

Greetings from St John's Church this Christmas to you and your family



Sunday 2nd December

Advent Sunday: 10am a New Church Year begins

Thursday 6th December

5.30-7pm St Nicholas Day and St John's Centre AGM with Guest Speakers from UA 92

Saturday 8th December

Lovenotes Christmas workshop 6.30-7.30pm (in St John's Centre) followed by their **concert** 8-9.30pm (in the church)
<https://www.wegotickets.com/event/453957>

Sunday 9th December

2nd Sunday in Advent: Prophets in Palestine

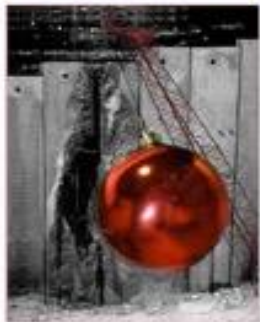
Monday 10th December

7.30pm **Amos Trust Advent Carol Service**
Join us for a very special advent carol service with peace activist Zoughbi Zoughbi, founder of Amos partner Wi'am Reconciliation Centre and campaigner Lucy Talgieh who leads the women's work at Wi'am. Joining them will be 6 members of Choir of Bethlehem on their first visit to the UK.

All proceeds from our Bethlehem carol services will go towards our 'Smile' Christmas Appeal for Wi'am's women's work and their holiday programme for children living in the shadow of the Wall.

Thursday 13th December

7pm Confirmation and Licensing service: Join the Bishop of Middleton, Mark Davies, and the Archdeacon of Manchester, Karen Lund, as the Bishop confirms candidates young and old from the church and John Hughes is licensed as Rector of the parish and Christine Aspinall as Assistant Curate. Rum related refreshments follow.



Saturday 15th December

- 10-12noon **Christmas Fayre** held in St John's Centre, St John's Road.
- 7pm family **Christmas Concert** with Julia Chernyavsky, Ekaterina Velardi and children. Some beautiful piano playing and singing and a chance to join in with festive favourites.

Sunday 16th December

10am 3rd Sunday in Advent: John the Baptist – a voice in the wilderness

Friday 21st December

6.30pm Longest Night: Meditation

Sunday 23rd December

10am 4th Sunday in Advent: Mary / Mariam then and now

Monday 24th December

- 3pm Crafty Christingle Making
- 4pm Christingle in aid of **The Children's Society**. Join us to celebrate 50 years of Christingle to raise funds for vulnerable children in the UK.
- 11.30pm Midnight Mass

Tuesday 25th December

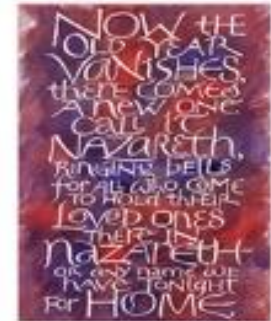
10am Christmas Morning Service

Sunday 30th December

10am 1st Sunday in Christmas

Sunday 6th January

10am Epiphany: *The Journey of the Wise Men*



St John's Christmas appeals:



"Please help us to transform the garbage of anger and hate into the tree of compassion this Christmas."
ZOUGHBI ZOUGHBI — FOUNDER, WI'AM RECONCILIATION CENTRE, BETHLEHEM

amos  **trust**
justice and hope for the forgotten

Your support here on **December 10th** will help 300 children and their families, who are living in the shadow of the Separation Wall in the Aida and al Assra camps, to celebrate Christmas. It will allow Wi'am to provide support for women through their women's programme in the desperately difficult winter months.

The Children's Society fights child poverty and neglect, and helps all children to have a better chance in life.

Right now, in Britain today, there are children and young people who feel scared, unloved and unable to cope. These are the children and young people we work with. We listen. We support. We act. We help make small changes that make a big difference. Because no child should feel alone.

Collections taken during the Christingle service on **December 24th** supports this work.



Ayers Road
Old Trafford
Manchester M16 7GX

St John's is committed to keeping our church open daily and we want to improve access to our building for young and old. We need to raise £20,000 for new fixed ramps outside and inside the church. As part of our Mission Action Plan, we are establishing a 'Make Way' appeal to help us reach our target. Our Christmas Concert with Julia and Ekaterina on **December 15th** is the start of this journey, so, if so minded, please give generously to help us 'make way' for all.

Cover: Lines from 'In the bleak midwinter' by Christina Rossetti. Watercolour © Stephen Ray

