



## Services this week

### Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December - Advent 4

- 8.30 Said Communion
- 10.00 Holy Communion
- 6.00 Carols by Candlelight

### Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve

- 4pm Crib Service
- 6pm Carol Service
- 9pm First Eucharist of Christmas

### Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Day

- 8.30 Said Communion
- 10.00 Holy Communion

### Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> December - Patronal Festival

- 10.00 Holy Communion

## Sunday 21st December 2025

### 4th Sunday of Advent

#### Collect

Eternal God, as Mary waited for the birth of your Son, so we wait for his coming in glory; bring us through the birth pangs of this present age to see, with her, our great salvation in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

#### Prayer after Communion

Heavenly Father, who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of the promised saviour: fill us your servants with your grace, that in all things we may embrace your holy will and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

OT	Isaiah 7. 10 - 16	Page 580
NT	Romans 1. 1 - 7	Page 140
GOSPEL	Matthew 1. 18 - 25	Page 1

Hymns: 493, 102, 281, 345, 314, 631

**Refreshments served in the Hall after 10am service**

## Thank you!

Thank you to everyone who has helped make this Advent so special for both the Church Family and our wider community.

Thank you to the Angel knitters and Distributers who have blessed our neighbours with signs of Good News!

Thank you to carol singers and festive cheer bringers!

Thank you to all those who have helped get the church ready, the flower ladies, the cleaning team, the chair straighteners, and kneeler tidiers!

Thank you to everyone who has helped welcome our Schools into church for their Christingle and Nativity Services (and helped clean and tidy afterwards – there has been a lot of mud!)

We have welcomed pupils and their teachers and families from Amberley, Bailey Green, Grasmere, Percy Hedley and Westmoor, a total of 621 Children and 751 Adults!

## Upcoming Events and Notices

### Patronal Service

We will mark our Patronal Festival, as usual on the Sunday after Christmas, this will be an “all together” service starting at 10am

### St John's Men's Fellowship

The next meeting is in the Hall on **Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January** at 7pm.  
All men welcome!

**Forest Church** monthly from now on, at 2pm at The Rising Sun Country Park, a joint venture with local churches. Next meeting 11<sup>th</sup> January.

**Sat 20<sup>th</sup> December Carol Singing** with Community Church in the Killingworth Centre, 11 – 12am. Everyone welcome!

**Christmas Tree and Card for Charity Donation.** As last year we will have a Christmas Tree with small bags for charity donations and card to sign instead of individual cards. Both in south aisle 30 Nov to 21 Dec. Any individual cards should be delivered rather than left in church for collection. Thank you.

**Please note there will be no New Year's Day service this year.**

## Prayer List

Please pray for: Alison Alderson, Naomi Appleby, Carole Bell, Ivy Bell, Eddie Bolton, Lesley Bolton, Claire Brooks, Lynne Brown, Kay Dixon, Derek Foggon, Eunice Goff, Stuart Haig, Kath Heppell, Jean Heron, Vera Hindmarsh, Diana Jones, Iris Kitching, Fiona McKie, Pam McKie, Alan Mather, Jess Morton.

Request forms for prayer list/pastoral visits are in the green folder.

Please pray for the family and friends of Barry Stokes.

## The Way Forward Update

Thanks to everyone who has worked tirelessly to get us ready for Remembrance Sunday. We are back in the building. The organ will return in the coming days and weeks. And will be tuned and ready to be played for Easter.

Now to get cracking on phase 2. Angela Henderson

**Website** Items for the website to Rev Sarah by email. Events and articles are always better with pictures!

**The Bay Foodbank** Please bring donations to church or the hall.

**Eco tip:** Check the ingredients! Many products on supermarket shelves contain palm oil, which is grown on land where rainforest has been cut down. Buy palm oil free.

**Easyfundraising** link to St John's:

[https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stjohnskillingworthparishchurch/?utm\\_campaign=raise-more&utm\\_content=en-n1](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stjohnskillingworthparishchurch/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_content=en-n1)

Please support this way of raising funds – over £1700 raised to date.

**Carols for Christmas Morning (10am)**

**13, 9, 10, 11, 15, 12**

**Carols for 28<sup>th</sup> December**

**27, 5, 3, 26, 18, 7**

**(Note Collects and Post Communion prayers are in the service books for these services)**

**Parish share** Unfortunately we are not currently able to pay our full quota this year. The PCC and Finance sub-group encourage you to review your regular giving. Just like TESCO “every little helps”. Thank you to everyone who has already contributed so generously and to all who supported the very successful Christmas Fair.

## Regular Events and Services

**Baptism Enquiries** First Sunday of the month 11.30 in the Hall.

**Midweek Communion** Thursdays at 10am in church. All welcome

**Junior Church** Sundays 10am weekly in **term-time** for all children.

**Explore@4** 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Little Explorers at 4pm in church 1<sup>st</sup> Feb 2026  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Brick Church at 4pm in the Hall 18<sup>th</sup> January 2026

**Next Family Communion Service 25<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

**Next Forest Church** 11<sup>th</sup> January, 2pm at the Rising Sun Country Park

**Healing Service** 6pm every quarter, next service Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2026

**Monthly Book Club** at Joyce's – 8<sup>th</sup> January, 2-3pm.

**Mondays 10am** Knit & Natter at The King's Arms, next meet on 5<sup>th</sup> January

## Parish Contacts

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Notices to Marion Mullen please

Gluten-free wafers are available by request to a sides person before the service. In order to protect anyone who is gluten intolerant we cannot permit intinction (dipping wafers into the wine)