

Glossop Parish Church of All Saints

Newsletter: December 2025

Father in heaven, the day draws near when the glory of your Son
will make radiant the night of the waiting world.
May the lure of greed not impede us from the joy
which moves the hearts of those who seek him.
May the darkness not blind us to the vision of wisdom
which fills the minds of those who find him.

The Roman Missal

The Joy of Christmas

Sunday 30th November
Advent Sunday - Family Eucharist 10.30 am

Wednesday 3rd December
Mid-week Eucharist 9.30 am

Sunday 7th December
Advent 2 - Family Eucharist 10.30 am

Wednesday 10th December
Mid-week Eucharist 9.30 am

Sunday 14th December
Advent 3 - Family Eucharist 10.30 am

Wednesday 17th December
Duke of Norfolk School Christmas Service 9.30 am

Sunday 21st December
Advent 4 - Family Eucharist 10.30 am

Sunday 28th December
The First Sunday of Christmas - Family Eucharist 10.30 am

Services at Christmas

There are lots of opportunities to join us at Glossop Parish Church of All Saints as we celebrate Christmas, the appearance of God among us in human form.

Carol Service: Sunday 14th December 6.30 pm

A traditional Carol Service of nine lessons and carols, led by our Choir.

Crib Service: Wednesday 24th December 4.00 pm

A family-friendly re-telling of the Christmas Story led by our Licensed Lay Reader, Michael Wilson.

Midnight Mass: Wednesday 24th December 11.00 pm

Family Eucharist: Thursday 25th December 10.30 pm

Advent and Christmas - Sung Evening Prayer (Solemn Vespers) - Sundays 5pm – 5:30pm

The Glossop Catholic Parishes warmly invite us to join them for evening prayer, as they prepare for and then celebrate the Christmas Season.

Evening Prayer will include a brief scripture reading, psalms and canticles sung in plainchant, the Lord's Prayer, and intercessions.

Beginning on the first Sunday of Advent (30th November 2025), and continuing each Sunday until the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord (11th January 2026) at All Saints Catholic Church, Church Street, Glossop SK13 7RJ.

Vicar's Voice

December, with its colder weather and longer nights, also brings an increasingly frenetic build-up to Christmas. For the Church, however, this month marks the beginning of Advent. Advent is a time of patient, hopeful waiting and thoughtful preparation as we

look towards the birth of Jesus and all that his coming means for our world. In many ways, it stands in stark contrast to the stress and busyness around us.

Advent embraces several themes, but perhaps most powerfully it speaks of light entering the darkness—the light of peace, the first glimmer of hope when things feel uncertain or overwhelming.

Waiting can often feel difficult, even wasted time—something to hurry through in order to reach what we want. Yet Advent invites us to see waiting differently: not as empty time, but as a period for purposeful engagement. By setting aside moments for prayer, study, and honest self-reflection, we prepare not only for the practical celebrations of Christmas, but also for Christ's coming into our hearts and lives.

May this Advent be for us a season of renewed hope and deepening peace as we watch and wait for the light of Christ.

David

November saint

November is a month rich with Saints, not least of course because it begins with All Saints when we remember those millions of the faithful down the years, not noted on our calendars, but known to God alone; that 'countless host' streaming in through gates of pearl, as that wonderful hymn has it.

This month we celebrate St Leo, a famous Pope, (10th) St Cecilia, (22nd) patron saint of church music, and on the 30th, St Andrew one of Jesus' disciples, but I've chosen St Martin of Tours because his story is an entertaining one and we know quite a lot about him.

He was born in Pannonia, present day Hungary and his father was a senior officer in the Roman Military, serving in northern Italy. At the age of 10, Martin attended a Christian church against his parents wishes. Christianity was made legal in 313AD but was a minority faith and probably not approved of by the military. Martin too became a soldier and whilst serving in Tours, was moved by the plight of a poorly dressed beggar, and cut his cloak in half and gave half to the beggar.

Legend has it that he dreamed or had a vision that night of Christ, dressed in the half cloak he had given to the beggar. Martin was baptised at the age of 18 and eventually left the army, finding it incompatible with his faith.

He was later made Bishop of Tours and is credited with many miracles. His shrine in Tours is a popular stopping place for pilgrims travelling the Santiago to Compostela trail.

Martin is believed to have died on November 8th AD 397, and is the patron saint of beggars, wool weavers, and tailors. (Also, apparently, of geese, because he hid amongst them to avoid being made Bishop, but their cackling gave him away!)

Diary

24th November: Pennine singers' practice

29th November 10.00-12.00 noon: Write for Rights

30th November 4.00 pm: All Souls Remembrance

All invited to remember 'those we love, but see no longer.' Tea/coffee available.

