

## **Advent & Christmas 2025**

*Those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint. (Isaiah 40: 31)*

Advent marks the beginning of the church year. It is a time for reflection in darkness, for renewal of hope and for a movement towards a beginning.

The season of Advent, as it first emerged in the Church in the fourth and fifth centuries, lasted, like Lent, for 40 days. Later tradition developed the Advent we know today, of four Sundays before Christmas Day.

The word Advent simply means 'coming' – it's the season when Christians remember that God came to earth to be born as the Christ child, Jesus.

God also promised that Jesus will come again at the end of time to heal all the world's hurts and divisions. Advent remembers this amazing promise, so it's a time of hope, of getting ready, and expectation.

Waiting is hard, but Christmas is worth waiting for – it's a special time, and at its heart is a gift of love from God to the world. Talk about which things about Christmas are hard to wait for and which are worth saving until the day.

*(All events at St Thomas à Becket's Church unless otherwise stated)*

**THE Church is open every day, usually between 10am & 3pm. It is a beautiful place for quiet prayer and reflection**

## **ADVENT**

### **Sunday mornings in Advent (November 30<sup>th</sup>, December 7, 14, 21,)**

9.30am Parish Eucharist

### **Weekdays in Advent**

Monday December 1,8,15,22 9.15 am Morning Prayer

Tuesday December 2, 9, 16, 5.30pm Evening Prayer (Zoom)  
7.00pm 'Tuesday@7'

Wednesday December 3,10,17 5.30pm Evening Prayer (Zoom)

Thursday December 4,11,18 9.15am Morning Prayer  
10.00am Holy Communion

### **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December 1.30pm – 12pm**

Family Fun Morning at Church.  
Crafts, Scavenger Hunt, The Christmas Story, Carols and Refreshments.

### **Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December 6.00pm**

Nine Lessons and Carols with the joint choirs of Pagham and Aldwick at St Richard's Church, Gossamer Lane, Aldwick

### **Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 7.00pm**

Carols at the Bear Inn, Nyetimber

## **Christmas Tree and stars**

Our Christmas Tree will be in the Church from Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December. You will find, next to the tree, stars for you to write on - to remember loved ones, those on your heart or mind and those you won't see over the Christmas period

# **The Parish Church of St Thomas à Becket, Pagham**

## **CHRISTMAS**

### **Wednesday 24 December Christmas Eve**

4.00pm Crib Service  
9.00 pm Bethlehem Midnight Mass

### **Thursday 25 December Christmas Day**

9.30am Family Eucharist

### **Sunday 28 December First Sunday of Christmas**

9.30am Service of the Word



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