

Hello Everyone

There has been a hive of activity on the Green today with stall holders preparing the scene for a fun village get together at the 'Light Up Toddington event this evening', from 4-7pm. Today has been wonderfully sunny with clear blue skies but it promises to be cold this evening so do please wrap up warm! I look forward to the children singing and the buzz of people meeting and greeting each other, whilst enjoying the fun, as the scene is set for a build up to Christmas. The Parish Council have arranged to illuminate the church this evening, which will provide a rather special backdrop (Thank you!). Besides music, stalls and entertainment on the Green, there will also be craft stalls and refreshments in Wilkinson Hall. Toddington is such a pretty village but it always looks extra special lit up and decorated for Christmas.

This afternoon I attended the Royal British Legion AGM and I just want to say a huge thank you to the Toddington Branch for all their help and support with church commemorative and remembrance events and for their slick organisation of the annual Remembrance event on the Green and the poppy collection, which draws us all together so effectively, to Remember. We are very fortunate to have a village branch of RBL and I am keen to support them.. so I encourage you, to please consider becoming members, or supporters, so our local branch can stay strong and effective (contact John Wood, or Melanie).

Chalgrave's Pop Up Tea Room on Wednesday at Tebworth Memorial Hall was another special moment this week with a full hall and lots of conversations shared over delicious cake, or hot soup. Thank you so much to the catering team for all their hard work. And, thank you to Toddington team for catering this evening, and very soon at the Christmas Tree Festival. Do please link with Dee about any Christmas Tree entry queries.

This week I also had a musical treat at Sunday's Young Musician of the Year competition with young musicians of great talent taking part. I was amazed by the quality.. and on Tuesday evening, Nigel and I had another treat at the concert of Choral Music and poetry at Bedford school, organised by Nicholas Hopton in aid of Movember. Such a musical blessing.. with us leaving uplifted by the talents of pupils and teachers, and the choir, who took part. I am looking forward to hearing more singing this evening from the school choir and representatives.

With a Christmas Theme in mind.. for your diary...here is a list of the forthcoming Christmas events and services at Toddington and Chalgrave churches during December:

December Services and Events:

Chalgrave Church

Sundays 3rd, 10th and 17th December - Holy Communion Services, 9.30 am

Wednesday 13th December - Christmas Pop Up Tea Room, Tebworth Memorial Hall 11.00 am – 1.00 pm

Saturday 16th December - Carols by Candlelight Service, 6.00 pm

Sunday 24th December - Benefice Holy Communion Service, Toddington Church, 11.00 am

Christmas Eve, Sunday 24th December - Crib Service, 2.30 pm

Christmas Eve, Sunday 24th December - Midnight Mass, 11.15 pm
Christmas Day, Monday 25th December - Benefice Holy Communion Service, Toddington Church, 10.00 am
31st December - Benefice Morning Praise Service, Toddington Church, 11.00 am

Toddington Church

Friday 1st December - Christingle Service with the children at Toddington St George School.
Saturday 2nd December - Christmas Concert, Linsdale Singers, 2.30 pm, Toddington Church
Sundays 3rd, 10th and 17th December - Holy Communion Services, 11.00am
Mondays 4th, 11th and 18th December - Morning Prayer, 9.30 am, Toddington Church
Friday 8 December – 7.00 pm Christmas Tree Festival Preview Evening, Toddington Church.
Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th December - Christmas Tree Festival Toddington Church, Saturday 11.00 am to 5.00 pm, Sunday 1.00 to 5.00pm, ending with Carols. Refreshments available in Wilkinson Hall
Thursday 14th December - Christmas 'Messy Church' 3.30pm Wilkinson Hall
Friday 15th December - Scout Carol Service, 7.00 pm, Toddington Church.
Sunday 17th December - Toddington Band Christmas Concert 3.00 pm, Toddington Church,
Monday 18th December - Nine Lessons and Carols service, 7.30 pm, Toddington Church
Tuesday 19th December - Parkfields School, Christmas Carol services, Toddington Church
Wednesday 20th December - Toddington St George Lower School Christmas Carol service, Toddington Church
Sunday 24th December - Benefice Holy Communion Service, Toddington Church, 11.00 am
Christmas Eve Sunday 24th December- 4.00 pm Crib Service, Toddington Church
Christmas Eve Sunday 24th December – 10.00 pm 'Midnight Mass', Toddington Church
Christmas Day Monday 25th December - Benefice Holy Communion Service, Toddington Church 10.00 am
Sunday 31st December - Benefice Morning Praise Service, 11.00 am, Toddington Church

This week's services and events:

Sunday 26th November - Christ The King Sunday

9.30 am Holy Communion, Chalgrave Church
11.00 am Holy Communion, Toddington Church

Monday 27th November

9.30 am Morning Prayer, Toddington Church
2.00 pm Seated Pilates, Wilkinson Hall

Tuesday 28th November

10.30 am Knitting Group, Wilkinson Hall
5.45 pm Youth Group, Wilkinson Hall

Wednesday 29th November

Rest Day

Thursday 30 November

Rest Day

Friday 1st December

10.30 am Painting For Pleasure group, Wilkinson Hall
NB - No Ploughmans lunch this month!

Looking forward to seeing you to catch up sometime.. perhaps at a Christmas Service, or perhaps over a glass of mulled wine, or a hot cuppa this evening.

Keep warm and look after yourselves.

God bless

Linda

Rector
Toddington and Chalgrave