

# NOTICES / DIARY DATES

| Event  | Date and time   | Venue                                    |
|--|---|--|
| Team Bereavement "Drop In"   | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Mon of the Month<br>(3:00 to 4:00 pm) | St. Mary's Church,<br>Princes Risborough |
| Team "Tea for All" for anyone who is feeling lonely and wants to drop in for tea, cake and a chat. | Last Sunday of the Month<br>(2:30 to 4:30 pm)         | St. Mary's Church,<br>Princes Risborough |
| Nine Lessons & Carol Service   | Sun. 17 <sup>th</sup> December<br>(6:00 pm)           | St. John's Church                        |
| Team Morning Prayer  | Wed. 20 <sup>th</sup> December<br>(8:45 am)           | St. Mary's Church,<br>Princes Risborough |
| Crib Service   | Sun. 24 <sup>th</sup> December<br>(3:00 pm)           | St. John's Church                        |
| Midnight Mass of the Nativity  | Sun. 24 <sup>th</sup> December<br>(11:15 pm)          | St. John's Church                        |
| Parish Communion with Carols   | Christmas Day<br>(10:00 am)                           | St. John's Church                        |
| <b>NO SERVICE</b>  | <b>Tues 26<sup>th</sup> December</b>                  | <b>St. John's Church</b>                 |
| St. John The Evangelist Holy Communion   | Wed. 27 <sup>th</sup> December<br>(10:00 am)          | St. John's Church                        |
| Parish Communion   | Sun. 31 <sup>st</sup> December<br>(10:00 am)          | St. John's Church                        |
| Said Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)  | Sun. 7 <sup>th</sup> January<br>(8:00 am)             | St. John's Church                        |
| Parish Communion with Carols   | Sun. 7 <sup>th</sup> January<br>(10:00 am)            | St. John's Church                        |

## ONE CAN TRUST

One Can Trust are trying to create bags that enable families to make a nutritious meal. Soup is not needed, but all donations for the food cupboard are welcome, including tinned meat, tinned fish, lentils, pasta, tinned tomatoes and cook-in sauces. We are being told that donations to the Trust have been down recently, but demand remains high. We have a donations box outside the Church Porch. Thank you.

### Key Contacts:

|                                   |   |              |
|-----------------------------------|---|--------------|
| Vicar:                            | Rev. Canon Tony Bundock   | 01844 347741 |
| Team Rector:                      | Rev. David Williams   | 01844 346984 |
| Licensed Lay Minister:            | Mr Graham King  | 01844 343910 |
| Churchwardens:                    | Mrs Margaret Gray   | 01844 347094 |
|                                   | Vacancy   | -            |
| PCC Secretary & Pew Sheet editor: | Mr Mark Roberts<br><a href="mailto:mark.roberts975@btinternet.com">mark.roberts975@btinternet.com</a> | 01296 437345 |

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## PARISH CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, LACEY GREEN



Coming to Faith, Growing in Faith

Week Commencing  
**SUNDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2023**  
**3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

### WELCOME TO TODAY'S WORSHIP

You are warmly welcomed to St. John's Church, particularly if you are new to our congregation or are a visitor.

## WORSHIP AT ST. JOHN'S

Wearing masks in church is now optional except for the Lady Chapel where we request that masks are still worn in this part of the Church. The Lady Chapel area will continue to be set aside as a mandatory social distancing area for those who feel they need to socially distance themselves from others. Please respect this. A bottle of sanitiser is available in the Chancel in front of the Chancel Screen for people to use, if they wish, before receiving Communion. The Common Cup is being used during our Communion services with a separate chalice for those who wish to receive by Intinction. We will generally be serving coffee after the 10:00 am Service on Sundays.

We have a card reader available, so we are able to take cashless offerings during services / donations. Linked to this we also have a QR code for members of the congregation to donate via their Smartphone, which can be used as of now. You will need a QR reader App to use this. Thank you for however you choose to make your offering.



### Weekly Services:

#### SUNDAY

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| 8:00 am  | In-church Said BCP Communion Service (1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sun) |
| 10:00 am | In-church Parish Communion Service with Hymns                                |

#### TUESDAY

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| 9:30 am | In-church Said Parish Communion Service |
|---------|---|

## FOCUS ON ... THE ADVENT WREATH - LOVE

On the Third Sunday of Advent, we light the third candle on the Advent Wreath as we reflect on the message of John the Baptist. This third candle is rose pink in colour; and it symbolises the divine gift of love. The Third Sunday of Advent is also known as Gaudete Sunday. The Latin word Gaudete translates into English as "rejoice". The overriding theme of the liturgy throughout the season of Advent is one of expectation and preparation for the feast of Christmas as well as for the second coming of Christ, but the penitential exercises which are regarded as suitable to that spirit of preparation are on Gaudete Sunday intended to be suspended, as it were, for a short while, in order to symbolize our joy and gladness in the promised gift of divine redemption". In his key message, "prepare ye the way of the Lord", John the Baptist, the forerunner, spoke bravely that we should share what we have with others, treat each other kindly and seek to show God's love in all that we say and do.

***Lord Jesus, your servant John the Baptist called people to prepare for your coming by caring for one another. Give us willing hearts to reach out to all people in need with your love and compassion. Amen.***

As the third (rose pink) candle is lighted:

*God our Father, you gave to Zechariah and Elizabeth in their old age a son called John. He grew up strong in spirit, prepared the people for the coming of the Lord, and baptized them in the Jordan to wash away their sins. Help us, who have been baptized into Christ, to be ready to welcome him into our hearts, and to grow strong in faith by the power of the Spirit. We ask this through Jesus Christ, the light who is coming into the world. Amen.*

Canon Tony Bundock

## COLLECT FOR 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever, Amen.



## THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS

Isaiah Ch. 61 VV. 1 – 4 & VV. 8 – 11  
1 Thessalonians Ch. 5 VV. 16 – 24

John Ch. 1 VV. 6 – 8 & VV. 19 – 28

## PRAYER CHAIN PRAYER



Heavenly Father, as we rejoice in the coming of our Saviour, may we seek to prepare the way of His coming by advancing His kingdom in the world and caring for the needs of those around us; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us evermore, Amen.

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER FOR 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts;  
kindle in us the fire of your Spirit that when your Christ comes  
again we may shine as lights before his face;  
who is alive and reigns now and for ever, Amen.

## *This Week you are Asked to Pray for:*

- Those in the parish and further afield who are sick or in need that they receive peace and healing, including; Mary Mines, Rita Probert, Roger Hussey, Martin Moore, Graham King, Dick Field, Helena Oecken, Marcus Barthropp, Ursula Glynn-Jones, Tony Scott and Sheila Wright.
- The recently departed. May their souls rest in peace. We pray for their families and friends at this difficult time.
- We pray for our government, that they will lead wisely and fairly for all.
- We pray for countries where there have been natural disasters, for their peoples and for the various aid organisations bringing relief.
- We pray for Peace in the Ukraine, the Sudan, Israel and The Gaza Strip. That there will be a rapid end to the fighting and the suffering for their Peoples.
- We pray for our National Health Service and the Doctors, Nurses and Support Staff.
- For the country of South Africa, for the people of Cape Town and Diocese of Kimberly and Kuruman including our linked parish of St. Mary's Kuruman.