst also readying ourselves for His birth at Christmas. Do join us for worship in this holy season

Advent Study Groups: Thursdays & Saturdays
Advent is far more than a countdown to Christmas; it also contains an invitation to go deeper in faith and fellowship. This year, we are offering Advent Study Groups on both Thursdays and Saturdays:

- Thursday Group: In our regular 'Thinking Thursday' session will meet from 9.15am in the meeting room in church.

- Saturday Group: A morning session (10am) after morning prayer (9.30am) - usually in the meeting room in church (one week we will be in St John's Hall.)

Whether you have been part of All Saints for decades or have only recently begun your faith journey, these groups offer a warm, open space to read, discuss, and reflect together.

Please Note: Sign-Up Required

To help us prepare materials and ensure we have enough space and tea for everyone, please sign up in advance. You can sign up using the sheet at the back of the church, by emailing the Parish Office at office@allsaintshertford.org, or directly with me.

As we navigate the crisp days of November together, my prayer for our parish and town is that All Saints remains a beacon of warmth, hope, and sanctuary for all.

With every blessing,
Rev'd Simon Cutmore

Vicar, All Saints' Hertford
vicar@allsaintshertford.org

All Saints Day **1st November**



ALL SAINTS
SUNDAY
SUNDAY 1 NOVEMBER 2026

All The Family Service at 10.00am
Followed by Bring and Share Lunch at 12.00noon
Please Sign Up at the Back of the Church and tell us what you are bringing.
or contact: wardens@allsaintshertford.org

ALL SAINTS CHURCH - Queens Road, Hertford, Hertfordshire SG13 8AY
www.allsaintshertford.org

We will celebrate our 'Birthday' with a family-friendly Eucharist, followed by a 'Bring and Share' lunch.

Please sign up on the board at the back of church or by emailing wardens@allsaintshertford.org.

Visit of Bishop Jane **15th-16th November**



Bishop Jane will be with us on Sunday 15th November and will lead our 10.00am service. As Mark Harrison was unable to join us for confirmation last month due to work commitments, Bishop Jane will confirm him as part of this service.

She will be spending time with us for the morning and again on Monday during the day and also meeting with the PCC in the evening.

Her visit is a wonderful opportunity to share our parish life, worship together, and receive episcopal encouragement as a community. Please make every effort to be with us.

Churchyard Advent **Calendar** **Christmas Cards Wanted!**

We're planning a Churchyard Advent Calendar this December and would love your help!

We're looking for used Christmas cards with pictures that reflect the season of Advent and the journey towards Christmas.

Please pop any suitable cards into the collection box at the back of church.

Thank you!

Christmas Tree Festival

21st-29th November



COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

Come and see a Display of Fantastic Christmas Trees Created by Local Schools, Groups, Charities, Organisations and Individuals.

Opening Reception
Saturday 21 November 2026
at 7.00pm to 9.00pm
(Everyone Welcome)

The Festival will open daily, all week till Saturday 28 November 2026 except for times of Services.
(Please visit website)
Free Admission - Donations Welcome

PLUS CHRISTMAS FAIR
SATURDAY 28 NOVEMBER 2026
10.30am to 3.30pm

Refreshments Served All Day • Delicious Light Lunches from 12noon

ALLSAINTS HERTFORD Queens Road, Hertford, Hertfordshire SG13 8AY
www.allsaintshertford.org

GRAND PRIZE DRAW with AMAZING PRIZES
Delightful Musical Performances by Local Schools
• Homemade Cakes and Produce • Handcrafted Christmas Wreaths and Gifts • Luxury Christmas Hampers • Bottle, Chocolate and Soft Toy Tombolas • Table Top Games • Local Craft Stalls

ADVENT CAROL SERVICE
SUNDAY 29 NOVEMBER 2026
4.30pm

There's still time to book a slot for your Christmas Tree as part of our Community Christmas tree Festival.

We're not charging – but always glad of a donation! See detailed information in next column.

To reserve your slot contact Dorothy Toyn either on 01992 589781 or email her at dorothy.toyn@outlook.com

All Saints' Church invites the Hertford Community to join in our Second Community Christmas Tree Festival

There is No Charge! Donations Welcome

ALL YOU HAVE TO DO...

