



1 December 2024

**Advent Sunday**

**Welcome to our services today**

- 9am Parish Eucharist at St John's  
10.30am Parish Eucharist at St Mary's (not all age due to Christingle later)  
4pm Christingle Service at St Mary's

**Music: Organist St. John's:** Sam Stringer, **Hymns 36, 46, 41.**

**Organist St. Mary's:** Alan Cafaude, **Hymns: 7, 3, 342, 9.**

**Anthem: People Look East**

**The Benefice Online Services; 'Meeting Point' and 'Celtic Midweek Liturgy'** are for you if you missed our services in church, or for further reflection during the week. <https://www.stmaryhighamferrers.org/online-worship>

### Next Week

- Tues 3 7.30pm Bellingring Practice at St Mary's  
Wed 4 10am Morning Prayer at St Mary's  
Thurs 5 10am Eucharist at St Mary's, with Coffee and Chat to 12noon  
7pm Celtic Service in the Chantry Chapel  
Fri 6 5.30pm First Friday Club in the Bede House  
Sat 7 *12noon – Baptism at St Mary's*  
*1pm Wreath Making in the Bede House*

### Sunday 8 December 2024 Second Sunday of Advent

- 9am Parish Eucharist at St John's & Breakfast Church in the Bede House  
10.30am Parish Eucharist at St Mary's

### Collect Prayer.

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.**

## **Jeremiah 33:14-16**

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfil the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: 'The Lord is our righteousness.'

## **Luke 21:25-36**

'There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in a cloud" with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.'

Then he told them a parable: 'Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.'

'Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.'

## **Post Communion Prayer.**

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:** Karen Addis, Brian Bond, Liz Boughton, Nola Brockhouse, Simon Brown, Ian Challen, Marian Cox, Lynda & Peter Etheridge, Christine Franklin, Andrew Fulcher, Colin Gilkes, Margaret Janowski, Sarah Knight, Marion Knott, Sally Mayes, Lorcan McLaren (age 11), Elizabeth New, Emily Ogden, Freda Pack, Lynne Pocock, Ken & Val Robinson, Fr. Nichols Spencer, Elizabeth Swindley, Stewart Wiles, Clare Yorke. **St John's:** Jo Barrie, Pauline Brown, Nick Kirk, Lesley Littlejohn, Dr Northover, Brenda May, Lynn Redgagte, Arthur & Anita Wright.

**In memorium:** Allen Freeman, Anne Riffe, Anthony New

**Year's mind anniversaries:** Rose Britchford, Thirza Whiting, Jack Wilson, Robert Seaton, Francis Barton, David Pugh, Norma Finn, Richard Blackwell, Alan Matthias, Caleb Stokes, Grace Cunnington, 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, Doris Tilley, Elsie Smith, Karen Wharton, Evelyn Carpenter, George Evans, Gerald Sanders.

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## **NOTICES**

### **BENEFACTORS**

We are approaching a busy time of year, please do keep an eye on this newsheet and the weekly mailing for all the events happening. But also for help needed requests, many hands make light work! Lots of visitors will be about and within our churches, we all need to pray hard that they feel something of the divine when they are with us for whatever reason.

Cards and posters are available in both churches giving details of our Christmas services, please do share them with family and friends. The first one on the 1 December – our Christingle Service at 4pm. It may just involve an inflatable something...or two...and possibly some fun and laughter!

## ST. MARY'S

**\*\* Higham Sparkle 23 November \*\*** A massive THANK YOU to all who worked so hard to make this event a huge success, on the day and beforehand. It was fabulous to see so many people coming together so that despite the weather Higham still had a good dose of Sparkle fun. Thanks to all our visitors and stall holders, we raised a fabulous sum of £4,900. Well done!

**Mothers Union** members will be attending the MU Deanery Advent Carol Service at St Katharine's church, Irchester on Thursday 5 December at 2 pm.

**Confirmation Service.** Bishop John has now agreed the service outline, which combines a confirmation service with a Sunday morning Eucharist, adding in lighting the Advent Candles and including our *KickStart* children. A full busy service with we hope a full church. Refreshments follow in the Bede House

## ST JOHN'S

Soup, tea & cakes, 1-3pm 21 Jan      Knit and Natter, 1-3pm 28 Jan

**Chelveston Carols of Praise - 15 Dec at 3pm** with mulled wine & mince pies.

### **For all enquiries and requests for pastoral help:**

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Website	www.stmarystjohnunited.co.uk

Churchwardens:

St. John's; Arthur Wright 01933 624530, and Andrew Wager 07789 286398  
St. Mary's; Sandy Coleman 07519 396654

The Benefice administration office is closed until Friday 6 December 9.30am to 2.30pm. Please email if possible and await a reply.

*Mthr Louise is off duty on Monday/Tuesday 2 & 3 December*

***Christingle Service – Sunday 1 December 4pm – St Mary's***

***Christmas Carols of Praise – Sunday 15 December 3pm – St John's***