

Sunday

7 December 2025

Second Sunday of Advent

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.

FIRST READING Isaiah 11:1-10

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The 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. His 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; but 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. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The 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. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They 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. On 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.

PSALM Psalm 72:1-7. 18-19

R *The Lord is king; let the earth rejoice.*

Give the king your judgements, O God,
and your righteousness to the son of a king.

Then shall he judge your people
righteously
and your poor with justice. **R**

May the mountains bring forth peace,
and the little hills righteousness for the people.

May he defend the poor among the people,
deliver the children of the needy and crush the oppressor. **R**

May he live as long as the sun and moon endure,
from one generation to another.

May he come down like rain upon the mown grass,
like the showers that water the earth.
In his time shall righteousness flourish,
and abundance of peace
till the moon shall be no more. **R**

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,
who alone does wonderful things.
And blessed be his glorious name for ever.

May all the earth be filled with his glory.
Amen. Amen. **R**

SECOND READING Romans 15:4-13

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

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.

GOSPEL Matthew 3:1-12

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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 baptised 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 baptise 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 baptise 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."

POST 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.



The Lord is king; let the earth - re-joyce.

Diary Dates for Sunday 7th December 2025 onwards

Sun 7 th	Advent 2		
	10.30am	St G	Parish Eucharist; Welcomer: Glenice, Crucifer: Jayne, Readers: David & Helen, Intercessions: Gioia, Coffee: Volunteer please
	5.00pm	St M	Evensong
Mon 8 th	5.00pm 7.15pm	Zoom SH	Evening Prayer Youth Club
Tue 9 th	9.00am 9.30am 1.30pm 2.30pm 5.00pm	St G SH MH SH LC	Explore Christmas Coffee Pot Parish Eucharist - Owing to Explore Christmas there will not be a Eucharist today Fun and Free MU Christmas Social with seasonal readings – small gift and a plate of food for 1 Evening Prayer
Wed 10 th	8.15am 9.00am 5.00pm	Zoom St G LC	Morning Prayer Explore Christmas Evening Prayer
Thu 11 th	9.00am 10.30am 10.30am 5.00pm	St G St M SH LC	Explore Christmas Parish Eucharist Thursday Club No Art Group until 8 th January Evening Prayer
Fri 12 th	9.00am 7.30pm	St G MH	Explore Christmas St George's Entertainers' Christmas Sing-along: Friday 12 th December at 7.00pm; tickets are £5.00 for adults and £2.50 for children. Contact st.georgesent@gmail.com for more information.
Sat 13 th	3.00pm	St M	Christingle Service
Sun 14 th	Advent 3		
	10.30am	St G	Parish Eucharist; Welcomer: Margaret, Crucifer: Mark B, Readers: Susan & Linda M, Intercessions: Paul, Coffee: Dianne and Erna
	3.00pm	St G	Reflect , a quiet reflective time of stillness
	5.00pm	St M	Evensong

St G = St George's, St M = St Margaret's, MH = Main Hall, SH = Small Hall, SL = Softley Lounge, LC = Lady Chapel

We pray for: Peter, George, Terry, Phil, Sarah, Andy and children, Paul and children.

Hymns at St George's: 405 Lo he comes; 480 O come, O come; 540 O Lord who at thy Eucharist; 527 On Jordan's bank:

Reflect: Please do come along to St George's next Sunday 14th December at 3.00pm for quiet, contemplation, stillness and prayer. Gioia has more information.

Christmas Fayre: We raised £1,000! Thank you very much once again to all those who helped or attended.

Christmas Hampers: The deadline for bringing your is TODAY; thank you to all those able to donate.

Explore Christmas: We will be welcoming local schools into church this week, it's not too late to offer help in any way please sign up.

Christmas Sing a long: Friday 12th December at 7.00pm; Adults £5 Children £2.50. For more information, please contact stgeorgesent@gmail.com

Christmas Cards: Stella and Stuart have had a lovely idea of instead of sending individual Christmas cards this year, you could donate to our replacement heating fund in exchange for a message to everyone on our screens. Give your message and donation to David!

Foodbank: There is a green collection tray at the back of St George's Church. This week the Foodbank are in **URGENT** need of **cooking oil, laundry pods and sugar**. Or you can check for the latest needs on www.gloucester.foodbank.org.uk Thank you.

CONTACTING US:

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