

PARISH NEWS AND NOTICES

The Year of Matthew: Happy New Year! Yes, Advent Sunday marks the beginning of a New Christian Year. Matthew portrays Jesus as the great Teacher, the new Moses, in his Gospel. In the Gospel that bears his name, St Matthew so orders his account of Jesus teaching that clear sections have been discerned within it. As we go through this year with St Matthew's Gospel lets us listen attentively to the voice of the Lord, opening our ears to hear his voice and not hardening our hearts.

Lights Switch-on Day 26th November: Thank you to everyone who helped with yesterday's 'Christmas Fayre' in St Mary & St Giles. A huge amount of work went into preparing for the day and into making it a success. In due course a full breakdown of the financial result will be given, and it may be that a total figure will not be announced this morning. Although, at this stage it is important also to acknowledge with gratitude the time and effort by our volunteers spent in making lots of people welcome to this holy place. Please continue to pray for all those who visited our church that they may come to know the love of Christ for themselves.

Advent Leaflets: The customary Advent Leaflets listing the Advent & Christmas worship and activities is now available at the back of church. Please do take a copy and if you wish to take for a friend or relation to encourage them to come along and join us then please do so. We can always print more leaflets if needed.

Fundraising & Diary Planning Meeting: On Thursday 1st December at 7:00pm in the Rectory our customary annual Fundraising and Diary Planning Meeting will be held. All those involved with leadership of the many Parish Groups are invited to be part of this important planning meeting. In many ways this is a vital meeting to be at in order that as many events requiring the use of our Churches and the Parish Hall are logged in the Parish Diary and clashes are avoided. It also helps in that the Hall Caretaker and Booking Secretary then knows when the Parish Hall is free to let. If you can be there please make a note of this in your diary today. If there are any parish group leaders who cannot be present at this planning meeting please send along a representative from your group. *Thank you.*

SMSG Church Library: We have a small selection of Advent books as part of our display this month (including Delia Smith). There are also some Christmas books for children, and more next month. The fiction books we were promoting last month are back on the shelves, so if you might have some free time after Christmas do borrow one to enjoy then. Best wishes, *Tricia and Jenny.*

The Parish of STONY STRATFORD with CALVERTON



**St Mary & St Giles, Stony Stratford
with All Saints, Calverton**

**THE FIRST SUNDAY
OF ADVENT**

27th November AD 2016



Welcome to the Parish Church where, after the example of the early church, we celebrate the Eucharist: the "apostles teaching and fellowship, the breaking of bread and the prayers" (Acts 2:42)

The new Liturgical Year commences with the first Sunday of Advent. In this new liturgical year, the Church not only wishes to indicate the beginning of a period, but the beginning of a renewed commitment to the faith by all those who follow Christ, the Lord. This time of prayer and path of penance that is so powerful, rich and intense, endeavours to give us a renewed impetus to truly welcome the message of the One who was incarnated for us. In fact, the entire Liturgy of the Advent Season, will spur us to an awakening in our Christian life and will put us in a 'vigilant' disposition, to wait for Our Lord Jesus who is coming:

'Awaken! Remember that God comes! Not yesterday, not tomorrow, but today, now! The one true God, "the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob", is not a God who is there in Heaven, unconcerned with us and our history, but he is the-God-who-comes.'

(Benedict XVI)

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Arrangements for Banns, Holy Matrimony & Baptisms:

May be made by contacting Fr Ross on 01908 562148

Confessions: May be made after Masses or by appointment.

Parish Website: <http://parishstonystratfordcalverton.com>

To Hire the Parish Hall:

'Phone Nicola Crompton on 07979 653515

INFORMATION

The Order of Mass is on the laminated card. The references to the Scripture Readings, which may be either listened to or followed in the Bibles provided, along with the Psalm and the Prayer of the Faithful are also included in this Sheet. Hymns are unannounced but are indicated on the boards towards the front of the Nave.



Large Print Orders of Service are available at St Mary & St Giles. Please ask a Sidesman for a copy.



A Loop System is in operation at St Mary & St Giles - please set hearing aids to the "T" position.



Access for the Disabled at St Mary & St Giles is via the path on the north side of the church. **At All Saints** it is via the South Porch.



Gluten-Free Hosts: if you are on a Gluten-Free diet and would like a Gluten-Free Host when you receive Holy Communion please mention this before Mass to one of the Sidesmen who will arrange this for you. Please make yourself known to the Parish Priest so that he is aware of your need.



Collections: for the continuing mission of Christ are taken while the altar and gifts of bread and wine are being prepared. If you are a visitor and a taxpayer and would like to make a donation please use the Gift Aid envelopes provided at the end of each row - please fill in your details. This enables us to reclaim, from the Inland Revenue, 25p for every £1 donated.



We observe a period of quiet prayer and reflection before the celebration of Mass, between the end of the Organ Voluntary and the Sacristy Bell being rung, in order that we may be better prepared to worship almighty God.

