

*Wishing you all a very peaceful and happy Christmas*



St Mary the Virgin | Finedon

*A community together in faith.*

## Sunday Link

*Connecting a community*

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2024  
Advent 4

HYMN BOARD	
Processional Hymn	<b>38 The people that in darkness sat</b>
Gradual Hymn	<b>238 For Mary mother of our Lord</b>
Offertory	<b>505 Lord Jesus Christ</b>
Communion	<b>Plainsong, Creator of starry night</b>
Anthem	
Recessional Hymn	<b>49 Come Thou redeemer of the earth omit v 4</b>

Contacts		
<b>Rev'd Morna Simpson</b>		07526 026794 revmorna@gmail.com
<i>Rev'd Morna's Parish days are Tues, Thurs &amp; Sun</i>		
<b>Churchwardens</b>	Julie Kightley Colin Needle	07936 377030 01933 682098

### Services this week:

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> at 9:30am and Christingle 4pm  
Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> 11am & Midnight Mass 11.30pm  
Wednesday, Christmas Day 9.30am

### Please remember in your prayers this week:

Janice Pinnock, Jean Rochester, Christopher Munns, Barry Ireland, Amy Su Armitage, Velma Munns, Dave Cheney, Peter Fisher, Janet Maclean, Nina Beetson and Oliver Grigg.

For those who have died, rest in peace Cynthia Foster and Heather Smith.

And those whose Years Mind occurs at this time,

Dorothy Gibson, Jack Bramley and Evelyn Collis

## Notices

### Floodlights:

#### In memory of the Ballard family

Enid, Geoff and Robert.  
Elizabeth and Emma

#### Paul and Sheila Harris

In memory of three family members  
Gary, John and Margaret.

### Christmas Draw 2024

A list of winners will be on the Notice Board in Church.

**Thank you** to all those who have made this monthly coffee morning happen, for the lush cakes, generous raffle prizes and the fund-raising team's time. Thank you to all who have supported the monthly occasion.

### Floodlights:

#### In memory of a dearly beloved Mum

Evelyn Collis  
Ian, Sue, Irene and Susan

#### In memory of a dearly beloved Nan

Evelyn Collis  
The Grandchildren and great grandchildren

### Saturday Activities

On the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month 10-12 our church doors are open for our monthly Craft & Chat group.

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday 10-12 we hold our Free Family Funday full of seasonal craft activities for children and families.

**Please note, there will be no Family Fun Day or Craft and Chat in December. Back in the new year folks.**

### Christmas Candles

The Christmas Remembrance Candles will be out on Sunday for Midnight Mass. If you would like your loved one's candle lit on Christmas Eve, please put 50p in the candle holder. If you need a new one please speak to Janet Harris, sits on the back but one row in Church. They are £2.50 each.

### Heating update

The heating was scheduled to be working last Sunday. Unfortunately, the new piece of pipe could not be fixed into the old piping as it had deteriorated too far.

**Watch this space for an update.**

### Thank you

A big 'thank you' to all who in any way partake to enable us to worship in our Church and to all those people who attend the services.

Have a very happy Christmas and good health in 2025

## *Wishing you all a very peaceful and happy Christmas*

**Collect:-** Eternal God, as Mary waited for the birth of your Son, so we wait for his coming in glory; bring us through the birth pangs of this present age to see, with her, our great salvation in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

**Old Testament Reading** A reading from the book of the prophet Micah.

The LORD says to his people: But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore, he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labour has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; 5 and he shall be the one of peace

**This is the word of the Lord.**

**Thanks be to God**

**Magnificat sung by the choir.**

**New testament reading from the letter to the Hebrews.**

When Christ came into the world, he said, 'Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt-offerings and sin-offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, "See, God, I have come to do your will, O God" (in the scroll of the book, it is written of me).' When Christ said, 'You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings' (these are offered according to the law), then he added, 'See, I have come to do your will.' He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

**This is the word of the Lord**

**Thanks be to God**

**Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.**

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.' And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?' In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.' Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, 'Teacher, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.' Soldiers

also asked him, 'And we, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation and be satisfied with your wages.' As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.' So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

**Post Communion Prayer:-** Eternal God, as Mary waited for the birth of your Son, so we wait for his coming in glory; bring us through the birth pangs of this present age to see, with her, our great salvation in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

