



St Mary the Virgin | Finedon

A community together in faith.

Sunday Link

Connecting a community

Sunday 8th December 2024

Advent 2

HYMN BOARD

Processional Hymn	27 Hark the glad sound
Gradual Hymn	393 Brother sister let me serve you
Offertory	58 Long ago the prophets knew
Communion	39 Wake O wake
Anthem	
Recessional Hymn	87 Hail to the Lords anointed

Contacts

Rev'd Morna Simpson	07526 026794
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<i>Rev'd Morna's Parish days are Tues, Thurs & Sun</i>	
Churchwardens	Julie Kightley 07936 377030
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Services this week:

Sunday at 9:30am Tuesday at 11am

Cycle of Prayers:

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, Roger Manning and Oliver Grigg. Rest in peace faithful servant Cynthia who died this week almost 100 years old.

And those whose Years Mind occurs at this time Rene Alwen Higham

Notices

Floodlights:

Trefoil Guild

Christmas Draw 2024

Tickets are still available. This is a major fund raiser, your help in buying and selling tickets would be greatly appreciated. Envelopes containing 2 books of tickets are at the back of the church, addressed to those on the electoral roll and/or who are regular worshippers. Please collect your envelope, details to obtain more tickets are enclosed. If we have missed your name please ask Colin, Julie or Jean.

Thank you. Return the counterfoils by 17th November to win.

The Draw will take place on Thursday 19th December in the Mission Room at the seasonal Outreach Coffee morning from 10am. Wear your Christmas jumpers, hats or angel wings. The raffle will be drawn during the morning.

So far, since January, we have raised £1,522.85 for the Restoration fund.

Thank you to all those who have made this monthly event 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.

Christmas Raffle hampers

Looking for donations for the Christmas Draw hampers. There is a list on the Church notice board.

Saturday Activities

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

On the 3rd 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.

Open Book

A reminder that there is a meeting after Advent prayers in Church on Thursday December 5th for those taking part.

There will also be meetings on 13th Feb and 27th March.
Pete

Faculty Approval & Heating update

The application for the reordering project has now been given approval by the Chancellor of Peterborough Diocese. We are in the process of setting up a working team to oversee the project and funding opportunities. We will keep you informed of any progress. Obviously, our current priority is repairing the heating, by locating the leak. We are waiting on the final proposal from the contractor and hoping this will be resolved shortly. **Colin**

Advent Prayer Meetings

Our weekly prayer meeting will take place on Thursday evenings from 7pm to 8pm at the Vicarage. I look forward in seeing you then. Morna.

St. Nicholas visits St. Mary's

Today, St Nicholas will be paying a visit his annual visit to St. Mary's. We hope that you will encourage any younger members of the community to attend. This service will be towards the younger members of the Church. We hope you will come.

St. Nicolas visit 9.30am service	8th Dec
Carols at the Bell Inn, 8pm	13th Dec
Schools Service, 9.30am in Church	19th Dec
Christmas Draw and Coffee morning	19th Dec
9 Lessons and Carols, 7pm	20th Dec
Christingle 4pm	22nd Dec
Midnight Mass 11.30pm	24th Dec
Christmas morning service 9.30am	25th Dec

Collect:- Almighty God, purify our hearts and minds, that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as judge and saviour we may be ready to receive him, who is our Lord and our God.

Amen

Old Testament Reading A reading from the book of the prophet Malachi.

Thus says the LORD God: I See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight – indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner’s fire and like fullers’ soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Congregational Response to Benedictus

Blessed be the Lord, who sets his people free.

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, for he has come to his people and set them free. He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour, born of the house of his servant, David.

R

Through his holy prophets he promised of old, that he would save us from our enemies, from the hands of all that hate us. He promised to show mercy to our forebears and to remember his holy covenant.

R

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham: to set us free from the hands of our enemies, free to worship him without fear, holy and righteous in his sight, all the days of our life.

R

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way, To give his people knowledge of salvation, by the forgiveness of their sins.

R

In the tender compassion of our God, the dawn from on high shall break upon us, To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

R

New testament reading

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.

My brothers and sisters, I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God’s grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the

defence and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

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

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, ‘The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: “Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”’

Post Communion Prayer:- Father in heaven, who sent your Son to redeem the world and will send him again to be our judge: give us grace so to imitate him in the humility and purity of his first coming that, when he comes again, we may be ready to greet him with joyful love and firm faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

On Thursday, 5th Dec, a group of us from St Mary’s led Worship at school using Open the Book. This was based on the Nativity. Thanks to Morna, Adrian, Jenny, Julie and Christine P for taking part. Thanks also to Julia for the prompt cards and Jo for organising things at the school. There will be an article in the January magazine - plus photograph!
Pete