Reception of Holy Communion: All Baptised and Confirmed Christians are encouraged to receive Holy Communion. If you are unwell or uncertain about receiving the Precious Blood please do still receive the Host. Our Chalice Assistants are not authorised to permit the intincting (dipping) of the Host.



Please join us at the back of church for tea or coffee after Mass. A priest will be near the main door shortly after the end of Mass should you need to talk with one.

Please take this Service Sheet home with you and use as part of your devotions during the week.

Prayer Thought

The mood of the Advent season which we begin today is one that invites us to be attentive. It is a time to get ready. Not just for all the things we associate with Christmas, the gifts, the cooking, the Christmas tree and Santa. No, this would be to mistake the wrapping for the gift, and to get caught into the externals only. In Advent we prepare first and foremost for a person, we prepare for the gift of God himself in Jesus.

(STAND) THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

In the name of the Father, ✠ and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The priest greets the people

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

and also with you.

The Lighting of the First Advent Candle

The priest invites a child to light the first Candle on the Advent Wreath, and then leads the people in prayer

Blessed are you, Sovereign Lord, God of our Fathers: to you be praise and glory for ever! You called the patriarchs to live by the light of faith and to journey in the hope of your promised fulfilment. May we be obedient to your call and be ready and watchful to receive your Christ, a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for you are our light and salvation. **Blessed be God for ever.**

praise and glory. Amen.

(STAND)

THE CONCLUDING RITE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

For the dismissal, the Priest faces the people and blesses them using a form appropriate to the Season:

May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Communion Reflection: Watching for Christ

He watches for Christ who has a sensitive, eager, apprehensive mind; who is awake, alive, quick-sighted, zealous in honouring him; who looks out for him in all that happens, and who would not be surprised, who would not be over-agitated or overwhelmed, if he found that he was coming at once.

This then is to watch; to be detached from what is present, and to live in what is unseen; to live in the thought of Christ as he came once, and as he will come again; to desire his second coming, from our affectionate and grateful remembrance of his first. *Cardinal John Henry Newman*

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Today: 8:00am 9:30am 6:00pm	FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT Mass at All Saints PARISH MASS at St Mary & St Giles Advent Carol Service by Candlelight at St Mary & St Giles
<i>Intention:</i>	Our Parishes
Monday: 9:30am 8:00pm Pray for:	Feria 'Squeals on Wheels' in the Parish Hall Bellringing Practice the Sick, Housebound & Handicapped
Tuesday: 10:30am <i>Intention:</i>	Feria Mass + Elevenses at All Saints all Missionary Orders & Societies
Wednesday: 9:00am 6:30pm	St Andrew, Apostle Calverton Apprenticing Charity Meeting Arrangements for Banns, Holy Matrimony & Baptisms in the Parish Office
7:30pm <i>Intention:</i>	Mass at St Mary & St Giles For the Church and People of Scotland
Thursday: 10:30am 1:00pm 7:00pm <i>Intention:</i>	Feria Mass at St Mary & St Giles Aid in Sickness Charity Meeting 2017 Parish Diary Planning at the Rectory For Forward in Faith
Friday: 8:00am 7:30pm <i>Intention:</i>	Feria Mass at St Mary & St School Parish Singers Rehearsal For all Children
Saturday: 10:00am 4:00pm 4:30pm Pray for:	St Francis Xavier, Priest Musical Bite Coffee Morning Confessions Evening Prayer 1 of Sunday All Liturgists & for Visitors to our Parish Churches
Next Sunday: 9:30am 11:00am <i>Intention:</i>	SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT PARISH MASS at St Mary & St Giles FAMILY MASS at All Saints Our Parishes
Readings next Sunday - 2nd Sunday of Advent	
1st Reading:	Isaiah 11:1-10
Psalm:	72
2nd Reading:	Romans 15:4-9
Gospel:	Matthew 3:1-12

THE COMMUNION RITE

The Lord's Prayer

The priest introduces the Lord's Prayer: (STAND)

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.**

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and for ever.

Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles: Peace I leave you, my peace I give you, look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will. Who live and reign for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

The Agnus Dei

(KNEEL)

When sung at SMSG: (Page 8 of Mass Setting)

**Jesus, Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, Bread of Life, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, Cup of Hope, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, Prince of Peace, you take away the sins of the
world, have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, Word of Love, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
grant us peace.**

The priest shows the consecrated Host to the people, saying:

Behold the Lamb of God,
behold him who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called
to the supper of the Lamb.

**✠ Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

An antiphon and/or hymns may be sung quietly as the people reverently receive Holy Communion. It is customary to kneel throughout the distribution of Holy Communion except when going forward to receive the Blessed Sacrament and upon returning to your place.

Prayer after Communion

(STAND)

Let us pray.

And all pray in silence with the Priest for a while, unless the silence has just been observed. Then the priest, with hands extended, says the Prayer after Communion; at the end of which the people acclaim:

Amen.

All then pray:

**Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body
and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer
you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us
out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your**

Penitential Rite

The priest invites the people to call to mind their sins and repent of them.

