

# Welcome to St Dunstan's and Southville Churches

Feltham Ecumenical Parish:  
Anglican and Methodist Churches in partnership

Sunday 3 December  
2023

**Advent I**

## *I was hungry and you gave me food.*

I wonder if you noticed that the plastic crate labelled 'Feltham Food Bank' vanished from St. Dunstan's porch for some weeks (months?) recently, and then mysteriously reappeared. I think I'd better come clean: it was sitting in a pile of odd boxes and crates in the living room at Château Stuchbury, waiting for us to find it and bring it back to church. (No, I can't remember how I came to borrow it, apologies.)

I do hope people have not been discouraged from making food donations by the absence of the crate. St. Dunstan's has been supporting the Food Bank almost from when it was started in 2013; food can be left in the crate and we also have a special collection every Harvest. Some people find it more convenient to donate money, either as a one-off or by standing order, which is even more welcome – food is heavy to transport, and also perishable in a way that money generally isn't! Talking of perishable goods, tinned or bottled or dried food is best because the Food Bank never gives people out-of-date items. We don't want to make people ill, and we don't want people to imagine that we have made them ill.

Every Food Bank client has a 'hamper' delivered to them in the week before Christmas. Lately I've watched clients without transport struggle to take away their week's food, two bags in each hand, in steady rain; it's good to know that their Christmas treat will arrive with a ring at the doorbell, rain or shine. Some of the 'hamper' contents will be bought from money donations, but some particular items of food would be welcome: tins of salmon or ham, and 'nice' biscuits/sweets. I enquired whether 'nice' meant high quality but was told that Christmassy selection boxes would be gladly received; I think the point was, offer things that are special and/or festive. For an adult on their own, something small but posh perhaps; for a family with six children, as large and jolly as possible! And all stations in between.

If you are moved to make a gift, please do so before 15<sup>th</sup> December because the hampers will be assembled over that weekend. Either way, please thank God for the Food Bank, and for the HIRA mosque in Hounslow Road which, although extremely short of space, generously allows the Food Bank to store and issue food on its premises. And say a prayer for the clients, leaders and volunteers.

*Rachel Stuchbury*

---

## **The Ecumenical Parish:** Southville and St. Dunstan's

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December 6.30pm: **Ecumenical Carol service** in St. Dunstan's. Come along to sing the familiar carols and listen again to the Christmas story, followed by mulled wine and mince pies. As usual, donations will be welcome (cash or card) for **Crisis**, supporting homeless people.

---

## **Church calendar: St. Dunstan, Church of England**

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December

9.30am: **Morning Prayer** on Zoom™

9.45am: **Holy Communion** in church, with **Junior Church** in the Church Centre

(Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December: church in use in the evening by Lodge Bros.)

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December 3.30pm: **Messy Church** in church

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December 7.30pm: **Christmas Concert** by Feltham Choral Society, in church

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December

8.30am: **Holy Communion** (said)

9.45am: **Christingle**, raising money for The Children's Society

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2.00pm: **WOT group** (see below for details) in the Church Centre

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December

9.45am: **Holy Communion**

6.30pm: **Ecumenical carol service**, with Southville, in St. Dunstan's

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December

9.45am: **Holy Communion**

4.00pm: **Crib Service**

11.30pm: **Midnight Holy Communion**

Christmas Day 10.00am: **Holy Communion**

Plus -

Every Wednesday (except 27<sup>th</sup> December):

10:00am: **Holy Communion**

#### **Regular events:**

**Monday coffee drop-in** 10.00am to 12 noon in the Church Centre, every Monday except bank holidays.

Free tea and coffee in a friendly gathering, which might include crafts or gentle activities and always a joke! Come and go as you please; bring anyone who might enjoy it.