...Decorate your own Christmas Tree and bring it to All Saints Church on Friday 20 November or Saturday 21 November 2026 between 10.00am and 4.00pm.

- Decorate your Tree at Home or in the Church.
- The Tree can be of Any Size.
- The Tree can be Fresh or Artificial or you can Design and Create your Own Tree.
(the more creative, the better).
- Battery Lights are welcome provided the on/off switch is visible and not hidden in the Tree.
(Please make sure that there are spare batteries to last the length of the Festival)
- Dedicate your Tree to a Loved One or a Friend or relate it to a Good Cause.
- You can use your Tree to tell the Community about your School, Charity, Group, Club or Business.
(No Large Advertising Displays please, as they will detract from the Christmas Trees)



LAST YEAR'S FESTIVAL ENJOYED BY EVERYONE



...Please Join In The Fun This Year

Queens Road, Hertford, Hertfordshire SG13 8AY
www.allsaintshertford.org

The Festival will Open on
SATURDAY 21 NOVEMBER 2026
with an Evening Reception from
7.00pm to 9.00pm

The Festival will be open daily, all week till
Saturday 28 November 2026
except for times of regular services
(please visit website for list).

There will be a competition for the Most Thought Provoking, The Most Creative and The People's Favourite Tree.

Refreshments will be served at selected times.

CHRISTMAS FAIR
SATURDAY 28 NOVEMBER 2026
10.30am to 3.30pm

GRAND PRIZRE DRAW with AMAZING PRIZES
Delightful Musical Performances by Local Schools
• Homemade Cakes and Produce • Handcrafted Christmas Wreaths and Gifts • Luxury Christmas Hampers • Bottle, Chocolate and Soft Toy Tombolas • Table Top Games • Local Craft Stalls
Refreshments : All Day • Light Lunches from 12noon

The Festival will Close with an
ADVENT CAROL SERVICE
SUNDAY 29 NOVEMBER 2026 at 6.30pm

Please let us know you are going to join in by contacting Dorothy Toyn on 01992 589781 or Dorothy.toyn@outlook.com By Saturday 14 November 2026

Collect your Tree on Monday 30 November 2026 at 10.00am

Christmas Fair

28th November

We are looking forward to an exciting and fun-filled Christmas Fair which will be the culmination of the Christmas Tree Festival. To ensure that this will be a successful community event, we need donations of anything in a bottle, chocolate, luxury items for Christmas Hampers (use by date not earlier than February 2027) and shoe boxes or baskets to house the luxury items. Please leave these in the appropriate box at the back of the church



CHRISTMAS FAIR

SATURDAY 28 NOVEMBER 2026
10.30am to 3.30pm

STALLS DONATION REQUEST

Dear Friends, the Christmas Fair is our most important Fund Raising Event of the Year.
The Stall Holders are requesting donations of the following:

- Bottles for the Bottle Tombola**
(These can be of any kind or size)
- Chocolate for the Chocolate Tombola**
(These can be small bars or 'Come and Win Me' Sizes)
- Items for the Luxury Hampers**
(These can be Food or Cosmetic Related)
- Homemade Cakes for the Cake Stall**
(Please bring these to the church on the morning of the Fair by 10.30am)

Please ensure that all purchased items donated are within the Sell By Date on the packaging and are left in the appropriate box at the back of the church, preferably by Sunday 15 November 2026

Thank You for Your Kind Support



ALLSAINTS
HERTFORD

Queens Road, Hertford, Hertfordshire SG13 8AY
www.allsaintshertford.org

There will be a Grand Prize Draw – some of the prizes are listed in the next column.

There will also be a variety of stalls including:

Lana's Cakes and Bakes

Cupcakes etc

Instagram - @lanas_cakes_

Made With Love

Recycled items, decorated bottles, jars etc

Debbie Elsdon

Greeting Cards, framed/unframed prints, tote bags, mugs etc

Instagram - @debbie_elsden

Trevor's Shawls

Shawls, scarves, pashminas and bags

Arna

Candles, soaps and body care products



CHRISTMAS FAIR

SATURDAY 28 NOVEMBER 2026
10.30am to 3.30pm

AMAZING GRAND DRAW PRIZES

- A 'Bluebell' Family Photoshoot
By Sharon Kaplan
- 'Thrive' Wellbeing Voucher
By Janette Bishop – Life Coach
- Outdoor Photoshoot
By Graceful Moments Photography
- Sunday Roast Voucher for Two
at the Dutch Nursery
- Watercolour Pet Portrait
By Samantha Harpley-Whitehouse
(Spirit of Faith Artwork)
- £50 John Lewis Vouchers
- Original Painting of 'Harvest Flowers'
at All Saints
By Diane Warburton
- Maya Range 2 Slice Sandwich Maker
- Van Hages Token
- And More ...

