

Pews News

16th November 2025

2nd before Advent



Collect

Heavenly Father,
whose blessed Son was revealed
to destroy the works of the devil
and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life:
grant that we, having this hope,
may purify ourselves even as he is pure;
that when he shall appear in power and great glory
we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom;
where he is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Post Communion

Gracious Lord,
in this holy sacrament
you give substance to our hope:
bring us at the last
to that fullness of life for which we long;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

2nd Sunday before Advent Malachi 4.1-2a, 2 Thessalonians 3.6-13, Luke 21. 5-19
Christ the King Sunday next before Advent Jeremiah 23.1-6, Colossians 1. 11-20,
Luke 23. 33-43

Our gospel reading this week seems to resound with the themes of Advent. So a few weeks before Advent truly begins I wanted to ask how you will keep Advent this year? Will you read a book and possibly join our advent book club which meets online on Wednesday evenings in Advent and also includes Compline at the end to conclude our discussions. Maybe you will choose to Mark advent by caring for those in need by giving to charity or by giving your time and skills to a project. Some people choose to keep a reverse advent Calendar collect an item a day to give to charities like the Community larder, Food Bank, Weldmar or Julia House. So to inspire our advent preparation I would like to share with you a poem and a prayer below. May you have a blessed Advent and encounter Emmanuel God with us.

From God Christ's Deity Came Forth - Ephrem (4th century)

From God Christ's deity came forth,
his manhood from humanity;
his priesthood from Melchizedek,
his royalty from David's tree:
praised be his Oneness.

He joined with guests at wedding feast,
yet in the wilderness did fast;
he taught within the temple's gates;
his people saw him die at last:
praised be his teaching.

The dissolute he did not scorn,
nor turn from those who were in sin;
he for the righteous did rejoice
but bade the fallen to come in:
praised be his mercy.

He did not disregard the sick;
to simple ones his word was given;
and he descended to the earth
and, his work done, went up to heaven:
praised be his coming.

Who then, my Lord, compares to you?
The Watcher slept, the Great was small,
the Pure baptized, the Life who died,
the King abased to honor all:
praised be your glory.

by Ephrem of Edessa, translated by John Howard Rhys, adapted and altered by F Bland Tucker, from *St. Ephraim the Syrian, Hymns on the Faith*.

Short Prayer

Christ, come into our world of darkness
Light up our lives with your coming.
Fulfil all our longings with the joy of your birth
Strengthen our resolve to work for change in our world
And to share the hope of your birth that each Advent brings.
Amen

For Your Prayers this Week

Among those in special need: Fran Griffiths, Mike & Jenny Ford, Stella Joslin, Lesley, Gabrielle and Matthew, Fr David Harris, Lesley Harris, Edwin; Rupert; Carol, Paul & Linda Buckingham; Jean Howarth; Helen Lange; Christopher; Katharine; Jonathan Davis; Morag & Robert Curtis; Alan Woods; Tessa Bullick; Margaret Morrissey; Jill Smith; Ruth Davis; Pam Revell.

Many thanks to everyone who's helped me to update the list and asked me to retain the names of these people, who continue to need our prayerful support. As always, please contact me at any time to update the list – please phone 01305 268749 or 07800 962672, leaving a message if necessary; or email johnsamwood@me.com

Among those who have recently died: Maureen Spracklen, June Williams, Mike Morris

Remember those whose Year's Mind falls this week: Bill North, Fran Kerslake

Dorcas MU next meets on Wednesday **26 November** at 10am at 28 Maiden Castle Road

for prayer, bible study and fellowship. Newcomers welcome. Contact: Janet 01305 260259.

TEA TOAST and TODDLERS Calling all under five's and their grown ups. Do come along on a Monday (term times) 9.30-12pm and have company and fun with lots of toys and activities. Drinks are available and tea and coffee. Fruit, toast and cake are also available. Suggested donation is £2 per family. This is a joint Benefice activity held in St George's Church Hall. For more information contact Ruth McGee Tel. 07984 021132

Team Eucharist There will be a Team Eucharist on **Sunday 23rd November**, the Feast of Christ the King, at 9.45 at St Mary's Church. Bishop Karen will celebrate and David Bowen will preach.

