

The Parish Church of Aldwick St Richard



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Registered Charity Number 1206799

SUNDAY 30TH NOVEMBER 2025

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sunday 30th

1st Sunday of Advent

08:00 Holy Communion

10:30 Coffee in the Mosse Hall

11:15 Parish Eucharist

Monday 1st December

St. Andrew

09:15 Morning Prayer (Pagham)

Tuesday 2nd

16:30 Mothers' Union Christmas party (Mosse Hall)

17:30 Evening Prayer on Zoom

19:00 Tuesday@7 (Pagham)

Wednesday 3rd

09:30 Morning Prayer (St. Richard's)

09:30 Breakfast Club (Manor Nurseries)

17:30 Evening Prayer on Zoom

Thursday 4th

09:15 Morning Prayer (Pagham)

10:00 Holy Communion (Pagham)

Friday 5th

No public worship today

Saturday 6th

No public worship today

St. Nicholas

Sunday 7th

08:00 Holy Communion

Advent 2

10:30 Coffee in the Mosse Hall

11:15 Parish Family Eucharist

12:45 Festive Lunch on Sunday in the Mosse Hall

The Church is open for private prayer Monday – Saturday 10.00-4.00 and until 4.00 on Sunday

The Collection plate - If you would like to make an offering, please use the contactless Payaz machine or the collection plate, both of which can be found by the door. Thank you for your generosity.

Hymns

Introit: 3 Come, thou long expected Jesus

Lighting of Advent Candles: (Sheet) Christ be our light

Gradual: (Sheet) Be still for the presence of the Lord

Offertory: 431 O Thou who camest from above

Final: 11 O come, O come, Emmanuel! (omit vs 2 & 7)

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 word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths. For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to God's house".

Jerusalem is built as a city that is at unity in itself. To which the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, the assembly of Israel, to praise the name of the Lord. For there are the thrones of judgement, the thrones of the house of David. **{Response}**

For my family and companions' sake, I pray for your prosperity. Because of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek to do you good." **{Response}**

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; let us live honourably as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 24: 36-44

But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore, you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

Prayers of Intercession

The sick and those who care for them: Janet Lock, Peter Dickinson, Sue and family, Edna Nolson, Don Durrant, Betty Kernan, Angela Wallis, Molly Hendry, Bob Coyne.

Recently departed:

Anniversary of death: Roy Chenappa (1st), Gwen Nicholls (4th).

We pray for and with the people of Ukraine; for the people of Israel, Gaza and the West Bank; for peace of the Holy Land; and for those who will weep, and fear, and die this day.

We pray for our PCC vacancies – Parish Safeguarding Officer and PCC Secretary.

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**

Next week's readings (Advent 2)

Isaiah 11: 1-10; Psalm 72: 1-7; Romans 15: 4-13; Matthew 3: 1-12

If you wish to take part in the Zoom evening prayer services on Tuesday or Wednesday, please contact trudikearsley@hotmail.co.uk for the link.

PCC vacancies. We are currently looking to fill the posts of Parish Safeguarding Officer and PCC Secretary. If you may be interested, please contact Revd Julian or one of the churchwardens. Training will be offered.

Leading intercessions. Would you like to get more involved in our services? Could you do this by joining a rota to lead the intercessions? If this is something you might be interested in doing, please speak to Rev'd Julian to find out more.

Advent Candles: Over the Christmas period our church will be decorated with candles. If you would like to sponsor an advent candle in memory of a loved one, please sign-up on the sheet in church and pop your donation (minimum £4) in the plate marked 'Advent candles'.

Christmas charities: It has become our tradition to donate the offerings from Christmas services to charities. This year the PCC has chosen 2 local charities - Stonepillow and My Sisters' House. We are also collecting items for Christmas boxes for rough sleepers who use Glenlogie (Stonepillow) – socks, gloves, hand warmers, scarves and chocolates and socks. There will be a collection box in church.

Community Groups and Events

Mothers' Union are holding a Christmas party afternoon tea on **Tuesday 2nd December** in the Mosse Hall at the earlier than normal time of **4.30pm**. All are welcome.

Breakfast club meets on **Wednesday 3rd December** at Manor Nursery Palm Court café, at **9.30am**. The cost of breakfast at Manor Nursery is between £10 and £14. All are welcome to come along and enjoy a cooked breakfast with like-minded people with wide ranging conversation! Any queries, please contact Alex Brockhurst 07792 544259.

Lunch on Sunday: The next Lunch on Sunday, a festive celebration with live music, will be on **7th December at 12.45pm**, following the Parish Family Eucharist. Sign-up sheets are available at the back of the church or email the Parish mailbox. If you would be willing to organise a future lunch, with a friend or two, please have a word with Angela Purser or email the Parish mailbox.

The Bear Necessities - a discussion group for women, meets next on **Monday 8th December at 7.30pm**, at The Bear Inn, Pagham. It will be a more social type Christmas meeting to enjoy each other's company and maybe share 'happy news' if we feel like it.

Pints of view – a conversation for men: meet with The Rev'd Clive Ashley on **Thursday 11th December at 7.30pm** in The Inglenook, Pagham. Buy yourself a pint and come have a chat on current affairs – no hidden agenda, a meeting of men of all ages.

The Christmas Tree Festival will be held on **13th and 14th December**, taking place **10am-4pm on Saturday and 2-4pm on Sunday** concluding with prize giving and Carol Sing Along. Please spread the word to friends and family about this sparkling event. Entry is £3 including a hot drink and a mince pie. Under 12's free. If you have time to help with welcoming visitors and making tea at the event, please speak to Carole Matthews.

Come & Sing Carols in the Mosse Hall, **2-4pm on Sunday 14th December**. This is an opportunity for anyone who likes singing Christmas carols to join forces with other enthusiasts to have fun in a very informal and relaxed atmosphere. Everyone is welcome and, should you want to extend your stay, we plan to join forces with visitors who have come to the finale of the Christmas Tree Festival in church and sing some popular favourites. Refreshments are included, with mulled wine and mince pies. The cost is £10 and proceeds will go to church funds. Further details from Arthur Robson.

The **Service of Nine Lessons and Carols** is on **Sunday 21st December at 6pm** This will be followed by mulled wine and mince pies with the drawing of grand prize Christmas Raffle.

Carols at The Bear, Pagham: Monday 22nd December at 7pm. We provide the music and carol sheets, The Bear provide mince pies, you have a good sing of favourite carols. A cracker of an evening!

Sounds Familiar, our local community choir, is presenting its Christmas Concert at St Richard's Church on **Monday 22nd December, at 7pm**. Admission is £5, and free for under 16s. Seasonable refreshments, will be available at the end of the concert.

Black Friday and Christmas shopping: When you are doing your online shopping, remember to use **easyfundraising** in support of St Richard's to help us raise additional funds, at no cost to you. If you're not sure how, please talk to David or Angela.

SUPPORT FOR THE FOODBANK IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER



Urgently needed this week: Spreads (peanut butter/honey), tinned rice puddings/custard, toilet rolls, UHT fruit juice, UHT milk. **We have plenty of:** pulses.