

(ST PETER'S GOODWORTH CLATFORD, ALL SAINTS' UPPER CLATFORD AND ST MARY'S ABBOTTS ANN)

21 DECEMBER 2025- 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Verse of scripture

'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel', which means, 'God is with us.'

(Matthew 1:23)

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.

Details of weekend services with link

Sunday 21 December - 4th Sunday of Advent

8am	Holy Communion	St Mary's	Teresa	Romans 1:1-7 Matthew 1:18-25
9.30am	Informal Worship	St Mary's	Di	Romans 1:1-7 Matthew 1:18-25
9.30am	Parish Communion	All Saints'	Teresa	Romans 1:1-7 Matthew 1:18-25
llam	Matins	St Peter's	Nicky, Tim	Psalm 80:1-8, 18-20 Isaiah 7:10-16 Matthew 1:18-25
6pm	Carol Service	St Peter's	Teresa	

No Zoom Praise

A description of our services can be found on the Benefice website LINK

Bible reading Sunday morning services

Romans 1:1-7 NRSVA - Salutation - Paul, a servant of Jesus - Bible Gateway

Matthew 1:18-25 NRSVA - The Birth of Jesus the Messiah - Now - Bible Gateway

Psalm 80 | The Church of England

Isaiah 7:10-16 NRSVA - Isaiah Gives Ahaz the Sign of Immanuel - Bible Gateway

24 December 2025- Christmas Eve

Verse of scripture

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

(John 1:14)

Collect

Eternal God,
in the stillness of this night
you sent your almighty Word
to pierce the world's darkness with the light of salvation:
give to the earth the peace that we long for
and fill our hearts with the joy of heaven
through our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Details of weekend services with link

Sunday 24 December - Christmas Eve

3pm Crib & Christingle St Mary's Nicky 4pm Crib & Christingle St Peter's Tim 4.30pm Crib & Christingle All Saints' Teresa Isaiah 52:7-10 11.30pm Midnight Communion St Mary's Teresa John 1:1-14 11.30pm Midnight Communion All Saint's Nicky Isaiah 52:7-10 John 1:1-4

Bible reading Sunday morning services

<u>Isaiah 52:7-10 NRSVA - How beautiful upon the mountains are - Bible Gateway</u> <u>John 1:1-14 NRSVA - The Word Became Flesh - In the - Bible Gateway</u>

25 December 2025 - Christmas Day

Verse of scripture

To you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord.

(Luke 2:11)

Collect

Lord Jesus Christ,
your birth at Bethlehem
draws us to kneel in wonder at heaven touching earth:
accept our heartfelt praise
as we worship you,
our Saviour and our eternal God.

Details of weekend services with link

Sunday 25 December - Christmas Day

10am	Christmas Communion by extension	St Mary's	Tim	Isaiah 9:2-7 Luke 21:1-20
10am	Christmas Communion	All Saints'	Nicky	Isaiah 9:2-7 Luke 21:1-20
10am	Christmas Communion	St Peter's	Teresa	Isaiah 9:2-7 Luke 21:1-20

Bible reading Sunday morning services

<u>Isaiah 9:2-7 NRSVA - The people who walked in darkness have - Bible Gateway</u> <u>Luke 2:1-20 NRSVA - The Birth of Jesus - In those days a - Bible Gateway</u>

28 December 2025 - First Sunday of Christmas

Verse of scripture

Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.'

(Matthew 2:13)

Collect

God in Trinity,
eternal unity of perfect love:
gather the nations to be one family,
and draw us into your holy life
through the birth of Emmanuel,
our Lord Jesus Christ.

