

half will go to the Brett Foundation. We are so appreciative of this community support and thank all those involved for their help in getting our heating sorted out. Do come along.

- ◆ **Christingle Service:** The *Worship for All* service next Sunday at St Nicolas church will be a Christingle service. Refreshments will be served from 10:15 and we are invited to help construct the Christingles before the service begins at 10:45.



- ◆ **'Our 21st Century Challenge':** If you feel that you are not fully aware of the gap between our income and our church expenditure, there is a leaflet at the back of church which explains the situation clearly and suggests ways we can contribute to meet our financial challenge. In the new year, we hope to alert the wider community to this challenge but in the meantime, this leaflet offers us the opportunity to think through what we can do ourselves.



- ◆ **New Year Sunday Lunches:** Sue will be holding another Sunday Lunch to help raise money for the heating in St Nicolas Church. A two course, traditional lunch will take place in her home on **19th January at 1pm**. A donation of a minimum of £10 is requested. If you would like to join her please ring 01628 661815. If she isn't in, leave a message with your phone number and she will return the call.



Services/Events next Week

Monday, (16th): 7:30pm to 9:00pm—**Advent Course** at the Rectory
Wednesday, (18th): 12:00 to 3:00pm—**Open Wednesday** with carols; St Nicolas Church
Thursday, (19th): 1:30 to 3:00pm—Taplow Tots and Tea; St Nicolas Church
Sunday, 22nd December: 4th Sunday in Advent
 09:15—Choral Matins at St Anne's Church, Dropmore
 10:45: Christingle Service at St Nicolas Church, Taplow

Further information on **St Nicolas Church Website:** <http://st-nicolas-taplow.org>

If you need to **contact the Vicar**, you can ring her on 01628 661182 or email her: janeecresswell523@gmail.com

Notices in the Pew Leaflet: If you have a notice or news for the *Pew Leaflet*, please email it to [Jim Oliver \(oliverjim1@sky.com\)](mailto:oliverjim1@sky.com) by the end of the Wednesday preceding the Sunday

St Anne's Church, Littleworth Common

We are part of



St Nicolas' Church, Taplow

3rd Sunday in Advent

Sunday, 15th December,



Faithful to God

Caring for each other

Serving the Community

Welcome to this morning's Holy Communion Service. At St Nicolas, children are invited to our Sunday School at the end of the first hymn. Pending the replacement of our heating system, we have temporary heaters: **Parents and carers are asked to keep children away from these gas heaters on both sides of our church.**

Collect (or Prayer for Today)

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.

First Reading: James 5:7-10 *Patience in Suffering*

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.

The Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11 *John the Baptist and Jesus*

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 offense 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.’ Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.



Anthem: Advent Message Martin How

Post Communion Prayer

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts; kindle in us the fire of your Spirit that when your Christ comes again we may shine as lights before his face; who is alive and reigns now and for ever.



This Week's News and Notices

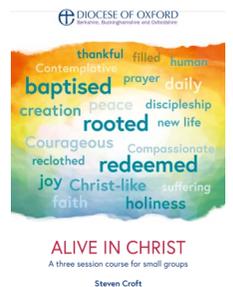
- ◆ **Worship Sub Committee Request:** Have you been able to offer your thoughts about our St Nicolas Parish Communion service? **Please leave your responses in the red box at the back of church.** There are some blank response forms next to the box if you need one; the last day for responses is **next Sunday (22nd)**. Thank you.



- ◆ **Christmas Classics Concert:** Peter and Verity Auty will be performing for us **this afternoon at 4:00pm** in St Nicolas Church. Tickets are still available in church for this very special concert of opera and Christmas music and they are cheaper if you buy them in advance! Please do all you can to ensure we have a full church.



- ◆ **Sunday School Cake Sale:** Last week's cake sale raised £96.60 for the church heating fund. Many thanks to all who baked and bought. The next sale will be on **Sunday, 12 January**.
- ◆ **Bowled Over:** Jim is most grateful for a total of £500 worth of sales of his woodwork over the last four weeks. All takings have gone to the heating fund.
- ◆ **Our Advent Course:** We have enjoyed two sessions of our Bishop's Advent Course. Each session is self-contained so if you would like to come to the final session tomorrow (Monday, 16th), please do sign up or have a word with Jane. Hot drink on arrival, with home made vegetable soup available to those who have come straight from work without time to eat!



- ◆ **Winter fuel Allowance:** Thank you to all those who have kindly donated their allowance to our heating fund. A good way to do this is to put a cheque in one of the pew envelopes and thus attract the gift aid as well. Simply write 'Heating Fund' on the envelope.

£100

- ◆ **Carol Singing:** There are several opportunities to spread the Gospel through carol singing this advent:



- ★ **Tuesday, 17th December, 6:00pm** at Taplow Riverside. If you can join our choir, please sign the form in church.
- ★ **Wednesday, 18th December, 1:30pm** at St Nicolas Church (refreshments available).
- ★ **Thursday, 19th December, 7:00pm** at Taplow Tesco. *We really do need more singers for this one;* please sign up if you can come.
- ★ **Monday, 23rd December, 6:00pm** around the Christmas tree on the Green. This traditional event raises money for Charity and this year, those organising the event have decided that half the money raised will go to the St Nicolas Church heating fund and the other