

**The Parishes of Adbaston, Gnosall, High Offley & Knightley,
Moreton and Norbury
Sunday 7th December. (Advent 2)**

Collect

Almighty God, purify our hearts and minds,
that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as
judge and saviour we may be ready to receive
him, who is our Lord and our God. **Amen.**

Romans 15: 4-13

For whatever 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. May the God of
steadfastness and encouragement grant you to
live in harmony with one another, in accordance
with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with
one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord
Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore,
just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of
God. For 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, and 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'; and again he says, 'Rejoice, O Gentiles,
with his people'; and again, 'Praise the Lord, all
you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him';
and again Isaiah says, 'The root of Jesse shall
come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles;
in him the Gentiles shall hope.' May 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. This is the word of the Lord:
Thanks be to God.

Matthew 3: 1-12

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Matthew: **Glory to you O Lord.**
In those days John the Baptist appeared in the
wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, 'Repent, for the
kingdom of heaven has come near.' This 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." 'Now John wore clothing of
camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist,
and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the

people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out
to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and
they were baptized by him in the river Jordan,
confessing their sins. But 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? Bear fruit
worthy of repentance. Do 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. Even 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. 'I 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. His 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.' This is the Gospel of the
Lord: **Praise to you O Christ.**

**In our year's mind (St Lawrence, Gnosall) we
remember:** Edith Burnell, Peter Burnell Gillard,
Tony Francis, Bethan Louise Stockley (Bethy),
Marge Jackson, Gordon Vessey Herbert, Thomas
Frederick Bancroft.

Notices

This Week's Services- 7th December

Gnosall 8am Holy Communion
10am Benefice Zoom Worship

Next Week's Service- 14th December

Gnosall 8am Holy Communion
10:30am Morning Worship
Knightley 9:30am Morning Worship
Norbury 9:30am Morning Prayer for Tree Festival
Moreton 3pm Carol Service- Hall

Coffee and Chat

Join us for Coffee and Chat 10:30-12:30 at St
Lawrence Church. 1st Saturday of every month. All
Welcome.

St. Peter's Church, Norbury

Christmas Tree Festival. Theme - Christmas Songs Saturday 13th - Sunday 14th December 10.00am - 4.00pm Entry Free (donations appreciated) Refreshments available. Everyone will be very welcome.
Please park at Church Farm.

St. Lawrence Church Flowers

We will decorate the Church for Christmas on Monday 22nd December from 9am to 11am. Please bring your own flowers and greenery. Everyone welcome. Donations for flowers may be given to Helen Air.

Thank you

Christian Food is grateful to everyone across the Gnosall Benefice who contributed to the generous harvest donations this autumn. Your generosity means that we can face the winter able to support struggling families and individuals with some confidence. Our prayers and thanks, Cathy Lister

Saint Lawrence School has offered to do a further collection to help us with our Christmas packages. School families will be donating not just the essentials but some treats to pop into individual and family bags for the hungry in the Stafford area over Christmas. If you are attending Vespers please consider bringing along a gift for Christian Food Help –Christmas chocolates, sweets or biscuits, nice soap or other 'luxury' donations. We shall add them to the school contributions.

Annual Christmas Globetrotter's Run

This Christmas, we are working again with the Gnosall Globetrotters and are looking for donations of food or toiletries for the Gnosall Globetrotters Food Bank Run Tuesday 16th December 7pm. We can pick up from your home on the night (more running for the runners) or in advance if that is not convenient. Please let me know Sarah 07792764117. Collections will be taken to the vicarage where runners will receive a glass of mulled wine and a mince pie. All donations go to the House of Bread.

Eco Tip of the Month

This season, let's reflect on the story that we wish our actions and choices to tell. Consider A Rocha UK's blog on journeying towards a zero-waste Christmas arocha.org.uk/journeying-towards-a-zero-waste-christmas. May our hearts and our celebrations align with the simplicity and beauty of the Christmas story

Just Giving Pages

We have a Just Giving page for 3 of our churches so far. Please scan the correct QR code if you would like to donate this way. Giving via Lichfield Diocese means Gift Aid is reclaimed on behalf of the church and all donations are passed to us without any fees or commission.

Gnosall



Adbaston



Norbury



Contact Details for the Church Office.

Phone: 01785 822820 Benefice Administrator: Victoria Hainsworth
Office email: churchofficegnosall@gmail.com
Office hours: Tuesday and Wednesday 9-12.00, Friday 9-1:00. During the Benefice Vacancy please contact Gnosall Vicarage by phone or email with enquiries related to regular services and funerals or to book weddings or baptisms. When the office is not staffed leave a message and someone will reply as soon as possible.