

Pew Sheet 23 November 2025

Sunday before advent
Christ the King

A warm welcome to all visitors to church on this day

Today's Services:

10am Holy Communion St Mary the Virgin Great Bradley

4pm Evensong St Peter and St Paul Kedington

Services this week:

Evening Prayer 5pm Monday St Peter and St Paul's Kedington (except Bank Holidays)

Wednesday 10am Said Holy Communion St Peter and St Paul Kedington

Services next Sunday

10am Holy Communion All Saints Barnardiston

6pm Compline St Mary's Little Wratting (see below)

Compline, or Night Prayer, is the final daily Christian prayer service, named from the Latin completorium for "completion". It is a contemplative and quiet service performed at the end of the day, often just before sleep, and includes psalms, readings, and prayers for peace and the world. Its tradition is ancient, dating back to at least the 6th century. Chris Shelmerdine will lead the singing in this short service on the first, second and third Sundays of advent. This is a good way to welcome the season.

Ministry Team:

Fr Chris Giles	01440 762901
Jill Davis	01440 713137
Ruth Hopper	01440 783125
Peter Smith	01440 783278
Mary Upton	01440 706237

Benefice Safeguarding Officers: Ruth Hopper and Naomi Shelmerdine 07405 624132

The Stourhead Benefice

Collect: Eternal Father, whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven, that he might rule over all things as Lord and King: keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit, and in the bond of peace, and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

First reading	Jeremiah 23 v 1 - 6
Second reading	Colossians 1 v 11 - 20
Gospel reading	Luke 23 v 33 - 43

Hear The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

All Glory to you O Lord

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, 'Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.' And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, 'He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!' The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, 'If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!' There was also an inscription over him, 'This is the King of the Jews.'

One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, 'Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!' But the other rebuked him, saying, 'Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.' Then he said, 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.' He replied, 'Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you O Christ

Post Communion prayer: Stir up, O Lord, the wills of your faithful people: that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may by you be plenteously rewarded, through Jesus. Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Evensong readings: Psalm 72 v 1 – 7, 1 Samuel 8 v 4 – 20, John 18 v 33 - 37

Home Communions - Pastoral Care:

The Blessed Sacrament is perpetually reserved for the Communion of the housebound, the sick and dying. Please inform Fr Chris or a member of the ministry team, of parishioners who are sick or in hospital, and of those who are in need of pastoral care. **The Sacrament of Reconciliation** by arrangement with the Rector.

Prayer List

Our prayers are asked particularly for:

Terry Chittock – Jacob and his family – Leo and Val Farthing – Bryan Chambers – Orla
Rev Bob Torrens – Paul Allard – Mike Driscoll – Steve Watts – Andrew Harrison
Frank Underwood – Andrew, Richard and Doreen Pound – Peter Phillips
King Charles

We also pray for others. Those who have asked to be remembered in our prayers in church and at home.

We pray for those that have recently died and whose loss we mourn:

Jackie Mariott - Jane Child – Rachel Harper

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord

All And let light perpetual shine upon them

May they rest in peace

All And rise in glory

An invitation: If you wish to receive communion please come forward when guided by the stewards. Members of other churches who usually receive communion are welcome to do so here. Those not wishing to receive communion are welcome to come for a blessing; it is helpful if you indicate this by bringing your service booklet with you. If you find it difficult to come to the altar rail, please tell this to the steward on duty, so communion may be brought to you in your seat.

Gluten free Communion wafers are available – please ask when you come up to the altar rail. Sharing of the common cup is permitted. However, if you do not wish to receive from the Chalice, please say 'Intinct' as the Priest approaches you, and they will intinct the wafer in Consecrated wine from a separate Chalice.

Notices

Forthcoming events:

Please send me details of events you wish to publicise by email or phone, and I will do my best to include it (subject to space):

Fr Chris Giles – stourheadbenefice@gmail.com 01440 762901

Church Coffee Morning "Dolce Gusto" 10am until 12 noon every Tuesday at St Peter and St Paul's Church in Kedington. (**Please note** – no coffee morning on 23 or 30 December. Coffee morning resumes 6 January 2026.)

The Stourhead Benefice



Stourhead Benefice Christmas Services

Gt Wratting Friday 19 December 6pm
Kedington Sunday 21 December 4pm
Lt Wratting Sunday 21 December 6.30pm
Gt Bradley Tuesday 23 December 6.30pm
Crib Service Kedington Christmas Eve 3pm
Thurlows (at Gt Thurlow) Christmas Eve 4.30pm
Lt Bradley Christmas Eve 6.30pm
Barnardiston Christmas Eve 7pm
Midnight Mass Christmas Eve 11.30pm
Christmas Morning at Lt Thurlow



“Champion of Champions Quiz” at the Garden Barn Little Bradley Friday 28 November. Win £200 for your PCC. £12.50 entry per team member. Optional food, fish, chicken or scampi all with chips. Entry forms available from colin@littelbradleyhall.co.uk Entries close 14 November 2025

An Evening of Music with the Emergers. Saturday 6 December 2025 6.30pm in All Saints Church, Great Thurlow. To celebrate the completion of major repairs to the church and to say thank you to all who helped with fundraising and to give the opportunity for everyone to admire the results. Wine and canapes will be served. For FREE tickets, contact Molly on mollyhawkins10@aol.com There will be a retiring collection.

Safeguarding – Safeguarding is about caring for one another and our community. As Christians, this is something we all need to do. If you would like any training or have any questions; please contact Fr Chris or another member of the Ministry team. Benefice Safeguarding Officers are Naomi Shelmerdine and Ruth Hopper contact phone number is 07405 624132

The Stourhead Benefice News is produced every other month. Hard copies are printed by the Barnardiston School. It is also available on the Stourhead Benefice page of **“A Church Near You”**:
<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/1948/news/notice-sheet/grid/>

