

SHIRLEY PARISH



KNOWING CHRIST  
MAKING HIM KNOWN

14<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> December

### Advent 3

The Parish of Shirley

St James the Great and St John the Divine

The Parish Office

Church House, Church Road,  
Shirley, B90 2AX

[www.shirleyparishb90.co.uk](http://www.shirleyparishb90.co.uk)

[office@shirleyparishb90.co.uk](mailto:office@shirleyparishb90.co.uk)

0121 745 8896

Sun 14 <sup>th</sup>	8am	Eucharist (St James)
	9am	Eucharist (St Johns)
	10.30am	Morning Worship (St James)
	6.30pm	Christmas Carol Service (St James)
Mon 15 <sup>th</sup>	8pm	Compline & Parish Prayers (Zoom)
Tues 16 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Welcome Café (Church House)
	11.30am	Craft Club (Church House)
Thurs 18 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Eucharist (Church House)
	3:30pm	Christmas Service (Solihull Village)
Fri 19 <sup>th</sup>	10am	Jimmy Tots (Church House)
Sat 20 <sup>th</sup>	10am	Messy Church (St James)
Sun 21 <sup>st</sup>	10.30am	Eucharist (St James)

Vicar – in vacancy

Contact the Parish Office

Rev Richard Haynes - Curate

0797 253 0161

[curate@shirleyparishb90.co.uk](mailto:curate@shirleyparishb90.co.uk)

(Rest Day is Friday)

#### FOR PRAYER

For our local schools as they approach the end of term. Those in our community for whom this time of year is a particular struggle

#### YEARS MIND

Steven Brigden & Stanley Wright

#### THOSE TO BE BAPTISED

Tina West

#### THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

Neil Michael Henderson, Cheryl Yvonne Morton & John Howard Smith

#### Parish Notices

**Nordic (or not!) Walk** Our next walk will be on Monday 15th December in Brueton Park, meeting at 10-30am in car park, Warwick Rd B91 3HA [jangardner2203@gmail.com](mailto:jangardner2203@gmail.com) or 07790 377 210 coffee in cafe after. All welcome !

**December 100 Club Winners** - £50 Mary Appleby - £25 Wendy Carter

**Friends of St James 100 Club** Members are reminded that subscriptions for the next six months (December to May) are now due - **£13 for six months - £26 for twelve months**. Please make cheques payable to "Friends of St James 100 Club" Subscriptions may be handed into the Parish Office or posted to Lynda McPherson, 90 Dickens Heath Road, Shirley, B90 1RL.

**Intercessions at St James's 10.30 Sunday Service** Kate Crocker is compiling next year's rota. If anyone would like to join the team please email [kate\\_crocker@hotmail.com](mailto:kate_crocker@hotmail.com) It works out as about 4 Sundays each per year and it would be good to have new voices.

#### **Solihull Villlage Christmas Service 18 Decemember 3:30pm**



Along with the other churches in Shirley, we regularly lead a service at Solihull Village – this month is the Christmas Service on **Thursday 18 December at 3:30pm**. If you are interested in coming along to help us lead this or any of the services, please see Richard.



#### **Collect for 14<sup>th</sup> December 2025**

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

#### **Donations During Services**

+  We do not pass an offertory plate around the congregation during our services. You can donate using the Parish Giving Scheme for regular donations or for one-off donations by using the Sum Up machine or the collecting plate at the back of the church. Thank you for your support  +

**Isaiah 35: 1-10**

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, 'Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you.' Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveller, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

**James 5: 7-10**

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

**Matthew 11: 2-11**

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?' Jesus answered them, 'Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me.' As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you."

**Advent Prayer 3 - Joy**

Blessed are you, Sovereign Lord, giver of joy: to you be praise and glory for ever. Your prophet John the Baptist was witness to the truth as a burning and shining light. May we your servants rejoice in his light, and so be led to witness to him who is the Lord of our coming kingdom, Jesus our Saviour and King of the ages. **Amen.**

**Diocese Safeguarding Survey**

Bishop Michael has put out an appeal to capture a 'snapshot of safeguarding culture' across our diocese by completing a survey. The findings will help inform future priorities and strengthen our ongoing work to improve safeguarding practice and governance. It provides an opportunity for you to comment on the Diocese's safeguarding culture. Please take a few moments to complete the survey by typing the following web address into your browser: <https://www.cognitofirms.com/Cofebirmingham/ParishSafeguardingSurvey2025> Paper copies are also available in St James' and St. John's. The final day for submitting your views is Sunday 14th December.

If you wish to contribute to the notice sheet, please contact the Parish Office by 9am Wednesday (max of 3 sentences). Longer articles to [shirleyparishmagazine@gmail.com](mailto:shirleyparishmagazine@gmail.com) by the 12th