

ADVENT / CHRISTMAS / NEW YEAR

So much to do, where to start, make copious “to do” lists!

As I write this double issue letter my first thoughts are with our editor CHRIS RICHARDS who had a serious accident while on holiday. Fortunately for us her husband David, has stepped in to help get the Parish news ready for printing. Chris, from us all get well soon and thank you David.

My greatest delight at this time of year, especially if it is frosty, is hearing our church bells ring out. Thank you bell ringers, so often unseen but much appreciated by us all.

The Harvest Supper was a great success, thoroughly enjoyable, hard work but a truly community event. Thank you to all those who supported the event and to the band of willing helpers who worked so hard.. The Cheese and Wine with Quiz which Simon Gresty is organising is a sell out and will prove equally popular; thank you Simon.

Remembrance Sunday leaves me drained emotionally, it is such a moving occasion in a beautifully decorated church. Philip Broadhurst plays the organ superbly; Simon Olphin’s “Last Post” on his bugle brings tears to my eyes and the presentation of the wreaths, kneeler and Book of Remembrance after Andrew’s reading of the Roll of Honour brings home the meaning of this special service. Thanks to your generosity the local poppy sellers are to be congratulated on the support they give the Royal British Legion.

Now we move forward. The Christmas Fayre on Saturday 30th November in the Village Hall from 9.30am – 12.30pm is a must! We are so grateful to our Treasurers Family who organise this event.

Two not to be missed services are the Festival of Nine Lessons with Carols on Sunday 22nd December at 6.30pm which is followed by mulled wine and mince pies. On Christmas Eve at 4.00pm the special Children’s Crib Service with Christingle is held. During the lead up to Christmas you may well receive a visit from the Church Carol Singers who do a sterling job regardless of the weather. On Christmas Day (Wednesday 25th December) a shortened service is held at 10.30am giving plenty of time to prepare the festive meal.

The Tea Set are holding a Christmas party on Tuesday 10th December then on Tuesday 21st January Radio Stoke presenter Paula White will launch the Tea Set into 2025, do join us.

To all those who have helped St Bertoline’s in any way during the past year, thank you for your support it really is appreciated. Finally to Rev Peter Ennion and his family, keep up the good work and thank you for all you are doing.

Wishing you all a Happy Christmas and a healthy, peaceful New Year.

Christine Bailey Churchwarden

Carol Singing

This year carol singing will take place on **Tuesday 17th** and **Wednesday 18th December**, spreading Christmas cheer around the parish and raising money for St. Bertoline’s Church.

Please do come and join in the festivities! We will meet at the New Rectory, Barthomley at 18:30 on both evenings. If you are coming by car, please park on the church/village hall carpark. We will then move by car and foot around Balterley and Englesea Brook on the Tuesday and Barthomley on the Wednesday.

Refreshments will be provided at the end of each evening.

Make sure you are dressed for the weather and have or have arranged transport. Bringing a torch would also be advisable.

Singers of all ages and abilities are eagerly welcome but children must be accompanied by an adult.

If you are a resident within the Parish and would like the singers to visit you, please let either myself or Len Griffin know in advance (contact details can be found on page one of the Parish News).

Many thanks and Happy Christmas,



FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROL SERVICE

At St Bertoline's Barthomley by Candlelight on Sunday 22nd December at 6.30pm



All are invited to join in this Festive Service, see the magnificent Christmas Tree and Church Decorations and enjoy Mulled Wine and Mince Pies at the end of the service.

Parish News Schedule for 2025					
Issue	Deadline	To Printer	Distribution		Issue No.
	Sunday	Wednesday	Sunday		
February	19th Jan	22nd Jan	26th Jan		313
March	16th Feb	19th Feb	23rd Feb		314
April	23rd Mar	26th Mar	30th Mar		315
May	20th Apr	23rd Apr	27th Apr		316
June	18th May	21st May	25th May		317
July/ August	22nd Jun	25th Jun	29th Jun	Double issue	318
September	24th Aug	27th Aug	31st Aug		319
October	21st Sep	24th Sep	28th Sep		320
November	19th Oct	22nd Oct	26th Oct		321
December /January	23rd Nov	26th Nov	30th Nov	Double Issue	322

CHRISTMAS EVE

SPECIAL CHILDREN'S CRIB SERVICE WITH CHRISTINGLE
TUESDAY 24TH DECEMBER AT 4.00pm



Sponsors Needed

A huge thank you to all those who have generously financed all issues of the parish magazine in 2024. Have you a special date to celebrate or commemorate in 2025? Sponsorships at £50 a single and £75 a double issue would be gratefully received.

Ed

December 2024 Parish Diary Dates

- 2nd Yoga 6.00-7.00pm
- 2nd Barthomley Action Group AGM 7.30pm
- 3rd WI 7pm
- 9th Yoga 6.00-7.00pm
- 10th Teaset 2-4pm
- 16th Yoga 6.00-7.00pm
- 23rd & 30th NO Yoga – Christmas Break
- 31st Village New Year's Eve Party – see details in Newsletter

January 2025 Parish Diary dates

- 6th Yoga 6.00-7.00pm
- 7th WI 7pm
- 13th Yoga 6.00-7.00pm
- 14th Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm
- 15th Village Hall Committee Meeting 8pm
- 19th PN Deadline
- 20th Yoga 6.00-7.00pm
- 21st Teaset - Paula White from Radio Stoke
- 22nd PCC Meeting 7.30pm
- 27th Yoga 6.00-7.00pm



Thanks to all those who faithfully deliver issues throughout the year. Have a Happy Christmas and a peaceful 2025.

Ed