This is a wonderful opportunity for us all to worship together as a team and so this will be the only service on that day. Coffee, tea, cake & biscuits will be served after the service

Peacemaking in the Gospel and in our Time Pursuing Peace between people of different faiths

Saturday November 22nd at 12 pm. The Rectory 17A Edward Road, Dorchester DT1 2HL Ruth Jones MP will lead a discussion based on her parliamentary experience as a Labour Party Special Envoy for Freedom of Religion or Belief. All are welcome. Free entry

Big Quiz Night Saturday 22nd November 7-9pm at the Baptist Church in aid of Tear Fund

St Peter's Church

The church is open **daily from 10am - 4pm during the winter.**

Sundays BCP Eucharist at 9am & Common Worship Eucharist 10.30am.

Mid-week - Morning Prayer at **9.15am** on Monday & Thursday

Midweek Eucharist Our Midweek Eucharist is at **10.00 am on Thursday**. This is always followed by refreshments. Please do consider joining us.

Pastoral Visiting - If you would like to receive the Eucharist at home please contact **me by phone or email. Keith**

Storehouse Church Food Larder Thank you everyone who gives a gift each week to the food larder. If you would like to start giving please consider giving tinned or packet food stuff or toiletries and sanitary wear.

On **16th November at 3.00pm** we will be holding our **Memorial Service** at St Peter's. There will be a list in church where names of loved ones can be written.

An invitation is extended to anyone wishing to join the **Bible study group** which meets every Monday at 2.30pm at 30 Grosvenor Road, Dorchester. For further details please phone

Rosemary Briggs 01305 757444. (Own transport essential.) We look forward to welcoming you.

June Williams funeral will be held on Monday 17th November at 12.00 noon. All welcome.

Team Eucharist There is a Team Eucharist on **Sunday 23rd November**, the Feast of Christ the King, at 9.45 at St Mary's Church. Bishop Karen will celebrate and David Bowen will preach. This is a wonderful opportunity for us all to worship together as a team and so this will be the only service on that day.

Hearing Loop. Please speak with David if you are struggling with hearing during the service.

Children's Society Christmas Cards are on display each Sunday at the back of church.

Music at St Peter's

Please join us for **Choral Evensong** on Saturday 22nd November at 4.30pm. Music by Reger, Finzi, Howells and David Bruce Payne and, as usual, a glass of wine for all after the service. The following week on Saturday 29th November at 4.30pm we have our **Advent Carol Service** sung by University Music's fantastic Chamber Choir. This fabulously atmospheric service, which begins in candlelight, will include glorious choral settings by composers including Anna Lapwood, Sir John Tavener, Sally Beamish, Bruckner, Manz and Paul Mealor along with the great Advent antiphons and favourite hymns. The **Choral Eucharist** on Sunday 30th November at 10.30am will also include Advent music by Sir James MacMillan and Karenza Briggs as well as Grayston Ives' *Missa brevis*. As ever, please visit www.musicatstpetersdorchester.org for full details of all the wonderful music on offer.

St Mary's Church

www.facebook.com/St-Marys-Dorchester-672844449522662

On Sundays each week Sung Eucharist at 9.45am

Gluten Free Communion is available—please ask the Sidesperson

Morning Prayer on Tuesdays at 9am followed by Said Eucharist at 9.30am.

The Contemplative Prayer Group . Wednesday's at 5pm in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel at St Mary's. Come and join us for 20 minutes of silence.

On the first Sunday there will be a Said Eucharist at 8am and Taize

Worship at 6pm. Next date 7th December

Our organist for today is Simon Clarkson.

The Sanctuary Lamp Candle is given by

On **Sunday 23rd November**, the Feast of Christ the King, there is a **Team Eucharist** at 9.45 at St Mary's. Bishop Karen will celebrate and David Bowen will preach. **We would welcome donations of cakes to be served after the service. Thank you.**

The Bible Study Group meets once a fortnight at the Vicarage 17a Edward Road on Monday evenings at 7.30pm. The next gathering will be **24th November**

The funeral of Michael Morris will take place at St Mary's on **20th November at 12.00 noon**. Please do pray for Mike and his family at this time.