**Most merciful God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned
in thought and word and deed.
We have not loved you
with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours
as ourselves.**

**In your mercy
forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we
are,
and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly,
love mercy,
and walk humbly with you our God. Amen.**

The priest pronounces the general absolution

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, ✠ pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

(Music for the Mass texts is available on a card in each of our Parish Churches for those who wish to use it)

The Kyries: When sung at SMSG: (Page 1 of Mass Setting)

Kyrie, eleison.

Kyrie, eleison.

Christe, eleison.

Christe, eleison.

Kyrie, eleison, eleison.

Kyrie, eleison, eleison.

The Gloria in excelsis is omitted in Advent

The Collect

Let us pray.

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.**

The First Reading (Matthew Lucas)

Isaiah 2:1-5

(Old Testament Page 582 in the Bibles) reminds us that Christ is the light of the world, which through us shines for all men to show the way to God.

The Responsorial Psalm

(from Psalm 122)

**R/. I rejoiced when I heard them say:
'Let us go to God's house.'**

I rejoiced when I heard them say:
'Let us go to God's house.'

And now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem. ®

It is there that the tribes go up,
the tribes of the Lord.

For Israel's law it is,
there to praise the Lord's name.

There were set the thrones of judgement
of the house of David. ®

For the peace of Jerusalem pray:

'Peace be to your homes!

May peace reign in your walls,

in your palaces, peace!' ®

For love of my brethren and friends
I say: 'Peace upon you!'
For love of the house of the Lord
I will ask for your good. ®

**R/. I rejoiced when I heard them say:
'Let us go to God's house.'**

The Second Reading (Lydia Jones) Romans 13:11-14

(New Testament Page 135 in the Bibles) tells us that Christ is our light; we must try to live like people who have nothing to hide.

Gospel Acclamation (STAND)

Alleluia, alleluia!
Show us your merciful love, O Lord,
and grant us your salvation.
Alleluia!

The Gospel Matthew 24:37-44

(New Testament Page 23 in the Bibles) reminds us that Christ is our light and that it is according to this light we will be judged.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

As the Gospel is announced the people respond:

✠ ✠ ✠ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

At the conclusion of the Gospel Reading:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

The Homily

The Nicene Creed (STAND)

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, (all bow during the next three lines) by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayer of the Faithful (STAND)

Priest: My brothers and sisters, in joyful expectation of his coming we pray to Jesus, saying:

V/. Maranatha.
R/. Come, Lord Jesus.

Intercessor: Come to your Church as Lord and Judge. We pray for . . . Help us to live in the light of your coming and give us a longing for your rule.

Come to your world as King of the nations. We pray for . . . Before you rulers will stand in silence.

Come to your people with a message of victory and peace. We pray for . . . Give us the victory over death, temptation and evil.

Come to us as Saviour and Comforter. We pray for... Fiddy Abraham, Andrea, Anna Archer, Henry Blake, Shirley Brown, Steve Cooper, Liz Halliwell, Jane Holman, William Leese, Terry Mason, Sue Maton, Pete, Tony Oakley, Shirley Scrutton, Wendy, Diane West, Marian Wright... Break into our failure and distress and set us free to serve you for ever.

Come to us from heaven with power and great glory, to lift us up to meet you with all those who have died, especially..... and for those whose anniversaries of death occur during this week...**27th** Roy Benjamin, Robert Blyth; **28th** Gemma Phillips, Rachel Scarff, Marjory Langley, Godfrey Forward, Marion Moorcroft, Noel George; **29th** Marjorie Harrison, John Haseldine, George Taylor, Arthur Grieve; **1st** Linda Sear, Lillian Sear; **2nd** Kate Edwards, Anthony Card; **3rd** Gladys Fairclough, Robert Fountaine, Brenda Tootill..., that with all your saints and angels, we may live with you for ever.

✠ Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord.
And let light perpetual shine upon them.

Priest: Father, hear the prayers of your people, gathered at this altar in faithful obedience to your Son, who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

The Gifts of Bread and Wine are brought to the altar by Anna & Rosie Page. Then priest says the Offertory Prayers as we sing a hymn (either standing or sitting). A collection is taken and brought forward. If the hymn has finished and the priest is still saying the Offertory Prayers the people respond:

Blessed be God for ever.

(STAND) Pray brethren that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God the almighty Father.

May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his Church.

The priest says the Prayer over the Gifts to which all respond:
Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

The priest sings a Eucharistic Preface appropriate to the celebration, after which all join in the acclamation: (KNEEL)

When sung at SMSG: (Page 5 of Mass Setting)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full, are full of your glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes,
who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

The priest continues the Eucharistic Prayer of thanksgiving, recalling the command of Jesus Christ. 'Do this in memory of me.'

Priest: The mystery of faith: (Page 5 of Mass Setting at SMSG)

**All: We proclaim your Death, O Lord,
and profess your Resurrection
until you come again.**

The Eucharistic Prayer continues with the priest interceding for the Church, the world, all those present at this celebration, and the Faithful Departed. At the Doxology at the end of the Eucharistic Prayer all join in the Great Amen.

(Page 7 of Mass Setting at SMSG)

Priest:for ever and ever.
All: Amen.