

OUR LESS MEANS MORE SCHEME 2015

This year your Less Means More donations will be in aid of St Giles Hospice, Walsall. Simply ask Bishop Paul for a special envelope and put your donation in and hand it back to Bishop Paul. So many members have been touched by the special care that St Giles Hospice offers.

Please be as generous as you can. The Revd Mark tells me that so far he has received donations totalling around £330. The last day for donations to St Giles Hospice will be next Sunday (10th). However, don't forget that you can support the Helping Hands Fund throughout the year. The day before Christmas Bishop Paul used this fund to help a family out whose children would not have received anything. Thank you that you made this possible through your support of the Helping Hands Fund.



LOVELY FLOWERS

What a lovely surprise to received a large bunch of carnations the week before Christmas period and they're still going. Now that's fresh!

DEDICATION

Last Sunday Bishop Paul,

the Revd Mark and the Revd Colin joined in a short service of dedication for the new preaching desk and font. The former was dedicated in memory of our dear Betty Davis. If you didn't get a chance to have a closer look last Sunday then



please do so today. I pray you will agree that they have been beautifully made and the colour match is perfect. They will be in use throughout the services today. Thank you to all who have made the purchase of these items possible. The FCE Clergy Handbook has a service just for such dedications with lovely prayers to use.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, DAN!

Many happy returns of the day, Dan. He's 17 today. Dan is doing well at school in 6th Form. He received a congratulations letter from school before Christmas saying that he has made significant improvements in his Maths work. Well done, Dan.



NEW YEAR'S EVE

Thursday's New Year's Eve party was held at Mark and Donna's new house in Bloxwich. You can see below that the evening went splendidly. Matthew tried to dodge Liz Garratt's kisses but she got him in the end as you can see. The food



went down well, especially the green jelly which has become a New Year must have (Colin insists we have it). The evening was finished off with a rather splendid firework display. One of Mark's neighbours was also letting fireworks off and it was just like a competition was forming, however I believe we won. Ours went higher and were bigger (I can hear you saying—boys and their toys. I have always enjoyed fireworks from my days in Wingate Road. It really was a lovely evening of food, fun and fireworks. Thank you, Mark and Donna for letting us into your home, I hope you put it all back together OK.



ST ANDREW'S CHURCH
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Revd Colin Hunter T: 01902 601656

CHURCH WARDENS

The Revd Colin Hunter and Mrs Deanne Yarnall
T: 01902 601656 T: 01902 609879

FAMILY PRAISE LEADER
Mr Nigel Dutton

SUNDAY SERVICES

10am ~ Morning Service

11:30am ~ Family Praise

6pm ~ Evening Prayer

Holy Communion 1st am and 3rd pm Services

Mid-week activities:

- | | | |
|-------------------|--|--|
| MONDAYS | 10am to 1pm
1pm to 2:30pm | Coffee and Chat
Parent and Toddler Group |
| TUESDAYS | 9:30am
10am to 1pm
3pm, 5pm, 7pm | Bentley West Ladies Group
Bishop in Denom. Office
Slimming World
Bible Study - Church House |
| WEDNESDAYS | 7:30am
12:30pm
2pm
7pm | Prayer Group
Luncheon Club
Friendship Club
Youth Club |
| THURSDAYS | 11am
10am to 1pm | Holy Communion
Bishop in Denom. Office |
| SATURDAYS | 6pm to 8:30pm
10am to 1pm | Karate Classes (NEW!)
Saturday Workshop |

CONFIRMATION CLASSES - Start January

Interested in Confirmation?. If so, please speak to Bishop Paul as soon as possible. They will run on Thursday evenings (fortnightly) Refreshers welcome!

A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL!

SUNDAY LESSONS LOG

2nd January - Psalm 147:12-20; Jeremiah 31:7-14
Ephesians 1:3-14; John 1:10-18
am L-Paul, P-Bishop (HC); pm Bishop Paul

