

## Sunday gatherings @ 10am

Sun 1st Jan: 10am **Altogether Communion**

Sun 8<sup>th</sup> Jan: 10am **Holy Communion  
with Kids Creation Station.**

Sun 15<sup>th</sup> Jan: 10am **Service of the Word.**

Sun 22<sup>nd</sup> Jan :

10am **Traditional Holy Communion  
with Cinema Sunday for 3-10 yr. olds**

Sun 29<sup>th</sup> Jan: 10am **Service of the Word.**

## Dates for your diary

**Next PCC** is Monday 16th January - please let a member of the PCC know if there is anything you would like discussed.

**First Aid Training** for some of us and a few from other churches will take place on Jan 26<sup>th</sup> We currently have one space: please speak to Ali if you would like more details.

22<sup>nd</sup> February **Ash Wednesday  
Holy Communion** at 1pm

Our **APCM** will be on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2023

## Post-Christmas Breaks

The church office will be closed from Fri 23rd until Wed 4th Jan.

Jon is taking 2 weeks off after Christmas Day and will be back at work on Mon 9th Jan.

Trenna and Ali are having the week after Christmas off. The Wardens are available throughout for anything urgent, so please get in touch with one of them.

## How to contact us

**Emails and telephone messages** are checked at least 3 times a week.

**enquiriesststephenssouthmead@gmail.com**

There is also a contact form on our website

**https://www.ststephenssouthmead.co.uk**

## Who's who

### Vicar

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Revd Jon Roberts

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### Children & Families Worker

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### Churchwardens

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### Prayer Chain

Ali Prince

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### Safeguarding Officer

Joe Widdows

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### Treasurer

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### Administration

Ali Prince / Gill O'Rourke

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## Find us online

**Facebook** Keep up to date with latest events and news by joining our group or by following our Facebook page

[www.facebook.com/ststephenssouthmead](http://www.facebook.com/ststephenssouthmead)

**Website** [www.ststephenssouthmead.co.uk](http://www.ststephenssouthmead.co.uk)

# St Stephen's Southmead

Bulletin  
January 2023



*A warm welcome  
whether it is your first time visiting  
or you are a regular part of the  
congregation! We are so glad to see you in  
person and gather as a church family  
Please do ask if you have any questions or  
are unsure about anything  
Our prayer is that as you spend time with  
us you might meet with the Living God.*

## Prayer - changes things

Please pray for

- Those who mourn - Kathy Glover's family and friends.
- anyone who has lost a loved one recently.
- Everyone recovering from or waiting for an operation.
- Those on the dental waiting list in Bristol
- Those suffering from Seasonal Affective Disorder.
- The homeless as temperature's plummet and those struggling to stay warm this winter.
- Those suffering from addiction. May they find the help needed and peace this year and Lord give them strength.
- Brian as he recovers from a stroke.

## Toddler Group



Runs termtime every  
Monday 9.30 – 11am

All pre-school aged children

welcome! Snacks and drinks provided

Just come along whenever you can.

Details from Trena.

Saint Stephen's Southmead



## The White Hall Celebration

The White Hall is still set for demolition soon but has been delayed a few times due to a variety of issues. St Stephens will hold a special service at an appropriate date, a chance to hear shared memories, pictures, and stories of good times in the White Hall

## Friendship Cafe - new dates

This has been open every Wednesday 10am - 12noon and will continue most weeks.

However, as we will be welcoming Traveling Kitchen once a month there will be no café on the 11<sup>th</sup> of January

Thank you to everyone who is helping to keep this running so well :-)

All very welcome to come along!

## Small groups

**Monday Bible study group** meets at 1.30pm in St. Stephen's room. Contact Jenny if you are interested: [revjennylow@gmail.com](mailto:revjennylow@gmail.com)

**Thursday evening** group meets in the vicarage at 7:45 for 8pm. Contact Jon if you're interested.

If you'd value belonging to a small group speak to Jon, as we're keen to build a network of supportive, prayerful, fellowship groups.

## Kids Matter & Babies Matter

We are currently running a programme out of the Greenway centre, in partnership with Mudpies Forest School and Children and Young Peoples Social Prescribing! Please pray! Babies Matter happens on a Thursday morning in church.



## From the Vicar

There's a quiet stillness to the month of January, I feel. Once all the festivities, busyness, and family visits have receded, we're left with the serene quality of the winter season in all its bare beauty. No feasting, presents or parties to hide behind now; we're now confronted with that bare beauty of winter, all around us, and even in ourselves. How does this affect you, I wonder? This time of year, there's a danger we might sink into the 'bleak mid-winter', or into seasonal affected disorder (SAD). You are not alone in this.

With the Christmas stories still ringing in our ears, now is the time for us, as followers of Jesus, to live out the Christmas message. This simply means holding onto the Christmas hope that God comes into our lives and world to be with us, and deeply desires a relationship with us, just as we are. This is the root of the peace and joy we're called to hold onto for the rest of the year, and to share with others. You are not alone if January is a tough month; we are here for you! But most importantly, God is with us!

Come and join us in church; or reach out if you need someone to talk to. In this season I'd love to be able to meet up with as many of the church family and wider community as I can, for some quality conversations, to be a listening ear, and to share in the quiet stillness of winter together.

*Rev Jon*