



The Benefice of All Saints', Highbrook
& St Margaret of Antioch, West Hoathly
Benefice Notices for the 2nd Sunday of Advent
Sunday 10th December 2023

Worship & upcoming services

Thurs. 14th December 5pm, St Margaret's - School's KS2 Carol Service
Friday 15th December 5.30pm, St Margaret's - Evening Prayer (BCP)

Next Sunday (17th December)

Third Sunday of Advent

9am Matins (BCP)

All Saints', Highbrook

10.30am Eucharist

St Margaret's, West Hoathly

Parish Christmas cards: Many thanks to all who helped with the delivery of our cards. Your assistance with this task was very much appreciated. There are more cards in church for anyone who has not yet received one, especially those who perhaps don't live in our parish or are visiting.

Mission – joining in with God's work of love in the world.



Refugees Welcome Crawley is a local refugee support charity.

Every donation goes directly to support the wellbeing of refugee men, women, and children in the Crawley area. We provide clothes, shoes, household items and destitution support for those who find themselves homeless. We also offer English classes and other activities to offset isolation and loneliness.

Every donation goes directly to help individuals and families in need, whether it's toiletries, a warm coat for a child or a pair of shoes for someone without any. Your support is especially vital at this time of year when the weather is so cold. Our Christmas appeal this year can be found here on our JustGiving page <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/rwcsanta23> or you can donate at any time directly from our website at www.refugeeswelcomecrawley.co.uk

Clothes and shoes in excellent, clean condition can be left in the donations box in St Margaret's Church porch where the current Wishlist can be found. To donate larger items or find out more about the charity, email rwccchair@gmail.com

Your compassionate giving helps us bring dignity, comfort, and hope to all those we support. Thank you so much if you can help. Registered charity no: 1186127

Stewardship - generous giving to and through God

St Margaret's Churchyard Working Party: *Thank you so much* to all who helped recently. Thank you also to all those who have helped us in 2023 to keep our churchyard look so well cared for and loved. Cheerfully giving of your time, your loyalty and your dedication have been greatly appreciated. There will not be a Churchyard working party in January as it is New Years' Day. Therefore, the first one of 2024 will be on **Monday 5th February at 2.00pm.**



Team Photo – Oct. 2023. Photo courtesy of Richard.

West Hoathly School say *thank you* to all who have recently volunteered to come and listen to the children read on a regular basis.

All Saints' Cleaning: There will be no cleaning day in December, but help will be appreciated to remove the Angel installation later in December. All offers to Heather Chapman or Sophie. Thank you!

Our Advent and Christmas preparations: We greatly appreciate the kindness of an anonymous donor who sponsored the "Follow the Star, Join the Song" booklets. *Thank you!* Have you picked up your copy of this yet?

Join us for
Carols in the Square
Sunday 10th December - 6pm
With procession of lanterns from Finche Field at 5.40pm
followed by carol singing outside The Cat Inn
Mincepies & mulled wine afterwards in St Margaret's
Bucket collection in aid of St. Margaret's Church
Carol sheet can be downloaded from
<http://westhoathly.org.uk>

Can you help? A few more volunteers are needed to help **THIS EVENING** with the **Carols in the Square**. Please speak with Rev'd Heather, Derek, or Churchwardens.

Christingle making in St Margaret's on Sat. 23rd Dec. at 10am: We will be making lots of Christingles for the Christmas Eve service. If you could spare some time, please come along to help prepare them - it will only take about an hour. Thanks.



Events – growing together as a community.

Carols in the Square – TONIGHT! Please note that the Lantern Procession begins at 5.40pm from Finche Field. There will be a Bucket Collection to support the work of St Margaret's. If you would prefer to donate by bank transfer, the details are on the St Margaret's website or can be found by following this link: <http://westhoathly.org.uk/give>. The **carol sheet** can be downloaded from the website too.



Highbrook Village Coffee morning

All welcome!

Held on the 2nd
Tuesday of the month in
Highbrook Village Hall
from 10.30am -12.30pm.

Next one:

this Tuesday 12th Dec.

Not to be missed!

FESTIVAL OF ANGELS



December 2023

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH
HIGHBROOK

RH17 6SS



Scan the QR code to check the website for
details of events at All Saints' Church,
Highbrook.

CHRISTMAS EVE

3.30PM

St Margaret's Church
West Hoathly



CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

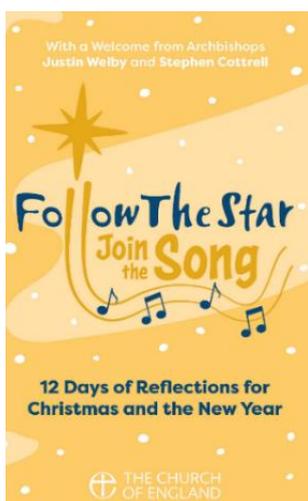
Children are invited to come dressed as a
character from the Christmas Story!

ALL WELCOME

Collection in aid of The Children's Society.



Studying – Understanding God.



You are invited to collect a copy of **'Follow The Star, Join the Song'**. This can be collected from a Welcomer after the service at St Margaret's today. This little booklet invites you to hear and respond to the angels' invitation to gather in the presence of the newborn Jesus. For each day from Christmas Eve to the Eve of Epiphany (5th January), it offers a short reading from the Bible, a reflection challenging us to see the Christmas story afresh, an invitation to wonder what this Christmas means in our

own life, and a prayer to help us treasure this story in your heart. Alternatively, download the **'Follow The Star'** app from

<https://www.churchofengland.org/>

Prayer - spending time with God.

Evening Prayer on Fridays at 5.30pm in St Margaret's: You are invited to leave your prayers on the prayer cross (and they can be anonymous if you wish). All prayers left each week are offered up to God at Evening Prayer.



Prayer for the week:

Almighty God, purify our hearts and minds, that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as judge and saviour, we may be ready to receive him, who is our Lord and our God. Amen.

For our Prayers: Please remember to pray for yourself, for our communities, for our nation, and for the whole world.

The sick and housebound or in need of especial guidance: Clive, Mary Cocking, Jenny Page, Bea Smith, and Shirley.

Those preparing for Baptism.

Those preparing for Marriage: Sally and Karl, Lucy and Aidan, Georgie and Ollie, Summer and Matt, Kate and Mike.

The recently departed, for Barrie Shier and Margaret Arbuthnot, and for those whose anniversary of death falls this week, for Don Jones, and all who are grieving for them.

If you would like to add someone's name to the prayer list, please contact Karen Blackman at brkb410@gmail.com If you are asking for someone else, please make sure you have their permission to have their name added publicly.

For details of how to join others online for prayer, worship, study, and community life, and for updates, please check our website:

www.allsaints-highbrook.org.uk & www.westhoathly.org.uk

And social media:

Facebook - @stmargaretswesthoathlyallsaintshighbrook

Twitter - @StMargarets_WH

YouTube - search for 'St Margarets West Hoathly All Saints Highbrook'

CONTACT DETAILS

Vicar: The Reverend Heather Wilkin

Email: heather.wilkin78@gmail.com Telephone: 01342 529047

Heather's rest day is usually Monday.

Churchwardens of St Margaret's:

Ann Hutchings (churchwardenstmargarets@outlook.com or 01342 810 742) or

Tim Baker (churchwardenstmargarets@outlook.com)

Churchwardens of All Saints':

Adam Hackett (adamjphackett@outlook.com) or

Tony Osborn (tonyosborn191@gmail.com) (01444 892 191)

Items for the **Benefice Notice sheet:** Please email Karen B at brkb410@gmail.com by Wednesday 12noon.