Grand Draw Tickets - In Aid of All Saints Church

Please help by selling Grand Draw Tickets.
Counterfoils should be returned by Friday 27 November 2026.
Grand Draw Tickets will still be available at the Fair
The Draw will take place at The Christmas Fair at 3.00pm on Saturday 28 November 2026

Tickets:
£1.00 each
Book: £5.00

Advent Carol Service

All Saints Welcomes Everyone



DARKNESS INTO LIGHT

A Service of Readings and Advent Carols to prepare for the coming of Christmas



SUNDAY 29 NOVEMBER 2026

(Advent Sunday: 6.30pm)

ALL SAINTS CHURCH - Queens Road, Hertford, Hertfordshire SG13 8AY
www.allsaintshertford.org

All Saints invites you to join us as we begin the journey towards Christmas Day with our annual candle-lit Advent Carol Service.

Travelling Cribs

We have travelling cribs available, suitable for all ages & would love them to visit your home until Christmas Eve. All sets include an Advent Calendar, books & activity sheets.



If you would like a crib, please contact Ann Stephens-Jones at annstephensjones@gmail.com to arrange collection or delivery.

There will be some available after the 10.00 am service on 29th November, at the Small Saints on Tuesday 1st Dec, at Singing Saints and at the All-Age Service on 6th December.

Introducing Browse & Borrow at All Saints!

We're delighted to introduce Browse & Borrow, a new addition to All Saints!

You'll find a bookcase at the back of the church filled with books and magazines for adults and children, exploring faith, nature and the environment. Whether you're looking for something interesting to read, hoping to learn something new or just fancy a browse, there's something for everyone.

The idea is very straightforward. Have a look, borrow anything that catches your eye, take it home and enjoy it, then return it when you're ready. No membership, no signing books in or out, no deadlines and no fuss! It's all based on trust.

We've also included a little notebook called "Over to You...", and we'd love you to make use of it. Perhaps you've read something you'd like to recommend, want to leave a short review of a book you've borrowed, or have a thought or suggestion about Browse & Borrow itself. We'd love to hear from you!

We hope Browse & Borrow will become a place for sharing books, ideas and discoveries. So next time you're in church, come and have a browse. You never know what you might find!

If you have any questions, please speak to Helen, Dorothy, Nerine and Sharon

Happy reading!



Browse and Borrow

All Saints

Something new at All Saints!

Our new bookcase at the back of church offers books and magazines for adults and children, exploring faith, nature, the environment.

Browse, borrow and return when you're ready!

No sign-ups, no deadlines, no fuss.

We'd also love to hear your thoughts and suggestions in our 'Over to You...' book.

Come and have a look.

There might be something just for you!

Questions? Speak to Helen, Dorothy, Nerine or Sharon 

Help Bring the Nativity to Life!

We're hoping to create a Nativity scene in the North Porch this Christmas.

We'd love to hear from anyone who has ideas or would like to get involved in

planning, creating or putting the display together.

If you'd like to help, please speak to Sharon or Nerine.

Choir News

New Head Chorister



Congratulations to Isabel Jorge on succeeding her sister, Soraia, as Head Chorister.

Singing Saints



We have attracted a few more members, and quite a lot of interest, which we're following up so there's a good core for others to join. If you can think of anyone who is (or has children/grandchildren) of the right kind of age (7-11) do please encourage them to get in touch via singsaints@allsaintshertford.org and/or visit <https://www.allsaintshertford.org/singingsaints.php>

Parish Choir

We would like to recruit a few more members into our Parish Choir. Ages range from 15 - 75+, and we may well have a couple of new members in January.

To help with this we have made a video about what life in the Parish Choir is like featuring both some of our young adults and their parents.



