

**Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,
now and at the hour of our death. Amen.**

V/. And the Word was made flesh;
R/. **And dwelt among us.**

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee;
blessed art thou among women,
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

**Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,
now and at the hour of our death. Amen.**

V/. Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God.
R/. **That we may be made worthy
of the promises of Christ.**

Let us pray.

We beseech thee, O Lord, to pour thy grace into our hearts;
that as we have known the Incarnation of thy Son Jesus
Christ by the message of an angel, so by his ✕ Cross and
Passion, we may be brought unto the glory of his resurrec-
tion. Through the same Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Recessional: Wachet Auf! – Sleepers Wake! - J S Bach

*Please remain seated until the Recessional Music has ceased. This is
integral to the liturgy of the Organ Mass and therefore applause is
not appropriate. Once concluded, leave the Parish Church of St Mary
& St Giles via the Parish Hall; and at All Saints via the West (Tower)
door. The Priest will be outside in the churchyard.*

Masses this week:

SUNDAY: THE THIRD (GAUDETE) SUNDAY OF ADVENT
09:30 PARISH MASS at St Mary & St Giles
11:15 FAMILY MASS at All Saints
Intention: *The Parish*

Tuesday Feria
10:30 Mass at All Saints
Intention: *For the recently unemployed*

Wednesday Feria
18:00 Mass at St Mary & St Giles
Intention: *for all Doctors and Nurses*

Friday O Adonai
12:00n Angelus & Mass at St Mary & St Giles
Intention: *For Parish Priests*

NEXT SUNDAY: THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (O Oriens)
09:30 PARISH MASS at St Mary & St Giles
11:15 FAMILY MASS at All Saints
18:00 Choral Carol Service at SMSG
Intention: *The Parish*

Prayer after Mass:

"Every prayer-filled day sees a meeting with the God who
comes; every night which we faithfully put at his disposal is
full of his presence.

And his coming and his presence are not only the result of
our waiting or a prize for our efforts: they are his decision,
based on his love freely poured out.

*Carlo Carreto, The God Who Comes,
Darton, Longman and Todd.*

PARISH NOTICES

Christmas Worship - Seat Allocations: It would be helpful if all
those who have not reserved their seats via the previously issued
application form could return their completed forms to me by 12:00
noon today in order to ensure they are able to reserve a seat at the
Service they wish to attend. At 18:00 hours today I shall be advertis-
ing remaining seat allocation publicly via the various Stony Strat-
ford Facebook Groups and the Parish Noticeboards. I have already
received numerous requests for seats from those outside the regu-
lar worshipping community, and have advised them that such gen-
eral requests will be received once advertised. So, please get your
application in by 12:00noon today. Thank you.

Cards for Fr Joseph: A number of people have asked if cards may
be sent to Fr Joseph. If they are with me by next Sunday (20th) I will
ensure that he receives them before Christmas.

Omnia Christus est nobis!

To us Christ is all!

