

Notices and Future Events

- **Monthly Thursday Lunch group** The Red Lion is closing for refurbishments in the New Year. Main course and pudding at the Swan **8th January (not 1st)**
- **Claudette a member of the Elstow Congregation** is happy to read to adults who can't do it themselves. If interested call on 01234 216375.
- **Forthcoming Friends of Elstow Abbey Music Festival** 31st Jan 09 12 noon Organ recital by Bedford Organists Association and 28th Feb 09 7.30pm Luton Male Voice Choir.
- **Benefice Advent Study Course** 3rd . John the Baptist, Rev. Stephen Smith @ Elstow and 4th . Mary, Rev. Peter Littleford @ St Michaels. Monday 8th, 15th and 22nd Dec at 8.00pm.
- **Choir Practice** dates – 19th December 2008, 9th & 30th January and 6th February 2009. Choir Christmas party at vicarage 19th Dec. at 8.15pm
- **Request for adult help** it is planned in the New Year to start a younger Youth club for those aged 7 – 11 ½ from 5.45 – 7pm, if you'd like to help please can you let Jeremy know.
- **Quiet Day at Moggerhanger Park**, Park Road, Moggerhanger, Beds MK44 3RW on Wednesday 7th January 2009 meet at 9.30am for 10.00am start ~ depart 3.00pm.
- **New envelopes for regular Giving.** If anyone would like to start a box please speak to a sideman.
- **Community Resettlement Support Project** looking to recruit & train volunteers to provide befriending support to men aged 21+ who prepare to be released from HMP Bedford please contact Rob Burton 07940211527.
- **9 Lessons and carols**– for those who kindly agreed to read, an envelope is on the table by the sidesman, by the door as you enter.
- **The Beginners Course to the Bible**, begins on the 13th January (*date changed*) for 8 weeks @ the vicarage. Looking at Bible stories with film and discussion – all welcome.

JRC Day Off: Friday 19th December 2008

Church Wardens Contact details: Colin Albon 01234 407084 & Barbara Routledge 01234 854369. Wedding/ Baptism Bookings/enquiries or Notices for weekly Bulletin to Samantha Nagel, Tuesday and Thursdays at the Rectory – 01234 261477.



THE ABBEY CHURCH OF ST MARY AND ST HELENA, ELSTOW *Part of the Elstow Team*

We extend a warm welcome to everyone today

Sunday 14th December 2008 **The Third Sunday of Advent**

10.00am Holy Communion with Sunday School (JRC)
Hymns: SoF: 520,482,557;1 Anthem: Inspired by love and anger, 147

6.30pm Evensong with Holy Communion and the
Laying on of Hands (JRC)
Hymns: NEH: 5, 443, 6 Psalm 126

COLLECT

O Lord Jesus Christ,
Who at thy first coming didst send thy messenger
To prepare thy way before thee:
Grant that the ministers and stewards of thy mysteries
May likewise so prepare and make ready thy way
By turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of
the just,
That at thy second coming to judge the world
We may be found acceptable people in thy sight;
Who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
One God, now and for ever.

AMEN

Diary for the Week

Sunday 7 th	10.00am	Holy Communion with Sunday School (JRC)
	6.30pm	Evensong with Holy Communion and the laying on of hands (JRC)
Monday 8 th	8.30am	Morning Prayer at Cardington
	9.30am	Elstow Lower School @ Elstow Abbey
	10.00am	Mums and Toddlers Christmas Party
	2.00pm	NO Prayer Group
	8.00pm	Advent Study Course 3. John the Baptist @ Elstow Church Hall
Tuesday 9 th	8.30am	Morning Prayer at Cardington
	9.30am	Elstow Lower School @ Elstow Abbey
	10.00am	JRC @ Beacon House
	10.00am	Sing and Sign in the Church Hall
	3.15pm	Funeral of Julie Peniston with the wake following in Elstow Church Hall
	4.30pm	NO Dance club
	8.00pm	Wedding Interview @ the Vicarage
Wednesday 10 th	8.30am	Morning Prayer at Cardington
	11.00am	Burial in Elstow Churchyard of Thomas Farrell (Fr Gorman)
	11.30am	Coffee morning and Soup Christmas Party in Hall
	1.30pm	Elstow Lower School KS2@ the Abbey
	3.00-6.00pm	JRC @ Abbey Middle School
		Bellringers 100th Peal in 100 Years
	6.30pm	Carol Sing around village - meet at Hall
	7.30pm	Howard House 'Friends of Cardington' Carol Concert
Thursday 11 th	8.30am	Morning Prayer at Cardington
	11.00am	Holy Communion service at Elstow (JRC)
	1.00pm	Clergy Christmas lunch @ the Swan
	3.30pm	JRC @ John Bunyan Upper
	6.00pm	Carol Singing @ Bunyans Mead
Friday 12 th	8.30am	Morning Prayer at Cardington
	7.45pm	Choir Practice

	8.00pm	Bell Ringing
Friday cont:	8.15pm	Choir Party @ The Vicarage
Saturday 13 th	2-4pm	Young People's Christmas Party
	4-5pm	All age Christmas Tea
	5-8.30pm	Older Young People's Disco

Next Sunday

21st December 2008

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

10.00am	Holy Communion with Sunday School (JRC)
11.15am	Morning Prayer (JRC)
3.30pm	Joint Celebration of Carols at the Howard Church (Cardington)
6.30pm	Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols (JRC)

Future Dates for your diary

- Youth Alpha from Monday 19th January from 6 – 7.30pm for 10 weeks ref David Wells.
- Pantomime rehearsals from 11th January 3.30 – 5pm until 1st March.
- Diocesan trip to Taize 19th – 26th July 2009. *Further details in New Year.*
- Parish holiday to the Isle of Wight 9th August – 15th August. *Further details in the New Year.*
- Greenbelt festival 28th August – 31st August ref David Wells.
- Adults beginners to the Bible and Christian life course 8 week course starting **13th January** at the vicarage from 8pm.

Please Pray For:

Recently Deceased:

Gwendoline Eglington, Julie Peniston, Thomas Farrell