Special thanks to Shirley Glover and Sharon Kaplan for masterminding, producing, filming and editing this

As with Singing Saints if you can think of anyone who might be interested, either for themselves or a relative please encourage them to view the video at www.youtube.com/watch?v=4frx3m6Rqck&t=11s

Christmas Carol Concert

The organisers of the Christmas Carol Concert are delighted to invite you to their Christmas Carol Concert on Monday 7th December at All Saints' Church, Hertford.

Enjoy a wonderful evening of beautiful music, festive readings and Christmas spirit, while supporting a cause that makes a real difference.

All proceeds will go towards supporting Future Living Hertford, helping adults and children recover from domestic abuse and build brighter futures.

Gather your friends and family, get into the festive spirit and join us for a truly special evening!

Event details and booking link are below.
We'd love to see you there!

<https://christmascarolconcert.org/>



CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT
In aid of Future Living Hertford

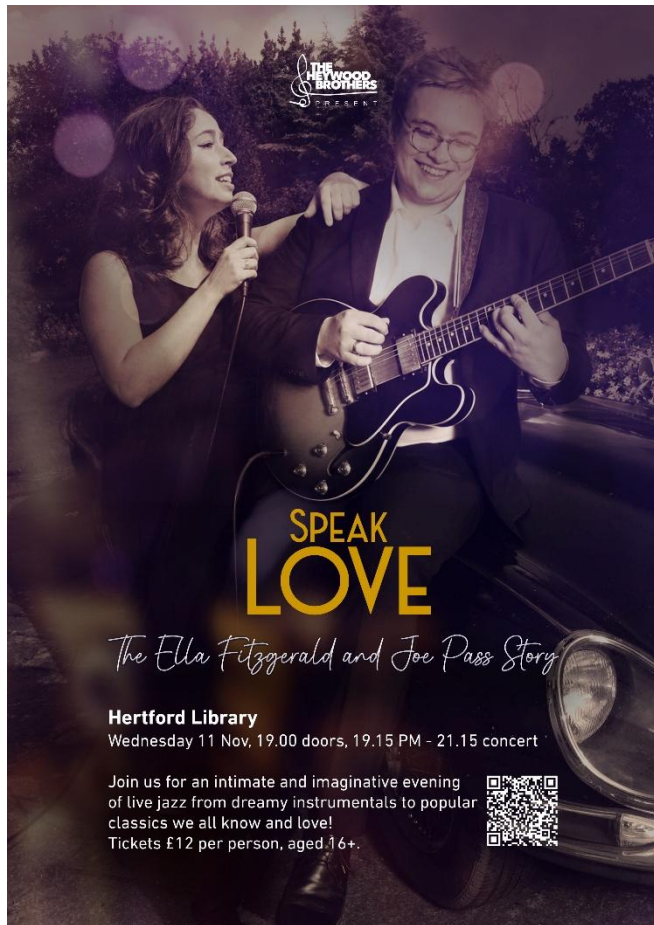
MONDAY 7 DECEMBER 2026
All Saints' Church, Hertford
6pm Drinks Reception • 7pm Concert
Christmas Stall • Silent Auction

TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE
www.christmascarolconcert.org

Who are Christmas Carol Concert?

The Christmas Carol Concert is an annual fundraising event held at the beautiful All Saints' Church in Hertford. Each year we bring the local community together for an evening of festive music and carol singing, raising vital funds for a deserving local charity. The concert has grown year on year into a much-loved fixture of the Hertfordshire calendar.