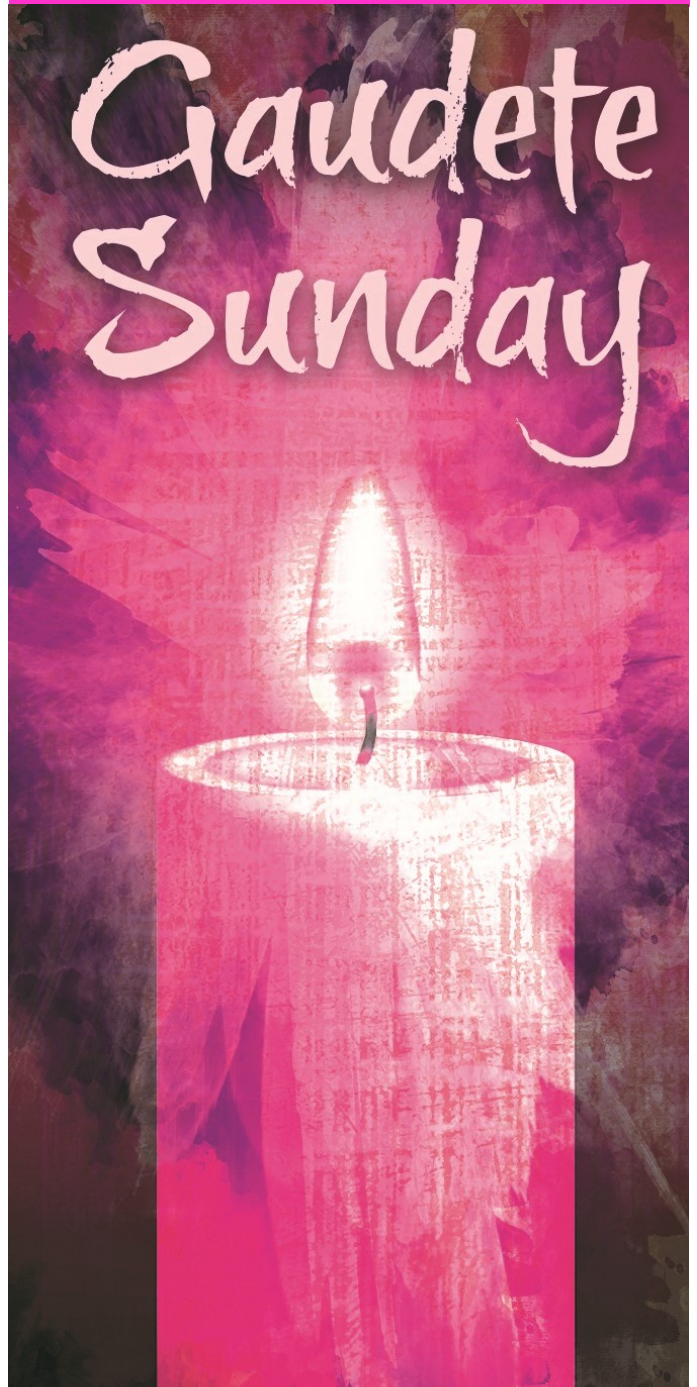


**St Mary & St Giles with All Saints,
Parish of Stony Stratford with Calverton**

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

13th December AD 2020

**Gaudete
Sunday**



*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)*

INFORMATION



Safeguarding: Our Parish Churches have adopted and follow the Diocese of Oxford's recommended policies for the safeguarding of children, young people and vulnerable adults. Details of these policies and of our Safeguarding Officers are available on the noticeboards inside each Parish Church. Should you have any safeguarding concerns then please see one of them.

Restrictions During the Current Pandemic:

Unfortunately, we are required to observe the following restrictions:

