

## Choir for Christmas

IF YOU have ever wondered about joining the choir, try a taster by singing with us at the Christmas carol services.

There are three remaining Monday practices, at 8pm in church: 19 November plus 3 and 10 December.

The services are on Thursday 13 and Sunday 16 December.

If this invitation appeals to you, have a word with me, or any of my lovely choir members.

**Lin Cooper**

## CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

### Planning Meeting

**WEDNESDAY 21 NOVEMBER 7.30PM**

COME join the team in Church Room to plan our Family Fun Christingle Christmas Eve Services. Our theme this Christmas is: 'A STAR IS BORN'.

## CONFIRMATION!

**MONDAY 26 NOVEMBER 7.30PM**

IVOR and Wayne are being confirmed (yay!!), please do come along and support them at Christ Church, Downend Road, Downend BS16 5UF.

## ST STEPHENS

### CHRISTMASTREE!

**FRIDAY 30 NOVEMBER 9.30AM**

GET in the festive spirit and join others decorating the Christmas Tree in church ready for the Fayre, we sure have fun together while doing so!!



[www.saintstephensoundwell.org](http://www.saintstephensoundwell.org)

## ST STEPHENS CHURCH

# Christmas FAYRE

**SATURDAY 01 DECEMBER 2~4PM**

PLEASE donate bottles of wine, and empty jam jars.

*For more details, or offers of help please contact Sue Humphrey or Jenny Bishop.*

## SISTERS OF THE CHURCH

### Christmas appeal

PLEASE help the Sisters with their annual food parcels for the deserving poor of our city. The Sisters have asked us for tins of: Ham and Festive Biscuits (in date please) and also men's/women's gloves.

Bring your donations to church by or on 2nd December. Thank you.

### Gift tree

AS IN previous years we will have a Gift Tree in Church, on Sunday 9 December.

This is to donate money for the Sisters of the Church who then provide Argos vouchers for children to buy a Christmas present. Any money left over goes to a fund to help families who need gas and electric during the winter

Envelopes are available at the back of the Church for you to use and to put on the Gift Tree on Sunday 9th December.

Thank you for your continued support.

### Donations by phone

TEXT **SSSC10 £10** or **SSSC05 £5** to **70070** to make a difference to PCC St Stephens Soundwell.



18 NOVEMBER 2018

SECOND BEFORE ADVENT

READINGS: DANIEL 12:1-3; MARK 13:1-8

# SHINE LIKE STARS!

AMBASSADORS of the Heavenly Kingdom... are called to save lost souls And face the sufferings of a long journey.

We wear wind and dust as our clothes,  
We walk without staves,  
We have no gold or silver in our purses,  
We learn from the birds in the sky,  
We rely on God for all our needs.

We appear to be poor but we make others rich.  
We appear to have nothing,  
But we have more than others in every respect.

We commend the new life of Christ,  
We advocate the true Gospel of the Cross.  
Wherever we go we leave beautiful footprints,  
Wherever we go we open the door of grace.

We should lead sinners back to the Lord,  
Lead the Prodigal Son to see God the Father.  
We do our work with the strength of the Spirit,  
Not with our tongues, teeth and lips.  
We are ready to sacrifice our lives for the love of others,  
Not relying on paper, pens and essays.  
We will follow the instructions of the Lord to call the common people,

We will respect the Lord's wish to save people from damnation.  
Not until the flags of love are planted all over the world  
Should we think that we have done our duty.

© Chinese meditation for Christmas and Easter.  
Page 46, from Shore to Shore. USPG 2003

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:**  
DANIEL 7:9,10,13,14; JOHN 18:33-37