

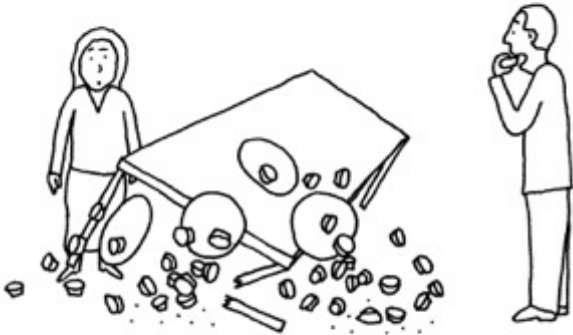
THE COMMONER

ST BARNABAS CLAPHAM COMMON

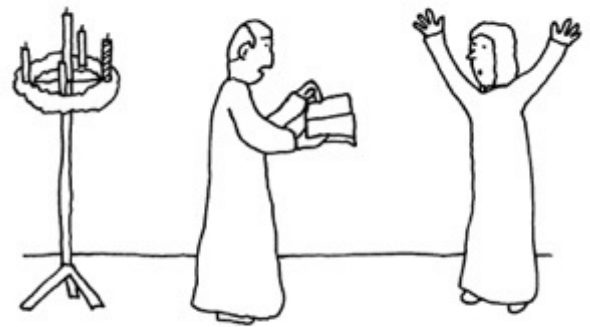
24 NOVEMBER 2022 ISSUE #50

ADVENT

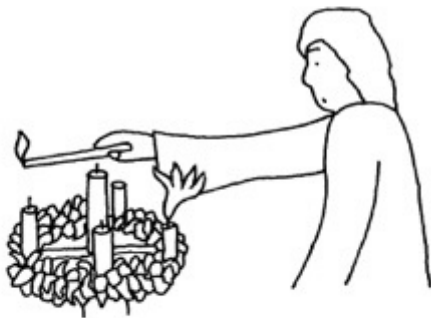
HAZARDS



TABLES BUCKLING UNDER SHEER WEIGHT OF MINCE PIES



UNREST OVER THE CORRECT WEEK TO LIGHT THE PINK CANDLE



ADVENT WREATH FIRES



SUPERMARKETS RUNNING OUT OF ORANGES

Cartoonchurch.com

It's been a hard day in the Church of England's Department of Desperate Ideas For Family Services, and the Advent planning meeting has gone nowhere so far. It is well known from previous experiences that glitter, shaving-foam and play-dough are more trouble than a 45-minute service is worth, whilst Ecclesiastical Insurers continue to refuse cover for anyone who attempts anything involving live fireworks.

Bereft of ideas, the despairing room is on the verge of defeat...until, in this barren wilderness of creativity, a lone voice speaks up:

Well, I don't know what you'll make of this but I've been thinking... It's early stages at the moment but what about if we were to give everyone an orange... tie a red ribbon around it... yeah? Stay with me here... and then, um, we force a candle into the top.

I mean, that's as far as I have got with it so far - any thoughts?

Hmmmm... comes the thoughtful response. You might be on to something... but, er... I'm just wondering... it feels like there's something missing, like it just needs something else to make it really fly...

OK, fair point, fair point... so, what about... I don't know...skewering some sweets onto a cocktail stick and then, like, sticking that in the orange too?

Ha! Brilliant - sweets on a cocktail stick - I love it. It's so good in fact, let's not just do a single cocktail stick... let's do four of them instead! This is great stuff team. Now we just got to work out what it means! Any ideas?

Christingle a hazard? Never! But what does it mean? Join us on 4 December and find out.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES



CHRISTINGLE

SUNDAY 04 DECEMBER – 3.30PM

CAROLS & CANDLES

SUNDAY 11 DECEMBER – 6.00PM

FAMILY CAROLS

SUNDAY 18 DECEMBER – 11.00AM

NATIVITY

SATURDAY 24 DECEMBER – 4.00PM

FAMILY COMMUNION

SUNDAY 25 DECEMBER – 10.00AM

CALLING ALL YOUNG PEOPLE

If you are at Secondary School, don't miss the Band Practises on Friday 25 November and 09 December. Richard will be rehearsing with musicians and all those who would like to sing at the Family Carols Service on the 18th. It will be a lot of fun and end even if you don't want to play or sing, you can just come to watch, chat and have some pizzas! Friday 25th/9th - 5.30pm-7pm, via Door 3.

THURSDAYS



We are delighted to be opening St Barnabas every Thursday for a community lunch or an activity for the elderly. We are alternating serving lunch, with running an activity, and once a month, the lunch is preceded by the Taize Communion Service.

It has been a great success and we have c.15 people attending regularly. These last few weeks, we have had the pleasure to celebrate Vera's 100th birthday and on another occasion, we spent the afternoon remembering Pat Roodenberg who was fond of the Thursday Fellowship. Looking ahead, we are hoping to bring in a new activity class to St Barnabas designed for the elderly. Speak to Yvonne or Sandrine if you want more information or know someone who might be interested.

GLASS DOOR NIGHTSHELTER

After 2 winters operating under strict Covid rules the night shelter reopens in St Barnabas on Thursday 08 December, with Monica McFarland as Volunteer Co-ordinator. We have asked Maud Gozlan, from Glass Door, to let us know what it meant for them to be able to reopen the 'Wandsworth circuit'.
This winter, Glass Door will start again operating night shelters in Wandsworth for the first time since the pandemic. In close partnership with St Barnabas Church, the homeless charity will offer a nutritious meal, a safe place to sleep and breakfast to 25 people each night between December 5th, 2022, and March 26th, 2023. Glass Door caseworkers will also work on-site with shelter guests, supporting them to build their own pathway out of homelessness. "We're glad to be able to work again so closely with St Barnabas Church and the local community who have been supportive of our work for the past 6 years, especially in these times of growing need." says Geoff, Operations Manager at Glass Door. In total, 6,300 nights of safety will be provided through the shelters across London. Thank you.

Maud Gozlan

CREATION CARE

We've been busy this Fall! After an October full of environmental focused Creationtide activities for all ages, we've continued our momentum!



Early November saw a flurry of gardening activities aimed at a Spring to attract more birds and bees. Andrew got on with various gardening tasks with the

help of some enthusiastic young helpers. We've also been actively researching possible grants to help fund our ongoing activities as well as some potential larger projects including solar panels and LED lighting. These are BIG projects which require a great deal of review and expense. Stay tuned to hear how those develop. Also, someone dropped an idea into our dropbox to replace the faucets in the toilets to prevent overuse of water due to high pressure. We are investigating this and want to say thanks for the suggestion - it takes all of us to make our church more sustainable! If you have more ideas, please drop them in the box or speak to a member of our group.

As the holiday season approaches, why not take an environmental approach to gifts? Consider purchasing fair trade/ethically sourced gifts; regift something you don't need any more or purchase gifts from a charity resale shop; reuse wrapping paper and bags to avoid waste. The efforts you go to may help those receiving the gifts be more mindful too!

Monica McFarland (Eco Church)



ST BARNABAS CLAPHAM COMMON
CHURCH FOR ALL - INCLUDING YOU

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Twitter: @stbarnabasSW4

BATTERSEA WELCOMES REFUGEES
INVITE YOU TO A

Carol Service

CELEBRATING A
REFUGEE CHRISTMAS



6PM

SUNDAY, 11 DECEMBER 2022

ST BARNABAS CHURCH
CLAPHAM COMMON NORTHSIDE, SW4 9SW

WITH MIDDLE EASTERN FESTIVE TREATS