

Pew Sheet 30 November 2025

First Sunday of Advent

A warm welcome to all visitors to church on this day

Today's Services:

10am Holy Communion All Saints Barnardiston

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

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 Little Bradley

10am Christingle Service at St Peter and St Paul Kedington

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

The Stourhead Benefice

Collect: 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**

First reading	Isaiah 2 v 1 - 5
Second reading	Romans 13 v 11 - end
Gospel reading	Matthew 24 v 36 - 44

Hear The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

All Glory to you O Lord

'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.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you O Christ

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**

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 – Iris Eley
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:

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.)

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.



Stourhead Benefice Christmas Services

Gt Wrating Friday 19 December 6pm

Kedington Sunday 21 December 4pm

Lt Wrating Sunday 21 December 6.30pm

Gt Bradley Tuesday 23 December 6.30pm

Kedington Crib Service Christmas Eve 3pm

Thurlows (at Gt Thurlow) Christmas Eve 4.30pm

Lt Bradley Christmas Eve 6.30pm

Barnardiston Christmas Eve 7pm

Kedington Christmas Eve Midnight Mass 11.30pm

Christmas Morning at Lt Thurlow 10am



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/>

