

The Week Ahead

The Methodist Church 

Hi everyone,
and welcome to
The Week
Ahead.

This will be the
last Week
Ahead before

we're back in the New
Year (which technically
makes this **The Three
Weeks Ahead**).

Out-of-hours support

lineover Christmas:

17-23 Toby Fairclough

24-27 Michael Ivatt

28-31 Toby Fairclough

01-06 Andy Jackson

Toby: 07969 985 376

Michael: 07881 783 812

Andy: 020 7467 5164

Wishing you a very Merry
Christmas and a Peaceful &
Blessed New Year.

Toby



On the box

An Island Parish

Friday, 8:30pm

BBC Two

The last in the series and
the Revd Richard Hines is
preparing to leave.

Songs of Praise

Sunday, 4:45pm

BBC One

A feast of carols and festive
music from the Royal
Albert Hall.

Midnight Mass

Christmas Eve, 11:45pm

BBC One

The Archbishop of
Southwark, the Most Revd
Peter Smith, celebrates

Christmas Message

The Revd Steve Wild and Dr Jill Barber, President and Vice-President of the Conference, have reminded people of **the importance of 'welcome'** this Christmas. [Click here](#) to read the **full text** and [here](#) to listen to the **podcast**.

Office Closures

The Connexional Team Office at Methodist Church House will be **closed** from **noon on 24 December until 8am on 4 January**. During this time, please do leave the team phone messages and emails and they will endeavour to get back to you in the new year. For **urgent media enquiries**, please refer to the out-of-hours support line on the left.

Postage

Monday 21 December is the last day for sending your 1st class post off before Christmas (Saturday is the deadline for 2nd class). That means it's not too late to join the likes of [Vice-President Jill Barber](#) and [Youth President Craig Gaffney](#) in sending [#OneMoreCard](#) to Ian Duncan Smith asking that children have **#enough** to live on.

Finding a Home for Homeless Jesus

Renowned **artist Tim Schmalz** has offered one of his celebrated sculptures, depicting **Jesus as a homeless man** sleeping on a bench, to be displayed outside of Methodist Central Hall Westminster. An application is currently being reviewed by Westminster City Council and you have until **Monday 21 December** to [register your support](#).

COP21: A response

The Methodist Church in Britain have [released a statement](#) regarding the **recent agreements** made at the COP21 climate change summit in Paris which concluded last Sunday. The Joint Public Issues Team

Midnight Mass from St George's Cathedral, Southwark.

Radio

Celebration
Sunday, 7:30am
BBC Radio Wales

A service from Wrexham Methodist Church, led by the Revd Philip Poole.

The Disused Chapel
Monday, 11:00am
BBC Radio 4

Petroc Trelawny investigates what has happened to a distinguishing feature of Cornwall, its chapels.

Midnight Mass
Christmas Eve, 11:30pm
BBC Radio 4

Midnight Mass from Brentwood Cathedral in Essex, led by the Bishop of Brentwood, the Rt Revd Alan Williams.

See [The Radio Times](#) for further listings.

have also written a blog post **in reflection** of the event, which you can [read here](#).

Reflections

In the coming week the [Prayer Handbook](#) will be encouraging us to pray with Christians in India, Asia, Australia, New Zealand, Britain and Ireland. The theme for next week's [A Word in Time](#) Bible studies is **A Child is Born** written by the Revd Brian Beck.

Video Thursday: Happy Christmas

[This week's film](#) is from the President and Vice-President of the Conference, the Revd Steve Wild and Dr Jill Barber, **wishing you a Happy Christmas**.

***The Week Ahead** is a regular mailing that aims to give people a heads up on upcoming events and opportunities, as well as highlighting new information and resources. We don't always remember everything, so please do [email us](#) if you have any feedback or ideas for items to include.*