

ANGLESEY GROUP OF PARISHES
Holy Trinity, Bottisham; St Mary's, Quay; St James', Lode;
St Mary's, Swaffham Bulbeck; St Mary's, Swaffham Prior

Sunday 7 December – Second Sunday of Advent, Purple

9am
10.30am

Online service
Holy Communion

on Zoom
Bottisham

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please remember in your prayers this week:

- All in need of God's healing power including: Chris, Rob, Fred, Pat, Martin, Roger, Enid, Jutta, David, Linda, Lydia, Derek, Lesley, John, Alun, Janet, Corinne, and others known to us personally. Giving thanks for those who have been on this list, have recovered and are grateful for our prayers and God's grace
- In thanksgiving for the lives of the recently departed, including Margaret Chadwick, thinking of Gerard and family, Rowena Altham, thinking of Robert, Louisa and family
- Rev Rhona as she is licensed in the Norfolk diocese on 9 December; help her to be a blessing to the fourteen rural parishes she will support
- School and care home Christmas services, and the special service on Thursday welcoming Heather Johnstone from Rehema

REGULAR EVENTS

Please check arrangements over the Christmas period

- **Play + Praise** – Weekly in term time in church; Fridays in Lode, 9.30am; Baby and Toddler Playgroup on Tuesdays in Bottisham, 9am
- **Peaceful and Prayerful Art Group** – St James' Church Lode, Friday 12 December 1.30pm - 3.30pm
- **CbyC: a short contemplative service:** Monthly on first Wednesday, 8pm on Zoom – Next: **Wednesday 7 January Bible Study/Prayer Groups**
- Home Study Group, monthly on first Monday, 10.30am Mike Procter, mike@procter.com new members welcome
- Home Study Group, twice a month on Wednesdays, 10.30am, contact Maggie Field 01223 604019
- Bible Study, meet twice a month, 7.30pm contact Liz Butler for more information, lizbutl@gmail.com

FORTHCOMING SERVICES

Sunday 14 December – Third Sunday of Advent, Purple

9am Online service, on Zoom
Holy Communion (BCP), Swaffham Bulbeck
10.30am Christingle Family Worship, Swaffham Prior
3pm Carol & Crib Service, Quay

Thursday 18 December

3pm Carol Service, Lode

Friday 19 December

10am Nativity and Crib Service, Lode

Sunday 21 December - Fourth Sunday of Advent, Purple

9am Online service, on Zoom
Holy Communion, Quay
4.30pm Carol Service, Swaffham Prior
6.30pm Carol Service, Bottisham
Carol Service, Swaffham Bulbeck

Wednesday 24 December - Christmas Eve, Gold or White

6.30pm Holy Communion, Bottisham
11 30pm Midnight Communion, Swaffham Bulbeck

Thursday 25 December - Christmas Day, Gold or White

8am Holy Communion, Quay
10am Holy Communion, Swaffham Prior

Thursdays 10.30am Holy Communion, Lode
Nb – not 18 & 25 December and 1 January 2026

EVENTS

Thursday 11 December - Holy Communion, with Heather Johnstone & Rehema craftwork - St James' Lode, 10.30am

Saturday 13 December – Starry, Starry Night concert –
Holy Trinity, Bottisham, 6pm; £12, under 16's £5
bristowjulie6@gmail.com

Sunday 14 December - Christingle Service
St Mary's, Swaffham Prior, 10.30am with nativity sketch by Beavers, make a Christingle; in aid of Children's Society

Sunday 14 December – Carol and Crib Service,
St Mary's, Quay 3pm

Wednesday 17 December - The Truth from Above
St Mary's, Swaffham Bulbeck, 7pm, Cambridge Vocal Consort, carols, readings - for St Mary's/Children's Society

Vicar: Rev'd Max Osborne: max9@btinternet.com 01223 481187 (Rest Day - Tuesday)

Churchwardens: churchwardens@angleseygroupparishes.co.uk

Bottisham: bottisham@angleseygroupparishes.co.uk; 01223 604019; Lode: lode@angleseygroupparishes.co.uk; 01223 811222

Quay: quay@angleseygroupparishes.co.uk; 01223 812652; Swaffham Bulbeck: bulbeck@angleseygroupparishes.co.uk; 01223 812525; 811501;

Swaffham Prior: prior@angleseygroupparishes.co.uk; 01638 743937. General enquiries: admin@angleseygroupparishes.co.uk;

Facebook: www.facebook.com/angleseychurches; A Church Near You: <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/7380/benefice>

Readings for Sunday 7 December – Year A

Collect

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us,
and with great might succour us;
that whereas, through our sins and wickedness
we are grievously hindered
in running the race that is set before us,
your bountiful grace and mercy
may speedily help and deliver us;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honour and glory, now and for ever.

Prayer After Communion

Father in heaven,
who sent your Son to redeem the world
and will send him again to be our judge:
give us grace so to imitate him
in the humility and purity of his first coming
that, when he comes again,
we may be ready to greet him with joyful love and firm faith;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Old Testament - Isaiah 11 1-10

¹A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. ²The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. ³His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; ⁴but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. ⁵Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. ⁶The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. ⁷The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. ⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. ⁹They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. ¹⁰On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Psalms 72 1-7, 18-19

- 1 Give the king your ¹ judgements, O ¹ God, ♦
and your righteousness ¹ to the ¹ son of a ¹ king.
- 2 Then shall he judge your ¹ people ¹ righteously ♦
and your ¹ poor ¹ with ¹ justice.
- 3 May the mountains ¹ bring forth ¹ peace, ♦
and the little hills ¹ righteousness ¹ for the ¹ people.
- 4 May he defend the poor a¹mong the ¹ people, ♦
deliver the children of the ¹ needy and ¹ crush • the
op¹pressor.
- 5 May he live as long as the sun and ¹ moon en¹dure, ♦
from one gene¹ration ¹ to an¹other.
- 6 May he come down like rain upon the ¹ mown ¹ grass, ♦
like the ¹ showers that ¹ water the ¹ earth.

- ‡ 7 In his time shall ¹ righteousness ¹ flourish, ♦
and abundance of peace till the ¹ moon shall ¹ be no ¹
more.
- 18 Blessed be the Lord, the ¹ God of ¹ Israel, ♦
who a¹lone does ¹ wonderful ¹ things.
- 19 And blessed be his glorious ¹ name for ¹ ever. ♦
May all the earth be filled with his glory. ¹Amen.
Glory to the Father and ¹ to the ¹ Son ♦ and ¹ to the ¹ Holy ¹ Spirit;
as it was in the be¹ginning is ¹ now ♦ and shall be for ¹ ever. ¹
A¹men

New Testament - Romans 15 4-13

⁴Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. ⁵May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, ⁶so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁷Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. ⁸For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, ⁹and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, 'Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name'; ¹⁰and again he says, 'Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people'; ¹¹and again, 'Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him'; ¹²and again Isaiah says, The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope.' ¹³May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Gospel - Matthew 3 1-12

¹In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ²'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' ³This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."' ⁴Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, ⁶and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁷But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruit worthy of repentance. ⁹Do not presume to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ¹⁰Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ¹¹I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹²His winnowing-fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'