- ◆ **FACE MASKS: MUST BE WORN** by all attending worship as required by Law, apart from the Priest and any Lay Ministers assisting him. **N.B. IF YOU CANNOT WEAR A MASK FOR MEDICAL REASONS YOU MUST WEAR A FACE SHIELD.**
- ◆ Only 3 or 4 **Church Bells** are permitted to be rung, because ringing chambers are not large enough for distancing requirements when a full team is present. The Tower Captain and Assistant must keep a record of who is present to ring on what dates and ensure that distancing is maintained on the staircase. Bell ringing practice is not permitted.
- ◆ **Entry and exit** to our Parish Churches - entry via the West (Tower) Door and exit via the Parish Hall at St Mary & St Giles - entry via the South Porch and exit via the West (Tower) Door at All Saints
- ◆ There cannot be an **social gathering** in either of our Parish Churches before or after Mass - social intercourse may take place in the churchyards before or after Mass.
- ◆ 'Shared' **Mass cards** are not permitted. Please do not take a copy for someone else - either retain it for your devotions at home, or place it in the bin provided at the exit points in both churches.
- ◆ Until further notice all **communal singing**, singing rehearsals and concerts are prohibited in all places of worship. It is now possible to have a small choir and Organ Music played.
- ◆ **Collections:** Cash donations and envelopes must be placed either in the large plinth donations box at St Mary & St Giles, or in the bowl by the south porch door at All Saints. We are not allowed to pass a collection plate/bag to one another.
- ◆ **'The Peace'** may not be shared physically. We may however join our own hands and bow to each other at The Peace.
- ◆ **When going forward to receive Holy Communion** - at St Mary & St Giles please approach centre of the altar rail in single file via the main aisle, observing a two metre distance, and return to your place via the side aisle. At All Saints: again single file two metres apart but keeping to the south porch side of the main aisle on approaching the altar rail and returning to your place on the vestry side. N.B. in both churches Holy Communion must be received whilst standing and please extend your arms as far as you are able. Textile kneelers and cushions have had to be removed.
- ◆ **'Receiving Holy Communion'** is in one kind, i.e. The Host. This must be received in the palms of our hands - not on the tongue.
- ◆ **Please maintain a two metre distance** from each other on approaching the altar rails and on leaving our churches after Mass.
- ◆ **Lavatory Facilities.** Strict hand-hygiene must be observed and hand-dryers only used. In the lavatory at each church there is a spray sanitiser and single use sanitising wipes for each user to wipe the seat, flush-handle, water taps, sink and door handle. Used wipes should be placed in the waste baskets provided.

All of these restrictions, whilst not what we would wish for, do not detract from the fact that we are able to receive the Lord in his Blessed Sacrament.

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

Prayer Thought

On this, the third Sunday of Advent, we move a step closer to the mystery of divine outpouring which we will celebrate at Christmas. In today's readings we hear the voices of heralds announcing the coming event. A prophet from the Hebrew tradition proclaims an end to brokenness and captivity. John the Baptist likens himself to a voice in the desert announcing the presence of the life-bearing Light who is already among us and whom we do not yet fully recognize. Thus, today's readings anticipate and unleash the joy of the Christ event which we await.

(STAND) **THE INTRODUCTORY RITES**

Organ Introit:

Passacaglia in D minor - Dietrich Buxtehude

have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin 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.

The Communion Antiphon is sung by the Cantor after the Priest has received Holy Communion:

R/. Speak to them: Ye who are frightened be comforted now, and do not be afraid. Behold, your own God shall come soon and he will save us!

The wilderness and solitary place shall be glad for them :
and the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose

It shall blossom abundantly :
and rejoice, even with joy and singing.

Organ Voluntary during the Distribution of Holy Communion: Intermezzo - Ian Higginson

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 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.

'THE ANGELUS'

The Memorial of the Incarnation

V/. The Angel of the Lord brought tidings to Mary;
R/. **And she conceived by the Holy Ghost.**

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee;
blessed art thou among women,
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

V/. Behold the handmaid of the Lord;
R/. **Be it unto me according to thy word.**

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee;
blessed art thou among women,
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

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 holy 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)

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

**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.

Priest:for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

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)

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

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,

*As the Sacristy Bell is rung we STAND, and the Cantor sings the **Introit Antiphon:***

Rejoice ye in the Lord God always, and again I say rejoice. Let your moderation be known unto all men; the Lord is at hand. Be careful for nothing, but in everything by prayer with thanksgiving, let your requests be known unto God.

V. Lord thou hast become gracious unto thy land *
Thou hast turned away the captivity of Jacob.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world with out end. Amen.

Rejoice ye in the Lord God always, and again I say rejoice.

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 Third Advent Candle

The priest lights the Third Candle on the Advent Wreath in honour of St John the Baptist and then leads the people in prayer:

Blessed are you, Sovereign Lord, just and true, to you be praise and glory for ever! Your prophet John the Baptist was witness to the truth as a burning and shining light. May we your servants rejoice in his light, and so be led to witness to him who is the Lord of our coming kingdom, Jesus our Saviour and King of the ages.

