

Services at St Columba and Stephen Hill

St Columba

23rd December

4.00pm Joint Carol Service

24th December - Christmas Eve

4.00pm Joint Crib Service

11.00pm Joint Midnight Holy Communion

25th December - Christmas Day

10.30am Family Service

30th December

10.30am Joint service at Stephen Hill

6th January

9.00am Joint Holy Communion

10.30am All Age Worship

The next notice sheet will be dated
13th January 2019. Please send items for
inclusion no later than 9th January.
Happy Christmas from us all!

Stephen Hill

23rd December

10.30am Morning Worship led by
The worship team

4.00pm Joint Carol Service at St C's

24th December - Christmas Eve

4.00pm Joint Crib Service at St C's

11.00pm Joint Midnight Holy Communion at St C's

25th December - Christmas Day

10.00am Family Service led by Rev
Will Fletcher

30th December

10.30am Joint service at Stephen Hill

6th January

9.00am Joint Holy Communion at
St C's

10.30am Morning Worship led by Mr
David Green



The Beacon at Stephen Hill



St
Columba's
Church
Crosspool

Christmas Notice Sheet

O Come Let Us



Adore Him



May the **joy** of the angels
the **eagerness** of the shepherds
the **perseverance** of the wise men
the **obedience** of Joseph and Mary
and the **peace** of the Christ child be yours this Christmas



Please send any news or notices for the notice sheet by Lunchtime on Wednesdays.

Email admin@stcolumbacrosspool.org.uk or phone 267 0006

Or

Email: shgrapevine@gmail.com or ring Brenda 2306918 or John 2304960

Please do join us to celebrate
the real meaning of Christmas!

St. Columba's Stewardship: Thank you to everyone who has returned their stewardship card - any further ones are still very welcome!

Envelopes for 2019 are now in your pigeonholes. If you give by standing order and are changing the amount for 2019, please don't forget to tell your bank. I have a form for this if you prefer to do it in person rather than online - just ask me.

Thank you very much again, Jacky.

Michelle will be in the St Columba's office on Monday's from 11.15am – 5.00pm and Thursday's from 11.15am-2.30pm. The office will be closed over Christmas from 21st December – 7th January 2019.

Stephen Hill Pastoral: Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends of Jackie Haskins whose funeral service will be held at Hutcliffe Wood Crematorium on Wednesday 9th January at 12.30pm, and also with all the other people in our Church families who are unwell.

We shall be thinking and praying for you specially over this Christmas period in our Joint Prayer Group which meets in the Choir Room at Stephen Hill at 9.30am each Tuesday (not Christmas and New Year's Days!).

The flowers in Church and the Forum are part of the Christmas Decorations.

Praying for Crosspool: This week and over the Christmas and New Year period we shall pray for Tipton School (Staff, Pupils, Governors & Parents) and the residents of Tetney Road and Vernon Delph.

Stephen Hill's Big Church Christmas Card is now in the Forum - Send your greetings to the wider church family. Envelopes are available for anyone wishing to make a donation to Christian Aid. Many thanks. Barbara Pye.

Used postage stamps for Bluebell Wood Children's Hospice - Please let Barbara Pye have any stamps. Many Thanks.

Tuesday Morning Prayers and Wednesday Midday Services - Will resume on Wednesday, 2nd January and Tuesday, 8th January respectively.

Weekday Coffee Mornings in the Forum - Continue until Friday, 23rd December and start again after the Christmas break on Tuesday, 3rd January 2019.

Saturday Coffee Mornings - Begin again on January, 12th.

Refurbishment work at Stephen Hill: We have been very fortunate to have had a number of outstanding jobs done this year - resurfacing the car park, kitchen renovation and new toilets in the Ladies (with the promise of a full make-over in the new year). All this work has been funded by monies willed to Stephen Hill by former members, for which we are most grateful, but none of the work could have been carried out without the hard work and commitment of Trevor and Lin Wilson and Darren Heathcote to whom we extend our very sincere thanks.

A message from Rev. Iain Lothian & Rev. Will Fletcher

*It came upon the midnight clear,
that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth
to touch their harps of gold:
'Peace on the earth, good will to men,
from heaven's all-gracious King!'
The world in solemn stillness lay
to hear the angels sing.*

This is the opening verse of one of my favourite carols. It speaks of the message of hope and peace that Jesus' birth over 2,000 years ago brought to the world. It is a message that our world desperately needs to hear this year, as much as any other.

Whether it be Brexit, climate change, the rise in nationalism, mental well-being, homelessness or something else; there are many issues that affect us and lead to a feeling of angst in our world. With these issues in mind it is important to maintain that message of hope and peace.

The hymn concludes by imagining the day when the Prince of Peace will be known fully in the world and all will join in the angels' song. However, we should not imagine that we just have to wait for this point in the future to arrive. Rather, there are those in our world who are already singing the angels' song – those who support the homeless, provide for Foodbanks, campaign for a fairer world, or work to protect the environment – to give but a few examples. So this Christmastime, may we hear once more the message of peace that Christ's birth brings, may we be stirred by hope for a peaceful world to come, and may it lead us to be messengers of hope and peace as we join in the angels' song today.

Merry Christmas to you all,

Will & Iain

When Christmas advertising is shouting about the perfect life, remember Christmas can be a very, very low time for a lot of people whose lives are feeling difficult, and even more so when expectations are so high. Please do keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

Samaritans: Call free on 116 123

#suicideawareness #itsoknot2beok