Details of weekend services with link

Sunday 28 December - Christmas 1

11am Benefice Communion All Saints' Ministry Team Hebrews 2:10-18 Matthew 2:13-23

No zoom praise

Bible reading Sunday morning services

<u>Hebrews 2:10-18 NRSVA - It was fitting that God, for whom and - Bible Gateway Matthew 2:13-23 NRSVA - The Escape to Egypt - Now after they - Bible Gateway</u>

(Including services on the rota)

Diary of events

Mon 22 Dec

Noon funeral Elizabeth Howard, St Mary's, Teresa, Nicky, Tim 7pm Carol Service, All Saints', Teresa

Tue 23 Dec

10am Christingle making (all help welcome!), All Saints', Teresa

Wed 24 Dec

3pm Crib and Christingle Service, St Mary's, Nicky 4pm Crib and Christingle Service, St Peter's, Tim 4.30pm Crib and Christingle Service, All Saints', Teresa 5pm carol singing, Abbotts Ann Village Shop, Judith, Nicky 11.30pm Midnight Communion, St Mary's, Teresa 11.30pm Midnight Communion, All Saints', Nicky

Thu 25 Dec

10am Christmas Communion by extension, St Mary's, Tim 10am Christmas Communion, All Saints', Nicky 10am Christmas Communion, St Peter's, Teresa

Sun 28 Dec

llam Benefice Communion, All Saints', Ministry team No Zoom Praise

Mon 29 Dec

9pm Final Night Prayer, Facebook, ministry team

Sun 4 Jan Epiphany

8am Holy Communion, St Peter's, Nicky 9.30am Morning Worship, St Mary's, Tim 9.30am Parish Communion, All Saints', Teresa 11am Informal Worship, St Peter's, Nicky 6pm Zoom Praise, Zoom, Tim



Activities for families with children

Advent is almost over and Christmas is coming. <u>HERE</u> is an idea to make an Advent decoration for your Christmas tree.

Notices & News



December 2025 Prayer Card

Philippians 4:4 "Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!" Eternal God,

As December brings us together to watch and wait with hope for Christ's coming.

fill us with your peace and tender presence.

Bless those who struggle in this season
and let Christ's love shine through us each day.

Amen

Write down your prayer focus for this month.
You may have additional prayers but these are your
core.

3 things you are thankful for that have happened this year:

Name a person or family (or more) who will struggle
this Christmas due to grief and sorrow.

For families and young people who will go without this Christmas due to poverty, abuse and neglect.

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Night Prayer Because of the growing demands on the ministry team we have decided to discontinue Night Prayer. There will be no services during Christmastide, and the final Night Prayer will be at 9pm Mon 29 Decon Facebook. From 4 January the names on the Benefice Prayer List that we used to read out in Night Prayer will be in the weekly bulletin (first names only). The confidential prayer list used by the ministry team will continue unchanged.

Benefice Bulletin The next issue will be published on 4th January

Men's Café The last meeting in 2025 is at 11am Thu 18 Dec at the Crook & Shears. We are very grateful to Kim the landlady for hosting us through Advent. The first meeting in the new year will be at 11am Thu 8 Jan at Abbotts Ann Village Shop. To cope with our growing numbers the plan is to have two meetings on a Thursday: 11am morning coffee and 3pm afternoon tea; both at the village shop. However, Judeth the shop manager has yet to confirm when we can start up the afternoon teas.

Getting rid of unwanted books, computers, etc

Here are two ways to dispose of unwanted books, etc without leaving your home. The 2 charities below will collect from your front door.

Books2Africa is a UK-registered charity (1152599) based in Canterbury, founded in 2012. Our mission is to promote a culture of 'readcycling' and improve the quality of education in Africa, through the collection, processing, shipping and distribution of quality books, computers and educational materials that equip individuals, institutions, and communities to acquire knowledge and achieve their full potential in a globalised world. Contact them here:

Contact us - Books2Africa

Anglo doorstep Collections is a UK group that collects unwanted books and other items free of charge then sells them and passes the proceeds to certain UK charities. Contact them here:

Instant Book a Charity Bag Collection



If you need any help or support then don't hesitate to contact one of the team



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