Supper @ The Vicarage – Jimmy and Lydia would like to invite you to an informal meal about once a month. The first date is **Saturday 22nd November, 6.30pm arrival for 7pm meal**. No need to bring anything – just yourselves. There will be a sign-up sheet at the back of church.

Peacemaking in the Gospel and in our Time Pursuing Peace between people of different faiths **Saturday November 22nd** at 12 pm. The Rectory 17A Edward Road, Dorchester DT1 2HL Ruth Jones MP will lead a discussion based on her parliamentary experience as a Labour Party Special Envoy for Freedom of Religion or Belief. All are welcome. Free entry

The House of Opportunity Shoe Boxes should be handed to Di House by Sunday, 23rd November.

The Occasional Singers – Songs for Advent on Sunday 23rd November at 3.00pm in St Mary's. Including songs and carols by Victoria, Elgar, MacMillan, Howells and Britten. Director Miriam Newton and Organ Alex Davies. Entrance is free with a retiring collection for Citizens Advice Central Dorset.

It's all systems go for this year's distribution of the **Christmas hampers**. We are very grateful for all the support we continue to receive each year. We shall be distributing the hampers on **Saturday 13th December** from Dorford Baptist Church. Our website is full of information along with details on how you can donate. Thank you as always for your support. Kath Joslin – [joslinkath@gmail.com](mailto:joslinskath@gmail.com)

St George's Church

The church is open every day from 9.00am to 4.00pm for private prayer.

Sunday Services:

8.00am Holy Communion. 1st and 3rd Sundays A quiet traditional BCP service in the Edward Chapel.

10.30am Holy Communion (NOTE NEW TIME!) followed by refreshments in the church hall.

Dragons, our children's group, meets in the church hall during the 10.30 service in term time. All school age children are welcome.

6.30pm Pizza and Praise, first Sunday of the month. A new monthly service for youth and families.

Weekday services:

Wednesday 9.30am **Morning Prayer** at the back of church.

Thursday 11.00am Holy Communion followed by refreshments.

Other regular activities:

Monday: 9.30-12 **Tea, Toast and Toddlers in the hall**

Monday: **Bible Study group** 7.15pm weekly in members' homes. Details from Cora or Gerry.

Wednesday 12.30-1.30 **Community Lunch and Food Larder** welcomes anyone who needs company, lunch, or food in times of hardship. As the weather gets colder the hall provides a warm space to meet with friends and members of St George's Congregation.

Thursday: **Fellowship group** 12.00-1.00 in church. A new informal time of prayer and Bible reflection over a sandwich lunch (bring your own!) All are welcome.

Our **Community Lunch and Food Larder** is currently much busier. Items we particularly need include: Cereal, long life milk, biscuits, microwave rice, pot noodles etc. Also tinned meat/fish, custard/rice pudding. Loo rolls, toiletries, washing up liquid etc are always needed. Best times to bring items are at Sunday services, or pop into the hall on a Wednesday from 12.15 - 1.30. All are welcome for soup and a sandwich! Thank you for your support.

PIZZA AND PRAISE - Musician needed for Pizza and Praise Worship Band - particularly drummer, electric guitar and keyboard player. Please let Rev Cora Know if you are free to play on the first Sunday evening of the month as we develop this new service.

Fellowship group - Come and Join us on Thursday from 12.00 -1.15 in church committee room. A new informal time of prayer and Bible reflection over a cup of tea and sandwich lunch. All are welcome.

Christmas Day Lunch - As usual St George's will be organising a Lunch on Christmas Day, in St George's Church Hall (turkey and all the trimmings). 12.30 for 1 p.m. All are welcome but to assist the catering please phone Val Scriven (01305 265177) to book your place

DIARY DATES:

23rd November 9.45 joint Benefice service at St Mary's with Bishop Karen. No service at St George's
5th-8th December Christmas Tree Festival (Carols on the Green 6.30pm on Sat 6th)

Bingo Evening - Thank you to everyone who turned out on such a horrible evening to join us at the Bingo. A special thank you to Dave and Helen for the calling and Val for doing the refreshments. Thank you as well to everybody who helped with the packing up. We raised £147.00 for church funds. Maggie

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL - 6pm Friday 5th to 5pm Monday 8th December. We are looking forward to our annual Christmas Tree Festival but as normal need some help with homemade cakes for the cafe, people to make tea and coffees over the weekend and help setting up the festival after the service on 30th November and setting up trees from 1.30pm on Thursday 4th. Sign up sheets will be at the back of church. If you can help please talk to Revd. Cora or any of the Events Committee.

