

Dates to remember:

7th December 10:30am – Friendship & Fellowship Group
14th December 10:30am-1:30pm - Cleaning morning
22nd December 5pm – St Stephen’s Christmas Carol Service
24th December 11pm – Midnight Mass
25th December 10am – Christmas Day Eucharist
26th December 10am – Patronal Festival Eucharist for St Stephen’s Day!

DIRECTORY

Parish Website: www.ststephensnth.co.uk

St Stephen’s Church, Warwick Road, Thornton Heath CR7 7NH

Vicar: Fr Daniel Burton SCP vicarnth@gmail.com

Mobile Number 07582565032

Priest with PTO: Canon Joyce Forbes SCP forbes.joyce@aol.com

Churchwardens:

Andrea Anderson msequinox@msn.com

Lana Ruddock wardens@ststephensnth.co.uk

C.P.L.M (Commissioned Pastoral Lay Minister)/Hospital chaplaincy:

Aileen Ross aileenross37@btinternet.com

Hon. Treasurer:

Coral Martin treasurer@ststephensnth.co.uk

Church Hall bookings: Kester O’Connor & Iona Nelson-Ashley 07712473241

Safeguarding: Lana Ruddock and Sara Keene

Please take this notice sheet away with you. There are copies available to give to a friend or neighbour who is not able to be in church. There is an electronic copy available just give Andrea Anderson your email address.

Items for the newsletter should be notified to Fr Daniel via email by Tuesday morning.

St Stephen Norbury & Thornton Heath

Newsletter

1st December 2024

Advent Sunday

Sun 1st December <i>Advent Sunday</i>	8am: Said Eucharist (Fr Daniel Burton) 10am: Sung Eucharist (President & Preacher – Fr Daniel Burton) 11:30am: Choir rehearsal
Wed 4th December <i>John of Damascus, monk</i>	10am: Said Eucharist with Homily
Thu 5th December	8:30am: Morning Prayer
Fri 6th December <i>Nicholas, bishop</i>	5:30pm: Evening Prayer
Sat 7th December <i>Ambrose, bishop</i>	10am: Said Eucharist 10:30am: Friendship & Fellowship Group (Church Hall)
Sun 8th December <i>2nd Sunday of Advent</i>	8am: Said Eucharist (Fr Daniel Burton) 10am: Sung Eucharist (President & Preacher – Fr Daniel Burton) 11:30am: Choir rehearsal

PRAYING FOR THE PARISH. This month we are praying for all those who live in Kenley Gardens and Strathyre Avenue. Our thanks to Helen Doe who carries out this important ministry. As we pray for those who live in our parish, it's good to use our own gifts and personal contacts to invite our neighbours to come to St Stephen's for a visit or a service.

THE BREAD AND WINE. For £5.00 the elements can be dedicated to a loved one or to mark a special occasion. Please speak to Andrea Anderson if you would like to book a dedication.

BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS AND BLESSINGS. All bookings can be made by emailing vicarnth@gmail.com or by calling Father Daniel on 07582565032. To check on preliminaries (especially charges for weddings) go to our website www.ststephensnth.co.uk

FOOD BANK. Thank you for your continued support of the Food Bank. Donations can be placed in the food box at the back of church. If you would like to give a financial gift, please see Aileen Ross.

St Stephen's Cleaning/Maintenance Morning will take place **10:30am-1:30pm** on **Saturday 14th December**. Everyone is invited to help keep both the inside and the outside of the church looking cared for and loved, especially with Christmas on the horizon. The better our church and grounds look, the more attractive and welcoming it will be for visitors considering making St Stephen's their spiritual home. Even if you cannot attend the whole time, even an hour would be appreciated.

Christmas Carol Service will take place in church at **5pm on Sunday 22nd December**. If you would like to sing in the choir, please speak to Kester O'Connor. Rehearsals are at 11:30am after the Sunday Sung Eucharist in the lead up to 22nd December.

The Friendship & Fellowship Group's next meeting will be in the Church Hall on Saturday 7th of December, 10.30am to 12pm. There will be a festive quiz, tea, coffee, biscuits, and mince pies. All are welcome. Please put the date in your diary.

Donations and Stewardship. At this time of year we are encouraged to think about how we give to our church. **Any donation or increase in regular giving (no matter the amount) is greatly appreciated**, especially at St Stephen's where we have some major projects coming up. One way of giving a little extra can cost you nothing when you do your online shopping: easyfundraising partners with over 7,000 brands who will donate part of what you spend to a cause of your choice. The cost is covered by the brand. Brands pay us a commission because when you start your shop from the easyfundraising website or app, they can see we sent you to them. If you make a purchase, a commission is generated, and we turn that into a donation - magic! Copy and paste the link below into your internet search: **<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/ststephennorburythorntonheath/>**
Or you can download the app onto your phone using App Store or Google Play

SECURITY AT ST STEPHEN'S Repairs to the church after the break-in earlier in the year have now been approved by the Diocese and are moving forward, as are our plans to have onsite CCTV installed.

Christmas Carols Croydon University Hospital will take place at 6:30pm on Wed 18th December starting in the St Barnabas Centre. Please join the chaplaincy team in singing carols. More information on a poster at the back of church. Mulled wine & mince pies served afterwards.

Fr Daniel – please let him know if you would like a visit. Fr Daniel won't be available on Mon 2nd or Tue 3rd December.