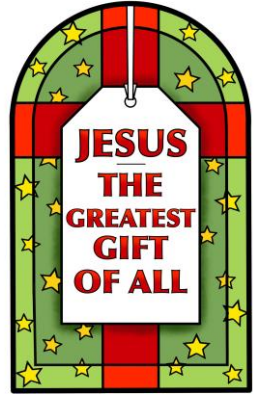




St Oswald's, Norbury

## Advent and Christmas at St Oswald's

*We would love to welcome you at our special services and activities during Advent as we prepare for the Christmas celebration*



Advent, the season of waiting, begins on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December and we look forward to Christmas and celebrating the birth of our Lord Jesus. More significantly though, we look forward to the time when he will return in glory and his Kingdom of justice and peace will reign over the whole earth.

This time of year, in church life, is characterised by sharp contrasts, light and dark, confidence and uncertainty, chaos and calm. As the days become darker and the whirl of the commercial Christmas becomes more distracting we offer events and activities at St Oswald's that will help us to focus on the Christian nature of the season.

We will have times of fun and enjoyment as we look forward to the Christmas feast, but we are also invited to slow down and take time for reflection knowing that Christmas is more about our basic needs than about tinsel and glitter, it is about looking ahead, in hope, to that world of justice and peace.

Please reflect on our offerings for the coming weeks and consider what will be helpful to you and invite others who need this supportive space too.

With my love and prayers for Advent and Christmas 2024

Alison



## **Sunday Services during Advent**

Our young people join us at the beginning of the 10am Sung Eucharist each week for the lighting of the candles on our Advent wreath with special prayers and a song.

The 10am Sung Eucharist on 1st December, **Advent Sunday** will be led by Bishop Christopher, Bishop of Southwark.

### **Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December, 4pm**

We enter the reflective season of Advent with an

#### **Advent Carol Service**

A traditional service of readings and carols focussing on the coming again of Christ to bring God's kingdom to earth.



## **Wednesday Evenings in Advent, 7:30pm**

Take a break from the busyness of Christmas preparations with an hour of peace and quiet reflection in church

### **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December**

Advent Reflection with music from Taizé followed by Compline

### **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December**

Eucharist with Prayer for Healing and Wholeness

### **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December**

Stations of the Nativity followed by Compline

# Looking ahead to Christmas

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December: Christmas is coming!**

*An evening of Music, crafting and fun activities.*

From 6.30pm for Christmas craft-making and activities with light refreshments in the hall.

7.30pm concert in church from the fabulous

## **South London Concert Band**

playing wonderful seasonal classics including tunes from 'My Fair Lady', 'The Nutcracker Suite' and (of course) 'Jingle Bells'

Admission: £5.00 includes refreshments,

Under 18s: £3.00 Under 5s: FREE

Buy your ticket from the Parish Hall, or call Bevon to book on: 07944 473 423



## **Christmas Sheep**

*Help us to create a flock of sheep for our Christmas celebrations.*

Based on a simple pom-pom design that everyone can have a go at.

Pick up a kit, at the concert or from the hall and see how many you can make.

Join us for a sheep making workshop to chat with others while you wrap, cut and personalise your sheep!

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December, 2pm

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December, 11am





# Christmas Celebrations!



## Carol Service

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December, 6pm

*We tell the story of Christmas with Carols and Readings from the Bible*

## Community Carol Singing on the Church Green

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December, 6:30 – 7:30pm

*Followed by warming refreshments.*

*Bring friends, neighbours and a torch!*

## Christmas Eve

### 4pm: Crib Service with Christingle

*'The Gospel according to Sheep'*

*We will gather our flock together as we prepare for Christmas Day*

### 11:30pm: First Communion of Christmas (Midnight mass)

*We welcome the arrival of Christmas Day*



## Christmas Morning, 10am

### Family Eucharist for Christmas Day

*A service of celebration for people of all ages*

## And after Christmas ...

### Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> February

Concert with the Triptych Singers

Look out for more details at [www.stoswalds.org.uk](http://www.stoswalds.org.uk)