**ADVENT 3 – the theme of rejoicing**

**The** **NEW CHURCH KITCHEN BOILER – a huge ‘THANK YOU’** for the donations that came in following the appeal last Sunday – as you will see, the new boiler was purchased straightaway, installed and up and running.

**Last Friday**, St Thomas’ joined with and provided carols for Gorton Street Family Hub Tree Lighting. St Thomas’ gave out donated chocolate bars and invitations to our services over Christmas. *Pray that folk will respond*.

A group of children in blue uniforms

Description automatically generated*Here is a photo of the* ***Devonshire Academy choir*** *taken in church last Sunday evening – the Tree Lighting and Carols event – thank you to all who helped with this in any way. How great to see and hear the children – a really special evening.*

**2024 STEWARDSHIP BOXES** –available at the back of church today – see Vicky.

**CONFIRMATION SERVICE –** Bishop Jill is coming to St Thomas’ for a Confirmation Service on Sunday 11th February 2024 at 6pm. For more information please see Revd Dave.

*The services for the next few weeks are shown below and opposite*

*Key to leaders and preachers : DOB: Revd Dave O’Brien; LJT: Revd LJ Tiffney; DW: Revd David Wilkinson; YB: Yvonne Blazey*

**

*Holy Communion Service of the Word*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***SUNDAY*** | ***10.30am*** | | ***6pm*** | | |
| ***17th December***  ***Advent 3*** | *✓ catholic mass free vector eps, cdr, ai, svg vector illustration graphic  artTheme:*  *John 1:*  *6 – 8 and*  *19 – 28*  *Preach: LJT*  *Lead: DOB* | | ***PARISH CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE***  ***at 6pm***  ***Carols and Readings*** | | |
| ***24th December***  ***ADVENT 4***  ***CHRISTMAS EVE*** | *Open Bible Clipart, Bible Clipart, Worship, Read The Bible PNG Transparent  Clipart Image and PSD File for Free DownloadTheme:*  *Luke 1:*  *26 – 38*  *Preach: DOB*  *Lead: DW* | December Breakfast Church & Christingle — St Lawrence, Bourton***Christingle***  ***Carol***  ***Service***  ***4pm*** | | | ***✓ catholic mass free vector eps, cdr, ai, svg vector illustration graphic  art11.30pm***  ***Theme: John 1: 1 – 14***  *Preach: LJT*  *Lead: DOB* |
| ***Monday 25th December***  ***CHRISTMAS DAY*** | *✓ catholic mass free vector eps, cdr, ai, svg vector illustration graphic  art****10.30am HOLY COMMUNION***  ***Theme: Luke 2: 1 – 14 (15 – 20)***  ***Lead: VB Preach/Preside: DOB*** | | | | |
| ***31st December***  ***Christmas 1*** | *✓ catholic mass free vector eps, cdr, ai, svg vector illustration graphic  art****Theme: Luke 2: 15 – 21***  *Lead: DOB*  *Preach: DW* | | |  | |
| ***7th January***  ***The Baptism of Christ*** | *Open Bible Clipart, Bible Clipart, Worship, Read The Bible PNG Transparent  Clipart Image and PSD File for Free DownloadTheme:*  *Matthew 2:*  *1 – 12*  *Lead: DOB*  *Preach: DW* | | | *✓ catholic mass free vector eps, cdr, ai, svg vector illustration graphic  artTheme:*  *Matthew 2:*  *1 – 12*  *Lead: DW*  *Preach: VB* | |

**Midweek (Wed)Book of Common Prayer Communion Service at 11am:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **20th December**  Mark 8: 11 – 9: 1  Lead/Preach: DOB | **3rd January**  Matthew 2: 1 – end  Lead/Preach: DOB |
| **27th December**  Mark 11: 27 – 12: 12  Lead/Preach: DOB | **10th January**  Matthew 6: 19 – end  Lead: DW Preach: LJT |

**Psalms for *18th – 23rd December:***

*Mon 18th: Psalm 44 Tues 19th: Psalm 57 Wed 20th: Psalm 46*

*Thurs 21st: Psalm 121 Fri 22nd: Psalm 124 Sat 23rd: Psalm 130*

**Day Retreats at St Thomas’: all dates below 10am – 4.30pm:**

**Worship, Workshop Lunch, fellowship, pray/receive ministry……**

3rd February 2024 29th June 2024

*To book a place please see Ali O’Brien or email*

[*ali.obrien@blackburn.anglican.org*](mailto:ali.obrien@blackburn.anglican.org)