Sunday, the 16th of November 4 pm Christmas memorial service

Saturday, the 6th of December 6 pm carols on the Green Fordington

Sunday, the 7th of December 6:30 pm pizza and praise

Saturday, the 13th of December 4 pm Christingle service

Sunday, the 21st of December 10:30 am nativity service and 6 pm carol service.

Wednesday, the 24th of December 4 pm crib service 11 pm midnight mass with the United Church

Thursday, the 25th of December Christmas Day family service 10:30 am Combined with Dorchester Family Church

Sunday, the 28th of December 830am Holy Communion and 10:30 am family service

St Andrew's Church

MORNING PRAYER Every Tuesday at 9.45am - all welcome.

PRIVATE PRAYER & REFLECTION

The church is open every day from 10am to 4pm.

HOME COMMUNION If you are unable to go to church and would like to receive Holy Communion at home then please contact Revd Cora Yarrien on 262421 or email revd.cora.yarrien@gmail.com

Services are at 11.15am on first and 3rd Sundays and 9.00am on 2nd and 4th Sundays.

Gluten Free Communion Wafers are available, please let us know if you need one.

NOVEMBER SERVICES

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE of SERVICE TIMES

16th - Holy Communion at 11.15 with coffee at 10.45

23rd - **No Service (Benefice Service at St Mary's Church, Edward Road, Dorchester - Bishop Karen is officiating. All welcome)**

30th - **No Service (5th Sunday so all invited to St George's at 10.30am for Holy Communion)**

Coffee & Chat is on Saturday 29th November from 10am to noon. All welcome.

We are having a table at the village Christmas Market on **Saturday 6th December** - "Water or Wine" and we would be very grateful for donations of bottles of wine. I can collect so please call Janet on 07752 634773.

Christmas Diary Dates - Sunday 14th December "Carols by Candlelight" at 6pm
Tuesday 23rd December - Christingle Making at 10am
Christmas Eve - Christingle Service at 4pm
Bethlehem Midnight Mass at 9pm
Christmas Morning Service at 9am

Church Contacts:- Team Vicar: Revd Cora Yarrien - 262421

Secretary : Janet Ranger-Dennis 07752 634773



St Simon and St Jude, Winterborne Monkton

Holy Communion is celebrated at **11.15am** on the first Sunday of each month. The church is open every weekend 10am-4pm or by arrangement with Judy Norman 01305 262719

Dorchester Strollers:

Monday 17th November 10.30am Meet behind Poundbury Garden Centre

Tuesday 18th November 2.15pm Borough Gardens by the Bandstand



Team Rector & St Peter, High West St:

Rev'd Keith Magee 07766 645135

Keith.magee@btinternet.com

Curate: Rev'd Heidi Merrett 07706 058676 revheidimerrett@gmail.com

St George, Fordington Rev'd Cora Yarrien 01305 262421

revd.cora.yarrien@gmail.com

St Mary, Edward Road Rev'd Jimmy Holden 01305 266502

revjimmyholden@gmail.com

St Andrew, West Stafford Rev'd Cora Yarrien 01305 262421

revd.cora.yarrien@gmail.com

The Winterbournes and Compton Valence Churches Rev Teresa

StewartSykes 01305 549242 email revteresa@outlook.com

Parish Office: 01305 250719 dorchesterpcc@gmail.com

open 9-1, Tues, Thur, Fri.

Looked after by June Jenkins & Gill Hartnett

The Benefice Website: www.dorchesteranglican.org.uk

QR code



As the final edition of the benefice magazine approaches, please remember that you can find news of services, events and celebrations on the website.

Also, there are a number of sermons to listen to or read. And, coming up soon, a complete guide to all the services and concerts in the Advent and Christmas season.

<https://www.dorchesteranglican.org.uk/>