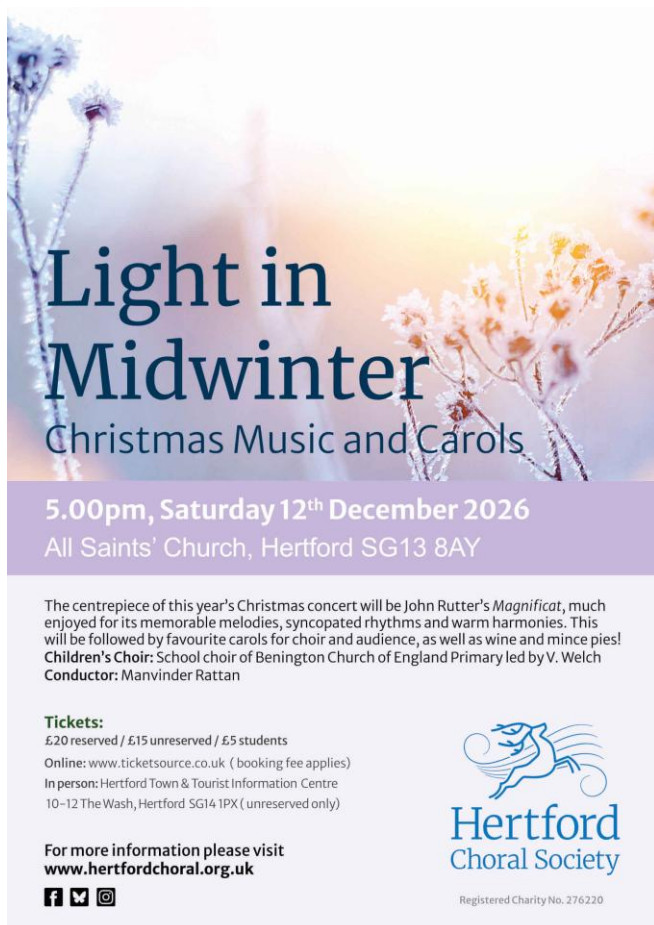
Thanks to the generosity of our supporters, the Concert has raised over **£100,000** across its first two years.



SPEAK LOVE
The Ella Fitzgerald and Joe Pass Story

Hertford Library
Wednesday 11 Nov, 19.00 doors, 19.15 PM - 21.15 concert

Join us for an intimate and imaginative evening of live jazz from dreamy instrumentals to popular classics we all know and love!
Tickets £12 per person, aged 16+.



Light in Midwinter
Christmas Music and Carols

5.00pm, Saturday 12th December 2026
All Saints' Church, Hertford SG13 8AY

The centrepiece of this year's Christmas concert will be John Rutter's *Magnificat*, much enjoyed for its memorable melodies, syncopated rhythms and warm harmonies. This will be followed by favourite carols for choir and audience, as well as wine and mince pies!
Children's Choir: School choir of Benington Church of England Primary led by V. Welch
Conductor: Manvinder Rattan

Tickets:
£20 reserved / £15 unreserved / £5 students
Online: www.ticketsource.co.uk (booking fee applies)
In person: Hertford Town & Tourist Information Centre
10-12 The Wash, Hertford SG14 1PX (unreserved only)

For more information please visit
www.hertfordchoral.org.uk


Hertford Choral Society
Registered Charity No. 276220

Parish Diary November 2026

Sunday 1st
10.00 am All Saints Day
12.00 noon All-age Eucharist
6.30 pm Bring and share Lunch
 Evensong (said)

Monday 2nd
8.00 am Morning Prayer
10.30 am Service at Bentley House
5.00 pm Evening Prayer
7.30pm Lectio Divina

Tuesday 3rd **Richard Hooker**
8.00 am Morning Prayer
9.00 am Holy Communion
10.00 am SmAll Saints
5.00 pm Evening Prayer

Weds 4th
8.00 am Morning Prayer
12.00 for 1.00 pm Soundbites
 Emil Chakalov – *Violin*
 Francis Rayner - *Piano*
2.00 pm Home Communion
3.30 pm Organ Teaching
5.00 pm Evening Prayer

Thursday 5th
9.15 for 9.30 Thinking Thursday
11.00 am Morning Prayer
5.00 pm Evening Prayer
7.30 pm All Saints Art

Friday 6th
4.00 pm Singing Saints
5.30 pm Choir Practices

Saturday 7th **Willibrord of York**
9.30 am Morning Prayer

Sunday 8th **Remembrance Sunday**
10.45 am Service at War Memorial
11.30 am Parade Service in Church
6.30 pm Choral Communion

Monday 9th
8.00 am Morning Prayer
10.30 am Service at Bentley House
5.00 pm Evening Prayer
7.30pm Lectio Divina

Tuesday 10th **Leo the Great**
8.00 am Morning Prayer
9.00 am Holy Communion
10.00 am SmAll Saints
5.00 pm Evening Prayer

Weds 11th **Martin of Tours**
8.00 am Morning Prayer
9.00 am Holy Communion
12.00 for 1.00 pm Soundbites
 Sound Earth Duo
5.00 pm Evening Prayer

