WELCOME!

BCI Churches







Your weekly guide to worship, faith, and community in Blendworth & Horndean (East); Chalton and Idsworth

From the Ministry Team:

The season of Advent has arrived! 'Come, Lord Jesus!' we pray and sing. For some, Advent candles, like Advent calendars, just signify a countdown: to celebrating Christmas past, perhaps the birth of baby Jesus, and, of course, the coming feasting and presents. But, in our church observance of Advent, is a deeper mystery.

We look back and are thankful. We remember that, through the Holy Spirit, Christ is with us, now and always. And we consider our response to the prospect that, at the end time, in God's time, Christ will return.

Advent, of course, properly kept, includes the prospect of judgement. Not to provoke fear, but to help us think about ourselves, unmasked. Advent: when we seek to think more deeply about how we live now: the state of our relationships with each other, and with Christ – and what Christ wants us to change, before, at the last, we stand directly in his loving, yet unwavering, gaze.

Wishing us all a blessed, and fruitful, Advent season,

Wendy
Revd Canon Wendy Kennedy

Bible verse:

'And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.' Mark 13 v 37

Collect:

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.

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You may or may not be aware that the three PCCs in the Benefice are exploring the possibility of amalgamating into one PCC. The PCCs will be discussing a proposal paper from the Archdeacon and myself this month. The Archdeacon is coming to meet with anyone who wishes to discuss this proposal further at an **Open Meeting at Holy Trinity, Blendworth tomorrow (Monday 30th November) at 7pm.** Please come along.

Sunday Services

This Week:
Saturday 29th November
Advent 1

9.30am Idsworth Holy Communion for Advent
11am Blendworth Parish Communion for Advent
12.30pm Baptism of Emilie Tagg at Blendworth
6pm Chalton Advent Carol Service

Readings

This week:
Isaiah 64.1-9
Psalm 80.1-8,18-20*
1 Corinthians 1.3-9
Mark 13.24-end

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Next week:
Isaiah 40.1-11
Psalm 85.1-2, 8-end or 85.8-end
2 Peter 3.8-15a
Mark 1.1-8

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Next Week...
Sunday 6th December
Advent 2
8 o'clock BCP Communion at Blendworth
9.30am Chalton Holy Communion
9.30am Idsworth Mattins
11am Blendworth Morning Prayer with Sowing Seeds

Upcoming Events

Saturday 28th November - **Christmas Fair** - 10am at Blendworth Church Centre

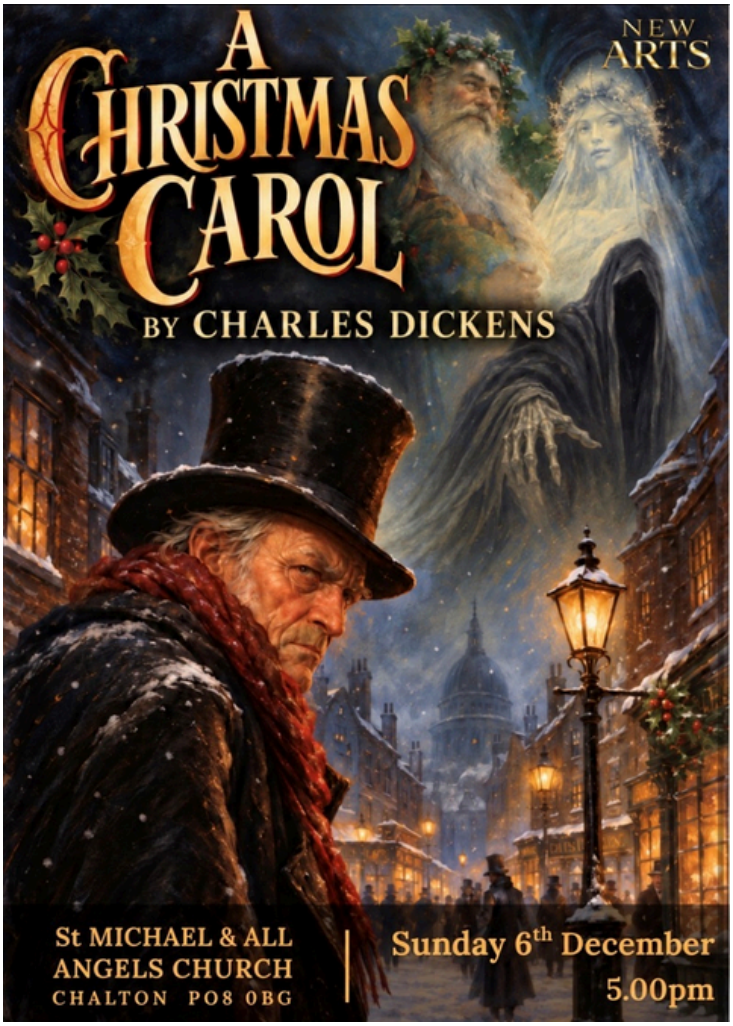




Christmas Tree Festival - This year the festival has been extended to Friday 11th - Sunday 13th December and will finish with our Christingle service. Trees from all church groups are welcomed and the theme this year is Alice in Wonderland. Please ask Janet Laws for more details and if you belong to an outside organisation that you think might like to participate; please ask Janet for more details.







One man. Three ghosts. One unforgettable Christmas story

Some stories are simply made for Christmas. Few have captured its spirit quite like Charles Dickens's A Christmas Carol.

This December, join us for a very special theatrical experience as the story of Ebenezer Scrooge is brought vividly to life in this staged, one-man performance. Inspired by the dramatic readings Dickens himself gave to spellbound audiences. This is storytelling at its most captivating. There will be ghosts. There will be laughter. There will be darkness, mystery and moments of extraordinary tenderness. All the characters, all the atmosphere, all the magic of Dickens's Christmas masterpiece, brought to life for just one night. Book your tickets and join us for what promises to be a wonderfully festive evening

https://www.bcichurches.org.uk/christmas-carol/

For your Prayers

Christians who maintain their faith in difficult circumstances throughout the world.

The World: For all those who suffer in places of conflict — we pray for peace.

The Parishes - we pray for the Horndean mission and for our churches to grow in confidence to spread the good news of the Gospel.

The Sick Dayle , Kevin, Diana, Hazel Chapman, Jo Brown

For those who mourn: Ted Holloway, Jean Bradley, Molly Schillemore, Liv Johnston



Contact Us

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Safeguarding

The Parishes of Blendworth, Chalton and Idsworth are fully committed to safeguarding all of God's people. The Benefice Safeguarding Policy was agreed at the Benefice Standing Committee meeting held on 15th June 2026. If you have any questions, or to report a safeguarding concern, please contact Revd Joy, 07521 862285. If you prefer to contact somebody from outside of the parishes, please contact the Diocesan Safeguarding Team. Monday to Thursday 9am-5pm Email: safeguarding@portsmouth.anglican.org, 023 9289 9665 or Out of Hours advice can be sought from the Thirtyone:eight helpline on 0303 003 1111, selecting option 2.