Second Thursday of the month 2pm-4pm: **WOT group** (Women on Thursdays) meets in the Church Centre. The next meeting will be on 14<sup>th</sup> December with a **bring-and-share meal, a secret Santa and a hamper raffle** for our chosen charities. For the bring-and-share, it would be helpful to let Shirley or Marian know what you plan to bring, just in case everyone has the same inspiration! For the secret Santa, if you are able, please bring a wrapped gift to the value of around £5.

**Messy Church** monthly on Thursdays at 3.30pm in the church. The next session is 7th December.

---

#### **Church notices: Southville Methodist**

Sunday services:

9.00 am **Revival & Prophetic Prayer Service**

10.00 am **Prayer and Praise**

10.30 am **Morning Worship** - with Holy Communion once a month

3<sup>rd</sup> December: Mrs. Mary Windo

10<sup>th</sup> December: Mr. Jonathan Perkins

NB On Christmas Eve, the 10.30am service will be especially suitable for children (a crib service); in addition there will be Holy Communion at 11.30pm

#### **Methodist Circuit**

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December at 6.30pm: **Circuit Advent service**, at Egham Methodist Church

Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> December at 10.30pm: **Circuit New Year's Eve service** on Zoom™

Thursdays 10.30-11.30am: **Bible Study**, in person. Contact Graham Wells for details on 01784 258785 or [g.wells988@gmail.com](mailto:g.wells988@gmail.com).

## Advent



**Follow The Star: Advent Calendar** Daily activities, from 1<sup>st</sup> December, for children and their families. These daily activities are designed for children and their families using either the printed [Follow the Star Advent Calendar](#) or the Church of England online calendar available via [www.cofe.io/AdventCalendar](http://www.cofe.io/AdventCalendar). A version of this daily Advent challenge for all ages – with a short daily reflection – is also available via the Follow the Star app. Find out more at [www.cofe.io/JoinTheSong](http://www.cofe.io/JoinTheSong).

---

Tuesdays 7:30pm-9.00pm **Advent Bible Study on Zoom™**. Sheila Hassan, who is one of the Local Preachers from Staines Methodist Church will be leading the Advent Bible Study course, The 5 sessions will be on Tuesdays; 21st & 28th November and 5th, 12th & 19th December, but it's not essential to be at every session. To sign up, e-mail Sheila on [sheila\\_peter2002@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:sheila_peter2002@yahoo.co.uk).

---

### Thank you

To everyone who organised, helped with or supported St Dunstan's Christmas Coffee Morning. A good time was had by all.

---

### Dates for your diary

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December 10am-2pm: **International Day of Persons with Disabilities** event in Feltham Assembly Hall. Speaker and discussion on what transformations are needed to enable more people with disabilities to participate in sports, entertainment, media, education and employment.

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December 6.30pm: **Question your local councillors** in Feltham Assembly Hall. Register online and submit your question in advance (via the Council's website or by letter); questions will be randomly selected on the night.

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December 3:30pm: **Messy Church** at St. Dunstan's. For primary aged children and parent/adult carer.

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December 7.30pm **Feltham Choral Society Christmas Concert** at St Dunstan's Church. Tickets £10 on the door (cash only)

Until Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December: **Angel Tree** collection through St. Dunstan's. Donations of money are invited to fund small gifts for children of those held in Feltham Young Offenders Institution.

---

### Volunteer needed

We are looking for a **news & prayer sheet compiler**, from the beginning of February 2024, to update this news & prayer sheet weekly on a computer, at home. A copy of Microsoft Word could be purchased by the church if necessary.

---

### Other notices

**Calling all shoppers:** please remember that you can raise cash for St. Dunstan's – at no cost to yourself – by signing up for Easyfundraising at <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk>. There's a surprisingly long list of retailers who are part of it, and if you choose St. Dunstan's as the cause you want to support, the church gets a small percentage of any purchase you make. Thank you!

**And then there's Christmas cards to write** ..... you are encouraged to send just one card to everyone at St. Dunstan's, by pinning it to the board in the church porch. (Memo to self: put the

board up before this newsletter is sent out.) If you'd like to donate the money saved on cards to Christian Aid, feel free to put cash in the red collecting pot at the back of church, or use the card reader.

