

## CHRISTMAS CAROLS

One of the beautiful things associated with this holy season “Away in a Manger no Crib for a bed, Hark the Herald Angels Sing Glory to the New Born King, Come All Ye Faithful joyful and triumphant”. Music has always stirred the emotions and has quite literally brought people to faith. It is not about entertaining, it is about challenging, informing, beautifying and evangelising. There are two very important carol related events here at Saint Luke’s that can make a difference with your help.

The first is our Carol Service on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> December at 5pm. We would like you not only to come along yourself, but to bring a neighbour, a member of your family or a friend. It will be by candlelit and will be extra special this year as we unveil our beautiful new Christmas Crib. There are invitation cards at the back of Church. Please take one and encourage somebody to join us.

The second event is Carols at the Circle, when we go into Kingstanding Circle to sing carols to the shoppers to help with their festive experience and to advertise our Christmas Services here at Saint Luke’s and collect for our Day Car Centre. There is a list on the contact table. Don’t worry if you are not brilliant at singing – numbers are as important as voices. Please sign the list if you are able to join us for Carols at the Circle, and remember he who sings well, prays twice.

**Ballet** – The coach will be leaving from Saint Luke’s at 12.45pm to allow plenty of time for traffic. Please be on time and let us know if you are making your own way there.

**Christmas Shopping** – There are a still a few seats left for our Christmas Shopping next Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> December to Chester and then on to Cheshire Oaks. Please see Ann Babington with payment. We would be very grateful if we could have full payment before Saturday.

**Christmas Meal** – the coach leaves Saint Luke’s on Thursday at 6.30pm and we will leaving the Appollo Hotel at 11.30pm. The seats are not reserved in the hotel so please find your seats when you arrive. There is a special offer – have 4 bottles of wine and pay for only 3. It might be worth speaking to a friend and clubbing together for this special deal.

**Farewell Meal** – Your opportunity to book for the farewell meal at The Plough and Harrow on the Hagley Road. Please hand your completed booking forms to Ann Babington with a £5 deposit per person. We are restricted to the number of people who can come and it will be offered on a first come, first served basis. Make sure you reserve your place now.

**Christmas Cards** – it is always lovely to receive a card from a friend. Imagine how painful it must feel if you come to church and find cards have been written for others and not for you. Over the last few years we have done a group Christmas greeting on our notice-board and people have been invited to make a donation to charity. This year we will be giving our money to our building fund. Christmas stars are available today. Please write your own greeting and hand the stars and any donation to Mary or Sonia.

**Christmas Services** – The times of our services are all advertised on the diary sheet. Please make sure you collect one. They are available on the contact table.

**CRB Checks** – we are trying very hard to get all these checks completed before the end of the year. If you have been asked to fill in one, please see Gill Richardson today after Mass. This is VERY important.

**CALLING ALL ACTORS AND ACTRESSES** – there is a meeting immediately after Mass today for those interested in taking part in the Children’s Nativity. Please do stay behind – we need as many as possible.

**Groceries** – following a generous donation from the Co-op we are offering bags of groceries for just £3 a bag. Please see Pauline in the Parish Centre for you lucky bag. All proceeds to the building fund.