

2nd Sunday before Advent 19 November 2017

We have only two Sundays before we come to the start of the Church's New Year; Advent Sunday. In those two weeks we celebrate the majesty of Christ, which places the emphasis upon Christ 'enthroned in heavenly splendour', finishing the year on a high note on 26th November with the celebration of 'Christ the King'.

That Sunday is also traditionally known as 'Stir Up Sunday', named as such by the collect for that Sunday, that begins with '*Stir up we beseech thee.....*'. This was also a signal for everyone to get a move on with the Christmas Pudding, so it had time to mature before Christmas.

This Sunday we can celebrate not just the light of Christ, but also the re-installation of three windows in the south transept, dispelling the rather gloomy half light that has been a feature of that area for rather too long.

It is my hope and prayer that the light of Christ will dispel any gloom we may be feeling as we head towards the darkest time of the year, and this is a good time to remind people of the wonderful Advent services that are held in our more local cathedrals. I have been going to the service in Salisbury for many years, held this year on three consecutive nights, Friday 1st - Sunday 3rd December. There is queuing from about 5pm for the 7pm service, but the wait is worth it!

May you all experience the light and love of Christ

Richard

St Mary the Virgin, South Baddesley

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Office hours: Mon, Wed & Thurs: 9am-11am

Web Page: <http://bsbb.org.uk/index.html>

THIS WEEK: 2nd SUNDAY before ADVENT 19.11.17

St Nicholas' Chapel, Pilley: 8.00am Holy Communion

St Mary's South Baddesley: 9.30am Holy Communion

St John's Boldre: 10.30am Family Service & Children's Club

St Luke's Sway: 6.30pm Choral Evensong

For Prayer This Week

For all who are recovering from illness, accidents and Operations. **Rest in Peace:** Wilf & Grace Higgins, Maureen Snellgrove, Richard Fitzwilliam, Rosamund Du Cane, Avril Darnton

Activities This Week

Mon 20 Nov - 7.00pm St Nicholas' Chapel PCC Meeting

Tue 21 Nov - 10.30am Vintage Fitness. Seated exercise to music at St Nicholas' Pilley & refreshment

Wed 22 Nov - 10.30am St Nicholas' Pilley, Communion + Coffee

Thu 23 Nov - 10.30am Vintage Fitness. As on Tuesdays

NEXT WEEK: 'CHRIST THE KING' 26 NOV 2017

St Nicholas' Chapel, Pilley: 8.00am Holy Communion

St Mary's South Baddesley: 9.30am Matins BCP

St John's Boldre: 10.30am Holy Communion & Children's Club

St John's Boldre: 6.30pm Choral Evensong

Dates for the Diary 2017

Sat 25 Nov - 12 - 2pm Christmas Fayre, S. Baddesley School Hall

Sun 3 Dec - 3.00pm St Mary's -Ecumenical Advent Service

Mon 11 Dec - 4.00pm St John's - St Nicholas' Singers Concert

SAT 25 NOV 12 - 2pm CHRISTMAS FAYRE

in the School Hall. Contributions for the following stalls would be greatly appreciated:

Bric a brac John Graves 626448

Cakes Val Walsh 679173

Raffle prizes Richard Oldfield 677648

Funeral for Avril Darnton **12 noon, 21st November** at St John's Boldre. Avril lived in Boldre but was well known throughout the area for her involvement in the Dog Trust and New Forest Pony Breeding & Cattle Society.