... **and don't forget the Christmas tree.** The tree for St. Dunstan's should arrive this week and the plan is to erect and decorate it in the afternoon of Friday 8<sup>th</sup>. If anyone would particularly like to be involved, ask Ian Stuchbury or Marilyn Wade about timing. A few fit people with a head for heights very much needed!

**New hymn books!** St. Dunstan's PCC has decided that now is the time to replace our tattered green hymn books, and has chosen the current revision of Hymns Ancient & Modern for the new ones. These will come into use in January. Part of the cost will be met from the legacy generously left to the church by Connie Rowse. If anybody would like to contribute to the remainder, perhaps by dedicating a hymn-book to someone loved (for which a name-plate will be fixed inside the book), please contact the parish office or any PCC member.

---

<b>Southville Methodist</b>	Tachbrook Road, Feltham TW14 9NU Website: <a href="http://www.southvillemethodistchurch.org.uk">www.southvillemethodistchurch.org.uk</a> Email address: <a href="mailto:contact-us@southvillemethodistchurch.org.uk">contact-us@southvillemethodistchurch.org.uk</a> Minister: Revd. Dr. Kofi Tekyi-Ansah (0208 890 2783) Email: <a href="mailto:rev.kofi@sfmc.org.uk">rev.kofi@sfmc.org.uk</a>
<b>St. Dunstan (C of E)</b>	St. Dunstan's Road, Feltham TW13 4JY Minister: Revd. Anne Dollery (020 8890 8347) Email: <a href="mailto:AnneDollery@yahoo.co.uk">AnneDollery@yahoo.co.uk</a> C of E Parish office 39 St. Dunstan's Road, Feltham TW13 4JY Tel: 020 8890 2011 Email: <a href="mailto:admin@stdunstansfeltham.org.uk">admin@stdunstansfeltham.org.uk</a> Website: <a href="http://www.stdunstansfeltham.org.uk">www.stdunstansfeltham.org.uk</a> Facebook: @stdunstansfeltham

## Prayer sheet for 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2023

### for the Ecumenical Parish of Feltham: St Dunstan's Anglican and Southville Methodist churches

#### Collect from the Anglican tradition:

Almighty God,  
as your kingdom dawns,  
turn us from the darkness of sin to the light of holiness,  
that we may be ready to meet you  
in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

#### Readings, Sunday by Sunday

3 <sup>rd</sup> December (Advent Sunday)	10 <sup>th</sup> December (Advent II)
Isaiah 64: 1-9 I Corinthians 1: 3-9 Mark 13: 24-37	Isaiah 40: 1-11 II Peter 3: 8-15a Mark 1: 1-8

#### Invitation to remember in our prayers this week:

##### In the news

We thank God for the prisoners and captives who have been released recently, and pray for all who are unjustly imprisoned today, calling to the God of justice for a new vision of cooperation and honest dealings between people and nations.

##### From Churches Together

We ask God's blessing on everybody who is part of the Methodist and Pentecostal churches at Southville, and on all their service and mission; we pray that the Holy Spirit may grant those churches the revival and life that they pray for.

##### In the parish

Those living or working in Snakey Lane, Hamilton Parade, Hamilton Road, Hamilton Close, Highland Park, Denison Road, Cranleigh Road, Ellington Road.

##### Those who are ill or in particular need:

Jim Devine, Julie Dutton (Brenda Cook's daughter), Amanda Elliott, Hilary Elliott, Jonathan Griffiths, Fiona Holloway, John Howliston, Jacob Hunter, Pam Kemp, Ian Lecky, Ray Newell, Antonio Sorenti, Mary Walden, Gill Welland, Barry Went, Susanna Woollam

##### Those who have recently died: Eileen Powell

##### Those whom we remember this week: David and Shirley Chapman, Bill Mills-Roberts, Cyril Parsons