Blessed be God for ever.

Penitential Rite (STAND)

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

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us, forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you
in newness of life
to the glory of your name. 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.**

The Kyries:

Kyrie, eleison.

Kyrie, eleison.

Christe, eleison.

Christe, eleison.

Kyrie, eleison.

Kyrie, eleison.

The Gloria in excelsis is omitted during Advent.

The Collect

Let us pray.

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.**

The First Reading

Isaiah 61: 1-2a,10-11

(Old Testament Page 628 in the Bibles) In the synagogue at Nazareth our Lord read the first lines of this passage and said that they had come true in his own work and person.

The Responsorial Psalm

(from Luke 1)

R/. My soul rejoices in my God.

My soul glorifies the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.
He looks on his servant in her nothingness;
henceforth all ages will call me blessed. ©

The Almighty works marvels for me.
Holy his name!
His mercy is from age to age,
on those who fear him. ©

He fills the starving with good things,
sends the rich away empty.
He protects Israel, his servant,
remembering his mercy. ©

The Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24

(New Testament Page 173 in the Bibles) Advice from Paul to the Thessalonians.

Gospel Acclamation

(STAND)

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
he has sent me to preach good news to the poor.

Alleluia!

The Gospel

John 1: 6-8,19-28

(New Testament Page 78 in the Bibles) John the Baptist replies to questions about his role and ministry.

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, St John the Baptist came as "a witness to speak for the light," a voice crying in the wilderness. As children of our heavenly Father let us pray for the coming of that light...

Intercessor: that all God's people in the Church militant here in earth may be watchful and ready for Christ's coming.....

V/. Lord, hear us.

R/. Lord, graciously hear us.

That the leaders of the nations may guard the liberty of all their people and work together, for justice, peace and harmony in our world...

For our parish and the strengthening of our common life, that God may assist us to help the poor and downhearted to know the voice of our heavenly Father and to see the kindness of those who worship him. May he also bless us with the grace and resources needed to sustain and further the work of mission and ministry within our parish...

For all those who are in pain or suffering at this time, either in hospital or at home, especially....Shirley, Jane, Cecilia, Christel, Joan Carrigan, Margaret DeSousa, Richard Desousa, Ronnie DeSousa, Rene Hazlewood, Fr Joseph, Lilith, Lorna, Sr Janet, James, Peter, Rosie, Fr Francis Rodriguez-Veglio, Susie, Dee, Stacey, Isa, Wendy, Janet, David, Adam Viard, Eric, Davida Wiseman...

That those who have died may rest in peace, in particular we are asked to pray for the souls of...Theresa Martin, Sylvia Mundy, Charles Smith, Danny Stott, Gren Wiseman....and for those whose anniversaries of death occur during this week, amongst them...**13th** John Syrratt, Irene Haseldine; **14th** Emily Fountaine; **15th** Henry Holman, John Swann, Brian Barnes, Russell Herbert; **16th** Edwin Read; **17th** Daisy Buttrum, Vera German, Michael Barford; **18th** John Jesson, Michael Houghton (Bishop), Frederick Webb; **19th** Winifred Culver, Fred Buttrum, Ann Jones...

✠ Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord.

And let light perpetual shine upon them.

For ourselves during the week ahead that we may hold on to what is good and avoid every occasion of sin and evil...

Priest: Almighty Father, your mercy is from age to age, and you raise up the fallen and bring succour to the heart of your people. Hear our prayers for all suffering people in our world today. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

*The Gifts of Bread and Wine are placed upon the altar. The Cantor sings the **Offertory Antiphon:***

Thou art gracious, O Lord God, unto thy homeland. Thou hast turned the captivity of Jacob: thou hast wiped out the iniquity of thy own people.

*Then priest says the Offertory Prayers to which the people respond: **Blessed be God for ever.***

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