

St Gabriel's Church,  
Aldersbrook  
[www.stgabrielsaldersbrook.org.uk](http://www.stgabrielsaldersbrook.org.uk)

Weekly Newsletter  
10<sup>th</sup> December  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent

10am Parish Eucharist  
*Celebrant* Fr. Martyn Hawkes  
527, 690, 405, (949), 128

There will be Sunday School today  
and next week.

There will be prayer for healing &  
anointing today. Please go to the  
Lady Chapel after receiving a  
blessing or communion & Fr Martyn  
will offer anointing, with the prayer  
team on hand if you wish to request  
specific prayers.

11.30am Children's choir in church

#### This Week

#### **Evening Prayer**

5pm Monday to Thursday on Zoom  
& in church.

No evening prayer on Friday

#### **Tuesday**

10-12 Open Church  
1.30pm-3.30pm Afternoon Social  
Group in church

#### **Tuesday 12 December**

1.30pm Funeral for Terry Porter

#### **Wednesday**

9.30am Prayer Group  
11am Holy Communion  
12 noon The Preschool Play Group  
3.30 After School club

#### **Thursday**

10:00 - 11:45 am Open Church  
10:15 - 11:15 am Tai Chi in church  
11:45am – 1pm. Meditation and  
Reflection in church  
1 - 2.15pm Yoga class in church.

#### **Aldersbrook School Christmas concerts this week**

Monday 9.30 and 2.30  
Thursday 9.30 and 2.30  
Friday 9.30 and 2.30  
Monday 18th 9.30 and 2.30

#### **Saturday Open Church**

12 - 1pm Open church Saturday  
Organ music and an invitation to  
stay, listen, talk, pray. All welcome!

#### **Christmas Market**

This year's event was a big success.  
Total is estimated at £6,500 with  
some final figures and expenses to  
be confirmed

#### **Christmas Card delivery**

We've done really well so far. One  
more push & we will get everything  
out to our neighbours before the 1st  
service on Friday! If you live outside  
the parish please take a card home.

#### **Carol Singing**

Please see the extra sheet for details  
on the Carol Singing in the parish –  
first opportunities this Thursday.  
Please sign up if you can.

#### **St Gabriels' Christmas Services**

##### This Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December

6.30pm Christingle

##### Next Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December

6.00pm Carol Service

##### Christmas Eve

4pm Nativity service

11.30pm Midnight Mass

##### Christmas Day

10.00am Festive Communion

#### **Sidespersons urgently needed!**

Sidespersons are needed to help  
welcome the large number of visitors  
to our Christingle, Carol Concert,  
Nativity & Midnight Mass. An ideal  
opportunity to see what the role  
involves or to be part of the St  
Gabriel's welcome on a one-off basis.  
Please see Rachel today if you are  
able to help at any of these.

#### **Advent greenery**

It is traditional that there are no  
flowers in Advent, instead there is  
greenery to mark the path towards  
Christmas. We thought it would be  
nice to share our greenery by inviting  
everyone to bring a green plant from  
home (no flowers please) for Advent  
and to place these around the church  
until Christmas Eve

#### **Foodbank Update**

The response to the Christmas  
foodbank appeal has been wonderful  
already! Because of the logistics of  
distribution, festive donations in  
particular need to be donated by next  
weekend. After that date, we cannot  
guarantee a delivery in time for  
Christmas day. Thank you. Helen and  
the team.

*Items for weekly notices need to  
submitted by Thursday evening.  
([sarabertrand47@gmail.com](mailto:sarabertrand47@gmail.com))*

#### **The Big Give!**

It's been amazing - we reached our  
target, & then more. With Gift Aid we  
have raised £12,432 towards the hall  
improvements! Thank you to Rusty  
from the Friends for all the work put  
into making this such a success and to  
all the generous donors and pledgers.

#### **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January**

**Book Club** - The church book for  
advent is "An Advent Manifesto:  
Daily readings and reflections from  
Isiah and Luke" by Martyn Percy. If  
you fancy a fiction book to read too,  
we will also discuss "In this house of  
Brede" by Rumer Godden. We will  
meet at 8pm at the vicarage.

#### **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January**

11.30am 1st session of Bible reading  
& reflection, on our all-age Sundays.  
For half an hour a group will be  
reading & reflecting on scripture in  
the chapel. Please sign up to express  
interest, or speak to Henry for more  
information.

#### **All-age Sunday support**

We're hoping to recruit a completely  
new team for these Sundays and  
would love you to join in - no  
previous experience required and  
training offered. Please speak to  
Martyn or Gigi if you'd like to know  
more.

#### **Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> January**

4.30pm Intercessors training - a joint  
session on at St Mary's Woodford, to  
learn from others. For those who have  
done intercessions for ages, or just  
wondering if it may be something to  
try.

#### **For Our Prayers**

#### **For those who are sick:**

Mr Ali, Eva and Peter Baker,  
Frances Bonnick, Kevin Brown,  
Elwin Cockett, Joyce Demetriou,  
Peter Ellis, Margaret Filer, Eileen  
Galer, Martin Griffiths, Kelly  
Harmsworth, Sylvia Hawkes, Faye  
Jackman, Pat Johnson, Janis Lalor,  
Jack Lewis, Milosh, John Mitchell,  
Mary Watts & those on the Prayer  
Board

#### **For the recently departed:**

Terry Porter

#### **and those whose anniversaries occur at this time:**

Nell West, Pam Gadd, Arthur Filer