WEEKLY PRAYER UPDATE

- Lord, we pray for **Pamela** in the continual battle to save her eyesight, her daughter, **Chrissie**, and great grandson **Finley**.
- Lord, we put the following friends and members into your hands: **Doris, Carole, Pam, Hilary, Iris and Elizabeth**.
- Remember **Winnie** and her husband, **Ray** in your prayers.
- Lord, we pray for **Arline** who hasn't been well recently and also **Ernie** who hasn't been well either.
- Lord, we pray for Dan's Nan, **Dot** and for his Great Nan, **Irene**. Also Dan's granddad, **Ken** is off work at the moment.
- Pray for **Audrey** who battles on with her mobility difficulties. How lovely to see her in church more regularly with the help of the church minibus and the new ramps.
- Pray for **Arthur Bagg** who is still in the Manor Hospital. Some days he is better than others but he is still generally very poorly.
- *Thank you, Lord, for the worship team **Nigel, and the Revds Paul, Mark and Colin** who assist Bishop Paul in the services.*
- Pray for **Brian and Thelma**. Praise the Lord, both are well!
- Continue to pray for **Judy**.
- *Continue to pray for **Lewis Robinson, Frank and Janet**.*
- Pray for **Dean's sister, Molly**, who continues to be very poorly.
- Please pray for **Lil Harrison** now in the Manor House, Willenhall.
- Pray for our twinned church - **St Francis, Shoreham-by-Sea**, especially their worship team of Gerald and Michael.
- Give thanks that **Peter (Lucy's dad)** got through his operation to have a Pacemaker fitted.
- Give thanks that **Colin Davis** is generally much better following a long treatment and some discomfort from a rash.
- Pray for the **Revd Robert Leone** and Sarah, his wife at St Martin's Church in France. Robert is still feeling the affects of his recent fall.
- Remember **Doreen W.** Pray for **Jimmy** and all the family. It was lovely to see her at Coffee and Chat again last Monday.
- Pray for the family of **Alice Cooper** who sadly passed away after a short illness. Alice is missed by everyone at church. Her funeral took place in a packed church last Wednesday.
- Pray for **Harvey**, the 11year old grandson of the **Revd John and Joy Eustice** from Christ Church, Exeter. Harvey will have to face an operation in the New Year. Keep praying, it works.
- Give thanks **Mary Hardwick** is a little better and is now getting ready to go to Sri Lanka to stay with some friends for a couple of months.
- Pray for **Colin Hunt** awaiting a heart by-pass operation. He has a scan on 15th January and sees the specialist on 25th.
- It is good to hear that **Alex and Grace** are both good at the moment and are presently in Taipei. Alex is working as an editor and making connections for a new work for the FCE in Taipei. Thankfully Christianity does not need to be undercover as it is in China.
- Pray for the family of **Evelyn Mary Gainham** who was 83. Her funeral takes place in church on Thursday 7th January at 10am.
- Pray for the family of **Joyce Hingley** who was 93 years old. Her funeral takes place at Streetly on Tuesday 5th January at 12noon.
- Please remember to read and pray for the people on our **PRAYER BOARD IN THE HALL**. Also, if you have placed a prayer there, please keep it updated.
- Pray for **Bishop John Fenwick** as he and his wife, Lis, leaves for New Zealand and Australia at the end of the week.
- Give thanks for all the well attended services that we have had over the **Christmas period**. Please pray that the new faces we saw will begin to attend church regularly and come to know the **Lord**.
- **May you have a peaceful and fruitful New Year!**



BE A PRAYER WARRIOR!

Would you like to be a Prayer Warrior? Then please mention this to Bishop Paul. A big 'thank you', to all who continually pray faithfully each day for the needy souls on our Prayer Sheet. Your prayers are vital for the spiritual health of our lovely little church. Also give thanks to the Lord for hearing the cries of His people.

What's Your Vision for This Year?

'Where there is no vision, the people perish.' Proverbs 29:18

What are you planning to do with this New Year? What you set your heart on will determine how you spend your time and energy. And it takes as much effort to live an unfulfilled life as a richly rewarding one. Some scientists have recently estimated that the human brain has between 10 and 100 terabytes of capacity, which means we all have lots of room for growth. One of the most rewarding things you can do this year is work to develop your mind. 'Where there is no vision [sense of direction], the people perish.' Dissatisfaction doesn't come from the absence of things, but the absence of direction. Too many of us merely exist because we've settled for less than God intended. The quality of your life will be determined by

your vision and the effort you're willing to put into fulfilling it. So stop and make a written list of the areas where you'd like to grow this year, then tackle the three or four most important ones. Don't get discouraged if the one you're working on doesn't want to co-operate; nothing great is ever created suddenly. Paul said of his faith, 'I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus' (Philippians 3:14). It's a process; you have to keep plugging away. Some days it'll feel like two steps forward and three steps backward. But don't give up. It's better to die for something than to live for nothing! And unless you try something beyond what you've already mastered, you won't grow. So what are you waiting for? Life? It's waiting for you - so get going!

ARTHUR BAGG

Last week Arthur was out of bed and looking a little better. Please continue to pray for him because he needs your prayers.



I Wish U A

🌹 Jovial JANUARY 🌹

🌸 Fabulous FEBRUARY 🌸

🌿 Marvelous MARCH 🌿

🌺 Awesome APRIL 🌺

🌷 Meaningful MAY 🌷

🍀 Joyous JUNE 🍀

🌹 Jubilant JULY 🌹

🍀 Amazing AUGUST 🍀

🌿 Successful September 🌿

🌿 Optimistic OCTOBER 🌿

🌻 Nuturing NOVEMBER 🌻

🌺 Divine DECEMBER. 🌺

👍 Have A VICTORIOUS YEAR! 👍

st andrews
church bentley

THE
WEEKLY NEWS

&
Prayer
SHEET



The Circumcision
of Christ

3 JANUARY 2016
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However, if you cannot afford a donation,
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