

# Sunday Snippets

## Third Sunday of Advent

The third candle to be lit today in the Advent Ring reminds us of John the Baptist who prepared the way for the ministry of Jesus.

*Blessed are you Lord God. You are just and true. To you be praise and glory for ever. Your prophet, John the Baptist, was a bright witness to the truth. May we, your servants in our day, rejoice and be led to witness to the glory and power of God. May we witness to the world that Jesus is our Saviour and the King of all time.*



**Blessed be God forever. Amen.**

## Community Christingle

Do come along this afternoon at three o'clock to our Community Christingle and get in the Christmas spirit. This will be a fun way to hear the Christmas story with candles, carols, gingerbread men and oranges. It will be an enjoyable event for all ages. Our special thanks to Tesco's of Transit Way for contributing 70 oranges and 140 gingerbread men.



## The Alternative Communal Christmas Card

Another reminder that the communal Christmas card which is at the back of the church is designed for us to pin a Christmas card to all our friends in St Edward's. This saves buying and writing individual cards (always with the unfortunate risk of leaving someone out) and it is a means of raising money for the charity Embrace the Middle East. Some or all of the cost saved from buying individual cards can be donated to Embrace and envelopes for this purpose are provided. The donations can be gift aided to make them even more valuable. The carol sheets we use each Christmas are supplied free of charge by Embrace, an additional 100 having been received this year.

Please take advantage of this form of greeting which saves the need to give individual cards and benefits a most worthy charity.



## Christmas Tree

We are very grateful to Fiona of the Plymouth Garden Centre for arranging free transport of our Christmas tree to St Edward's.



## Invitation to a Baptism

Next Sunday, 20th December at 3.00pm, Raphael Kingston-Bray is due to be Baptised in St Edward's. His parents, Guy & Jules, would love members of our church to be present to witness this milestone in young Raphael's life. Also, there is an open invitation to join the family for mince pies and mulled wine afterwards in the church hall. As a matter of interest, we have Guy to thank for erecting the lights in the churchyard yew tree by climbing up it branch by branch. This sort of activity is not so unusual for him as he organises birthday parties up trees. If you want to know more, come to the Baptism next Sunday when no doubt Guy will be only too pleased to explain.





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## Decorating the Church

The task of decorating the church for Christmas will begin this coming Friday, 18th December from 9.30am. The number of helpers is gradually diminishing and it would be most encouraging if a few more were able to turn up. The only requirement is enthusiasm. No specific skill is necessary. There are so many tasks that there will be something suitable for everyone and the reward is a sense of satisfaction in a job well done, beautifying our lovely building for the pleasure of others and it is a form of worship in itself.



## Only Joking!

Whilst walking home from the weekly Sunday church service, a hen-pecked husband was asked by his wife whether he thought Margaret O'Connor was dying her hair red. "I didn't notice her," replied the husband. "Well, what about the short skirt that Mrs Thomas was wearing? Do you think that suitable attire for a young mother of three daughters?" "Sorry, but I didn't see that either," said the husband. "Well," said the wife bad temperedly, "a lot of good it does you going to church."



You know you're in a church in a tough neighbourhood when the members of the congregation are asked to stand up and they automatically put their hands in the air.

## Advent Quiet Day

On Saturday, 19th December from 10am-4pm at the Church of the Ascension, Crownhill there will be a Quiet Day to which everybody is welcome. Refreshments will be available all day but participants should bring their own lunch. This is a day to prepare for Christ's coming with worship, reflections, meditation and silence. If interested for all or part of the day, email [eaburke@btinternet.com](mailto:eaburke@btinternet.com) There is no charge.



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## Carols by Candlelight

Our traditional service of Readings and Carols by Candlelight is being held next Sunday, 20th December. Please note that the service will commence at 6.30pm and not an hour later as incorrectly printed in the Parish Magazine. Early attendance is recommended if you wish to obtain a seat.



## Open House at the Vicarage

Make a note in your diaries, circle this date on your calendars - on Wednesday, 23rd December from 11.00am to 4.00pm there will be drinks and nibbles at the Vicarage for all who wish to turn up. Chris and Helen will be most disappointed if they are waiting around all day twiddling their thumbs waiting for the door bell to ring.