4th December: Visiting Bellringers

We have a group of ringers visiting our tower on Thursday, December 4th. They will be attempting a Quarter Peel of Pershore Surprise Major, and ringing will go from 11.15 until noon. The band comprises mainly married couples, and includes ringers from - Clitheroe, Stockport, Cheadle, Saddleworth and Armitage Bridge. Some of this group rang at our tower in August, and they now wish to return – given the quality of the bells, and the lunch on offer at the Distant Hills Brewery!

6th December 2.00 pm: Willow Wood / Light up a Life

Monday 8 December 8.00 pm: High Peak Singers

Winter Stillness

Glossop Parish Church, Church Street South, Glossop SK13 7RU

High Peak Singers conducted by Hannah Brine

Ed Simpson piano

High Peak Singers perform uplifting festive music under the direction of conductor Hannah Brine. There will be a retiring collection in aid of Kinder Mountain Rescue, which is the choir's chosen charity this year.

Tickets £10 (£5 for students in full time education and under 18s – children must be accompanied by a responsible adult). Seating is unreserved and doors open at 7.30pm. Tickets available online at www.highpeaksingers.uk/shop/winter-stillness, and will be on sale on the door (cash or card payments).

12th December 7.30 pm – 10.30 pm: Glossop Music Festival

Nutcracker by Candlelight

Viv McLean, piano

Benjamin Powell, piano and friends

The Nutcracker and other sublime seasonal classics in a beautiful candlelit setting. There are no tickets for this event, simply turn up, and donate as generously as you can at the end.

Doors and bar open at 6.30pm - mulled wine & mince pies available.

12th December: Carols in Norfolk Square

The churches in Glossopdale are working together to host 'Carols in Norfolk Square' on Friday, 12th December starting at 5.45 pm.

Who might you invite to join you to sing our favourite carols and to hear afresh the good news of Christmas?

13th December 2.00pm: Dark Peak Concert

14th December 6.30 pm: Glossop Parish Church Carol Service

A traditional Carol Service of nine lessons and carols, led by our Choir.

16th December 19.30 pm: Orchestra of the Peaks Christmas Concert

Featuring Music from Hansel & Gretel, The Nutcracker, Finlandia, Die Fledermaus plus many Christmas Crackers.

Tickets on the door, full £10.00, concessions £5, Family £25. Early bird discounts £8.00, £4.00 & £20.00.

www.ticketsource.co.uk/darkpeakmusicfoundation

17th December 9.30 am: Duke of Norfolk School Christmas service

18th December: Glossopdale School Carol Service

20th December 4.00 pm: Celtic Christian Service for the Winter Solstice

On Friday, 20th December 2023 at 4pm join Margaret Roberts, our Licensed Lay Pioneer Minister focusing on the 5th Mark of Mission ('strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth') in a Celtic Christian service to mark the Winter Solstice, the shortest day of the year.

Take time to reflect on the necessity of darkness and the coming of the light.

22nd December 18.30 pm: Yoga Group**24th December 4.00 pm: Children's Christmas service**

A family-friendly re-telling of the Christmas Story led by Michael Wilson.

24th December 11.00 pm: Midnight Mass**25th December 10.30 am: Christmas Morning Family Eucharist.**

Write for Rights Nov/Dec 2025

Our fourth Mark of Mission is to speak out against injustice. Participating in Amnesty International's Write for Rights is an excellent way to do this.

Every year, millions of people in more than 200 countries sign petitions, send emails, write cards of support to victims of injustice, and letters to those with the power and authority to right injustice.

On display here in Church, and on Amnesty's website ([amnesty.org.uk](https://www.amnesty.org.uk)), you can find out the details of the individual cases which Amnesty particularly wants us to focus on this autumn. There is also clear and simple guidance on the different forms of action you can take. Signing petitions is easy, but you will also find sample examples of appropriate messages for cards and letters. These can be copied or adapted. You may prefer to use the booklets which provide short notes and suggestions as well.

All this can be done online at home, or you can drop into Church on Saturday 29th November, 10-12, where refreshments and cake will be provided.

Dermot

<https://www.amnesty.org/en/get-involved/write-for-rights/>

Responding to Human Need: Reverse Advent Calendar

The Reverse Advent Calendar is a fun and easy way to support the work of the Glossopdale Foodbank. You only need a box. Each day add something to the box using the list of food and non-food items below. You can bring your donations to church every week or you can wait to the end of Advent. You can decorate the box, you can buy additional items – and you can skip some days if you cannot afford to buy items or cannot easily get the specified item.

We accept all in-date store cupboard items such as tinned goods, pasta, rice, savoury crackers and biscuits. Chocolates, treats, and toiletries are all welcome too.

