

Advent 3



Advent Prayer

Holy God as we continue on our Advent journey, give us the courage and perseverance to complete that which have started, in Jesus' name we pray. Amen

SERVICES FOR 15th DECEMBER

3rd Sunday of Advent

4.30pm, Croughton, Carol Service

5pm, Hinton, Carol Service

10.30am, Farthinghoe, Benefice Holy Communion

Colour purple

Amen

~ ~

Readings

Zephaniah 3:14-20,

Philippians 4:4-7,

Luke 3:7-18

Advent 3

John the Baptist

Today we think about John the Baptist. Jesus said, 'No one more important than John the Baptist has ever been born; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.' Amen.

Come soon, Lord Jesus!

The first three candles are lit; Jesus is the light of the world. A light no darkness can ever put out.

Advent candles tell their story as we watch and pray, longing for the Day of Glory, 'Come, Lord, soon,' we say.

Pain and sorrow, tears and sadness changed for gladness, on that Day.

Prophet voices loudly crying, making pathways clear; glimpsing glory, self-denying, calling all to hear.

*Through their message - challenged, shaken - hearts awaken: **God is near!***

John the Baptist, by his preaching and by water poured,

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brought to those who heard his teaching news of hope restored: 'Keep your vision strong and steady and be ready for the Lord.'

Amen

Collect

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

Post Communion

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

SERVICE FOR 21ST DECEMBER

4.00pm, Aynho Carol Service

SERVICES FOR 22nd DECEMBER

Advent 4

11.00am, Croughton, Morning Prayer

5.30pm, Evenley Carol Service

9.15am, Farthinghoe, Morning Prayer

11.00am, Hinton, Holy Communion

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### **PRAYERS**

We pray for all who live or work within the parishes of our Benefice, and for those known to us who are sick in body, mind, or spirit, at home or in hospital and who need God's loving touch at this time. --Among them are -

- Paula, Pip & Katie, Douglas, Jackie, Suzanne, Norman, Bruce, Tony, Peter, Dawn, Janet.
- For all those struggling with health issues, especially those in hospital & those awaiting treatment.

**If you have an article to appear in the weekly Benefice Pews News, please contact Joyce Stevens (01280) 702861 or email [tonyjoyce2021@gmail.com](mailto:tonyjoyce2021@gmail.com)**

## Advent – a time of preparation

- *For Mo and family at this extremely sad time with the loss of Alan.*
- **Holly** as she continues to be monitored. Thank you so much for your prayers.
- Wendy & Jeremy
- For HM King Charles III & all members of the Royal family, **especially for HM Queen Camilla**. For the staff & the many volunteers of Katherine House Hospice who provide specialist palliative care for adults with life limiting conditions across North Oxfordshire, South Northamptonshire & South Warwickshire.
- For all the emergency services providing support over the Christmas season
- For our observation of the season of Advent as we prepare for the Christ Child at Christmas.
- For the visits of the travelling cribs as they journey around our villages.
- **For all those making preparations for our Christmas services – Our, leaders, readers, choirs, organists, church cleaners and bell ringers.**

***Our churches are always open for private prayer; all are welcome. - (Croughton -by appointment only)***



### **A prayer for the world**

**Father God, we pray for our world today.**

**We pray for everlasting peace and hope to abound.**

**Many are affected by natural disasters: floods, droughts and forest fires.**

**Many are struggling with conflict, poverty and the global food crisis.**

**O Lord, we pray for your provision, peace and protection.**

**In Jesus' name, Amen.**

### **Dates for December**

**15<sup>th</sup>, Croughton, 4.30pm, Carol Service**

**15<sup>th</sup>, Hinton, 5pm, Carol Service**

**21<sup>st</sup> Aynho - The Carol Service – with Children's Nativity – will be on Saturday 21st December at 4pm.**

**22<sup>nd</sup>, Evenley 5.30pm, Carol Service**

**24th, Croughton 10.00pm, Midnight Communion**

**24<sup>th</sup>, Evenley, 11.30pm Midnight Communion**

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# Advent – a time of preparation

## Dates for January 2025

**6<sup>th</sup> The Epiphany**

**10th Farthinghoe, 10.00am –  
11.00 coffee, cake & chat in the  
vestry all welcome**

**14<sup>th</sup>, Evenley Village soup  
lunch, 12.00 – 1pm  
All welcome**

Have a look at our Benefice  
website.

[www.astwickvalebenefice.org](http://www.astwickvalebenefice.org)

Also email address  
office [@astwickvalebenefice.org](mailto:@astwickvalebenefice.org)

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If you wish to be on the Pews  
News emailing list, please contact  
Joyce Stevens at:-

[tonyjoyce2021@gmail.com](mailto:tonyjoyce2021@gmail.com)

Printed copies can be found in  
some of our churches.

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Church Contacts

Ministry Teams

Rev. George Frost, Rector
01869 810903

email -rev@gfrost.name

Assistant Priest-

*Rev. Terry Richards 01869
811251 – (Temporarily
unavailable)*

Lay Readers

Carrie O'Regan 01280 702300

May Leng 07903 801143

Wardens

Aynho

Andrew Bellamy 01869 810847

Kathy White 01869 810418

Croughton:

*Angie Robbins 01869 811445,
Evenley:*

Jose Golding 07708 539191

Farthinghoe: Position vacant

Hinton-in-the-Hedges:

Sam Mainds 07860 465000

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## **And Finally**

*'Did you know'*

*An old Advent season card  
tradition is that when you receive  
your first card with the Three  
Wise Men (also known as the  
Magi or Three Kings), you pin it to  
the back of your front door, and it  
gives you luck for a year!*



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