First Sunday in Advent 29th November 2026. Year B

St Mary the Virgin | Finedon

A community together in faith.

Sunday Link

Connecting a community

Contacts

Rev Yvonne Desroches **07852304740**

Rev. Yvonne's working hours Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday please contact the Churchwardens outside these times.

Churchwardens	Julie Kightley	07936 377030
	Colin Needle	01933 682098

Services in Church

Sunday 29th November 9.30am Eucharist we welcome

Fr Tony Lynett and Evensong at 6pm we welcome

Fr Stan

Tuesday 1st December 11am Eucharist in Church

Hymns:-

Procession 31 Lo he comes with clouds descending
Gradual 368 All my hope in God
Offertory Sheet Longing for light
Communion 284 Bread of Heaven
Anthem This is the truth from above.
Recessional 37The Love will come

Please remember in your prayers this week the sick

Brian, Marilyn, Claire, Christopher Munns, Dave Cheney, Nina Beetson, Mark Butts, Georgie Grigg, David Wilson, Jonathon Reynolds, Antoinio Riccio, Snowy (Johnny Ellson), Michael, Nicky.

We also pray for those who have recently died remembering known to us and those whose Years Mind occur at this time remembering Donald Beetson.

Flower Festival 2026

Our final total and donation to Church Funds is £2.900.00
Thank you to everyone for your help and support.
Well done Flower Festival team. Christine C.

Sponsored Lights
John Julie and Joanne

Remembering Dad, Les Mason, on the anniversary of his passing.

Steve. Patsy. Catherine and their families

In memory of their Dad and Mum Bert and Elsie Cowley

Refreshments will be available at the Christmas Tree Festival

4-6 December. Donations of cakes would be greatly appreciated. Bring them to church or speak to Jean for collection. Very many thanks. Jean.

Christmas Tree Festival and Light Show Wonder and Wildlife: -

Fri 4th December 12pm to 4pm
Sat 5th December 10am to 4pm
Sun 6th December 11am to 4pm
Adults Entry £2.00 accompanied children free

Winter Glow Lightshow.

Friday 4th December 4.30 to 8.30pm
Sat 5th December 4.30 to 8.30 pm
Adults £2.00 entry, accompanied children free
Grotto £1.00 per child

The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal - We have received a thank you for all who supported the Poppy Appeal collection tin, in Church, with £22.62. The total raised in this District £ 1362.51. Thank you

The Children's Society - We have some Christingle candle collection boxes, if anyone would like to take one or two home and fill with change these are now available at the back of Church, please return on the 20th December. Thank you for your support.

Prayer for Lighting the Advent Ring.

Lord Jesus, light of the world,
born in David's city of Bethlehem,
born like him to be a king:
be born in our hearts at Christmas,
be King of our lives today.
Amen

Collect Almighty God, as your kingdom dawns, turn us from the darkness of sin to the light of holiness, that we may be ready to meet you in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ
Amen

A reading from the book of Isaiah:-

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A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah. O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil – to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. 9 Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity for ever. Now consider, we are all your people.

'This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God

Congregational response to Psalm 80:- Restore us, O God of hosts: Show the light of your countenance and we shall be saved.

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim. In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin and Manasseh, stir up your strength and come to help us.

R

Restore us, O God of hosts; show the light of your countenance and we shall be saved. O Lord God of hosts, how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?

R

You have fed them with the bread of tears; you have given them bowls of tears to drink. You have made us the derision of our neighbours, and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

R

Restore us, O God of hosts; show the light of your countenance and we shall be saved. Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, the son of man you have made so strong for yourself. And so will we never turn away from you; give us life, that we may call upon your name.

R

Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; show the light of your countenance and we shall be saved.**R**

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

My brothers and sisters: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind – just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you – so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.**

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark

Jesus said to his disciples: 'In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in clouds" with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake – for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.'

Post Communion prayer

O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear, he may not find us sleeping in sin but active in his service and joyful in his praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen. **Prayer for a new Priest.** Heavenly Father, We pray during this period of vacancy and ask that you will help us to share responsibility, grow in faith, love one another, care for those in need, reach out to others and welcome newcomers. Lord Jesus, guard and grow this parish as we serve you together in this period without a vicar.