



30 November 2025

Advent Sunday

Welcome to our services today

- 9am Parish Eucharist at St John's
10.30am Parish Eucharist at St Mary's
4pm Christingle Service at St Mary's (*for safety in a busy service, please note no buggies in church, secure storage available*)

Music: Organist St. John's: Keith Green, **Hymns: 41, 47, 27.**

Organist St. Mary's: Rosemary Nayyar, **Hymns: 11, 18, 3, 478.**

Anthem: Ye watchers and ye holy ones.

The Benefice Online Service: 'Meeting Point' is for you if you missed our services in church, or for further reflection during the week.

<https://www.stmaryhighamferrers.org/sunserv1>

- Tues 2 2pm *Interment of Ashes at St John's*
7.30pm Bell Ringing practice at St Mary's
Wed 3 10am Morning Prayer in the Lady Chapel, St Mary's
Thurs 4 10am Said Eucharist at St Mary's with Coffee & Chat to 12noon
2pm *Mothers Union Advent reflections in St Mary's*
Fri 5 5.30pm First Friday Club in the Bede House
7pm Choir Practice at St Mary's
Sat 6 2pm *Wedding rehearsal at St Mary's*

Sunday 7 December 2025 Second Sunday of Advent

- 9am Parish Eucharist at St John's
10.30am All Age Eucharist at St Mary's

Collect

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility. That on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen

Isaiah 2:1-5

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come

the mountain of the Lord's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be raised above the hills;
all the nations shall stream to it.

Many peoples shall come and say,
'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
to the house of the God of Jacob;
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths.'

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

He shall judge between the nations,
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into ploughshares,
and their spears into pruning-hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.

O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the Lord!

Matthew 24:36-44

But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore, you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

Post Communion

O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear, he may not find us sleeping in sin but active in his service and joyful in his praise. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Children are welcome at all our Services in both churches, we have children's areas with colouring and toys and are looking at ways to better include them in all we do. We understand that some of our services can seem long to little ones, and it is absolutely fine if they need to wriggle or play or move around.

For your Prayers.

Our prayers have been asked for: Brian Bond, Linda Bond, Robert Britchford, Ian Challen, Mary Coleman, Marian Cox, Pat Ellis, Peter Etheridge, Christine Franklin, Gill Headland, Sandra Hill, Kathy Jackson, Sarah Knight, Marion Knott, Sally Mayes, Daphne Pullen, Val Robinson, Elizabeth Swindley, Sue Thompson, Stewart Wiles, Clare Yorke. **St John's:** Jo Barrie, Pauline Brown, Hilary Goodman, Lesley Littlejohn, Brenda May, Lynn Redgate, Alison Smith.

In memoriam:

Year's mind anniversaries: Olive Dearsley, Frank Sudborough, Edward Buxton, Winifred Watts, Albert Kilsby, Doris Walker, Alfred Smith, Sheila Holpin, Frederick Chapman, Douglas Rolton, Rose Britchford, Thirza Whiting, Jack Wilson, Robert Seaton, Francis Barton, David Pugh, Norma Finn, Richard Blackwell, Alan Matthias, Caleb Stokes, Grace Cunningham, Melbourne Bass, Harry Pashler, Gerry Darnell, John Roddis, Frederick Wilson, Edith Slater, Amos Martin, John Swann, Douglas Smith, Richard Llewellyn, Hilda Ford, William Spriggs, Thomas Lovell, Sarah Parker, Hazel Scull, Alice King, Charles Stimpson, Isaac Bird, William Watts, Benjamin Catlin, Margaret Whiteman.

NOTICES

ST. MARY'S

Higham Sparkle – a huge thank you to the whole team who put this together, helped at, made donations to or came along on the day. Between you a fabulous £4,500 was raised, and just as importantly some great connections were made with local people. Despite the foul weather it was amazing to see how many people still came into town determined to have fun.

Mothers Union - meeting in St Mary's on Thursday 4 December, 2 pm, to celebrate Advent, led by Revd Louise. If you have a reading you would like to share please bring it along - if you don't want to read it yourself we can find a volunteer to read on your behalf. Visitors will be warmly welcomed and there is no charge, just donations for refreshments. Come and join us!

School & Nursery Christmas Services: A note is on the back table with days & times with details of how many volunteers needed, please complete if you can help. Thank you.

Blue Christmas Service, 4pm, Sat 20 December

Civic Carol Service, 6pm, Sun 21 December

Crib Services, Christmas Eve, 2.30 & 4.30pm

Midnight Mass, Christmas Eve, 11.30pm

ST JOHN'S

Tea and Cakes, 2-4pm, 20 Jan, 17 Mar. Knit and Natter, 1-3pm, 27 Jan, 24 Feb

Chelveston Carols of Praise, 3.30pm, 14 December

Christmas Day Celebration Eucharist 9am

For all enquiries and requests for pastoral help:

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Website www.stmarystjohnunited.co.uk

Churchwardens:

St. John's; Arthur Wright and Andrew Wager 07789 286398

St. Mary's; Nico Springman and Sandy Coleman 07519 396654

Please send enquiries by email if possible, and a reply will be sent as soon as our administrator Ria is next in the office.

Mthr Louise is off duty on Friday 5 December