We suggest starting in early November, so that the donations can be given out to people before Christmas. However, we are always happy to receive donations at any time.

For more information, see [this post on Facebook](#).

‘Light up a life’: Saturday, 6th December

On Saturday, 6th December at 2pm we are hosting the Willow Wood Hospice’s ‘Light up a life’ service.

The ‘Light up a life’ service is an opportunity for families and friends to honour the memories of those whom they have lost. During the service they can share the heart-warming experience as they watch the Christmas tree lit, and see their loved one’s light shining brightly.

Through the financial donations which go directly towards the care of people in our community, the ‘Light up a Life’ service also provides a way to make a difference for other families and friends with loved ones in the care of the Willow Wood Hospice.

<https://willowwood.org.uk/lual/>

Old Glossop Residents Association Street Markets: Sun., 7th Dec.

On Sunday, 7th December from 1pm to 5pm the Old Glossop Residents Association are holding the annual Street Markets. The church building will be open to provide hospitality to those visiting the Street Markets: a warm place, refreshments, an opportunity to light a candle.

Help welcomed with serving refreshments.

African Adventures

Sienna is 13 years old and attends Glossopdale school.

Sienna has committed to the African Adventures programme, which works in conjunction with schools to provide support to children in Kenya.

Sienna will be travelling to Kenya in October 2026 to spend 8 days helping to rebuild tin classrooms into permanent classrooms so the children have more comfortable spaces to engage in learning. She will also be supporting children with reading, maths, science, and life skills.

Sienna will be stepping very much out of her comfort zones but is eager to overcome this to support children who don't have the same opportunities and comforts that she has.

Sienna loves art and creating things.

She has been putting her skills into making bracelets, necklaces, and a variety of 3D printed items to sell to raise funds to travel to Kenya.

Please take the time to visit her stall in the church, treat yourself or a friend to a gift or 2 and support her fundraising to help the children in Kenya.

Sienna will also be making a contribution to the church from all sales to support much needed maintenance.

Tubs to Pubs - MacMillan Cancer Support

It's happening again!

Macmillan Cancer Support and recycle plastics, will be back in 2026!

Tub2Pub 2025 saw us collect over 240,000 tubs raising £10,916 for Macmillan Cancer Support. With your help, we can beat that record in 2026!

We're all guilty of indulging in chocolate, sweets and crackers over the festive period, and in the UK we are buying tens of millions of these plastic tubs every year!

Make sure your tubs don't go to waste and bring your clean, empty plastic confectionery and cracker tubs to any Greene King managed site in 1 Jan - 15 Feb 2026 to be recycled.

Simply leave your tubs with a Greene King staff member at the bar or welcome station within one of their locations.

All tubs will be collected and taken to a plastic reprocessing centre where they're shredded, before being sold onto plastic manufacturers to use in place of virgin plastics. All money raised from the sale of Tub2Pub plastics will be given directly to Macmillan Cancer Support.

Glossop Parish Church will be a hub for collection.

TUB2PUB

Refreshments Donations: Mary's Meals

Thank you to everyone who generously gives a donation for their refreshments at the end of our weekly Sunday Parish Eucharist. Your generosity enables us to support the work of other organisations engaged in God's mission in the world.

Previously we have given a total of £2,000 to the Church of South India to support their work through Climate Resilient Schools and Communities in pursuit of the fifth of the Five Marks of Mission: 'to strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth'.

At the PCC meeting on 31st July 2024, it was agreed that we would transfer our support to Mary's Meals, a Scottish-based organisation, serving nutritious school meals to more than 2.4 million children every school day in some of the world's poorest countries. The promise of a good meal attracts these hungry children into the classroom, giving them the energy to learn and hope for a better future. By supporting Mary's Meals we demonstrate

our commitment to the third of the Five Marks of Mission: ‘to respond to human need by loving service’.

We have recently taken advantage that donations made to Mary’s Meals will be doubled by a group of generous supporters, up to **£1.1 million!** our donation of £1000 making a total of £2000.00.

Prayer

Give us the expectant hope that this damaged earth
will be healed of its pain and restored to wholeness.
Come among us to judge the world with righteousness
and to change both hearts and minds.
Refine our priorities, so that we may turn away from exploitation
towards the nurture of creation.

Diocese of Newcastle

For *Peace and Quiet* and more information of events, please visit:
[A Church Near You, Glossop Parish Church of All Saints.](#)

Peace and Quiet is offered online as an opportunity, whenever you need it, to take time out from the daily tasks, worries and fears which are our common experiences of life. Through words, music and pictures we encourage a time of calm ‘mindfulness’ and renewed hope.