Thursday 12th
8.00 am Morning Prayer
9.15 for 9.30 Thinking Thursday
11.00 am Holy Communion
5.00 pm Evening Prayer
7.30 pm All Saints Art

Friday 13th
4.00 pm Singing Saints
5.30 pm Choir Practices

Saturday 14th
9.30 am Morning Prayer

Sunday 15th **Second Sunday before Advent**
10.00 am Confirmation with Holy Communion
6.30 pm Choral Compline

Monday 16th **Margaret of Scotland**
8.00 am Morning Prayer
9.00 am Holy Communion
10.30 am Service at Bentley House
5.00 pm Evening Prayer
7.30 pm Lectio Divina
7.30 pm PCC meet with Bishop Jane

Tuesday 17th **Hugh of Lincoln**
8.00 am Morning Prayer
9.00 am Holy Communion
10.00 am SmAll Saints
5.00 pm Evening Prayer

Weds 18th **Elizabeth of Hungary**
8.00 am Morning Prayer
9.00 am Holy Communion
12.00 for 1.00 pm Soundbites
 Benjamin Carnell – *Cello*
 Christopher Benham - *Piano*
3.30 pm Organ Teaching
5.00 pm Evening Prayer
7.30 pm PCC

Thursday 19th **Hilda of Whitby**
8.00 am Morning Prayer
9.15 for 9.30 Thinking Thursday
11.00 am Holy Communion
5.00 pm Evening Prayer
7.30 pm All Saints Art

Friday 20th
4.00 pm Singing Saints
5.30 pm Choir Practices

Saturday 21st
9.00 am Work Party
9.30 am Morning Prayer
7.00 pm Launch of Christmas Tree Festival

Christmas Tree Festival open daily from Sunday 22nd until Sunday 29th

Sunday 22nd **Christ the King**
10.00 am A Eucharist of Loving Memory
6.30 pm Choral Evensong

Monday 23rd **Clement of Rome**
8.00 Morning Prayer
10.30 am Service at Bentley House
12.00 noon Holy Communion
5.00 pm Evening Prayer
7.30pm Lectio Divina

Tuesday 24th
8.00 am Morning Prayer
10.00 am SmAll Saints
5.00 pm Evening Prayer

Wed 25th
8.00 am Morning Prayer

10.15 am Wheatcroft Assembly
3.30 pm Organ Teaching
5.00 pm Holy Communion

Thursday 26th
8.00 am Morning Prayer
9.15 for 9.30 Thinking Thursday
11.00 am Holy Communion
5.00 pm Evening Prayer
7.30 pm All Saints Art

Friday 27th
4.00 pm Singing Saints
5.30 pm Choir Practices

Saturday 28th
9.30 am Morning Prayer
10.30 am – 3.30 pm Christmas Fair

Sunday 29th **Advent Sunday**
10.00 am Parish Communion
6.30 pm Advent Carol Service

Monday 30th
8.00 am Morning Prayer
5.00 pm Evening Prayer
7.30pm Lectio Divina

DECEMBER Tuesday 1st
8.00 am Morning Prayer
9.00 am Holy Communion
10.00 am SmAll Saints
5.00 pm Evening Prayer

Weds 2nd
8.00 am Morning Prayer
9.30 am Wheatcroft Rehearsals
2.00 pm Home Communion
3.30 pm Organ Teaching
5.00 pm Evening Prayer
7.00 pm Wheatcroft Christingle

Thursday 3rd
8.00 am Morning Prayer
9.15 for 9.30 Thinking Thursday
11.00 am Holy Communion
12.00 noon Rehearsal for H&WSMA
5.00 pm Evening Prayer
7.00 pm Herts & Ware SMA Carol Service

Friday 4th
9.00 am Organ Tuning
4.00 pm Singing Saints
5.30 pm Choir Practices

Saturday 5th
9.30 am Morning Prayer

Sunday 6th **Second Sunday of Advent**
10.00 am All-age Service
6.30 pm Parish Communion (said)

Monday 7th
8.00 am Morning Prayer
10.30 am Service at Bentley House
10.30 am Concert Setup
5.00 pm Evening Prayer
6.00 pm Drinks Reception
7.00 pm Charity Concert
7.30pm Lectio Divina