The Parishes of Adbaston, Gnosall, High Offley & Knightley, Moreton and Norbury
Sunday 29th November (Advent Sunday)

Collect
Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Post Communion
O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear, he may not find us sleeping in sin but active in his service and joyful in his praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Isaiah 64: 1-9
O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—
as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil—
to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!
When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.
From ages past no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait for him.
You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.
We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.
We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
There is no one who calls on your name,
or attempts to take hold of you;
for you have hidden your face from us,
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.
Yet, O Lord, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord,
and do not remember iniquity for ever.
Now consider, we are all your people.

1 Corinthians 1: 3-9
Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Mark 13: 24-end
Jesus said: 'But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.
Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in clouds" with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.
'From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.
'But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.'

In our year's mind (St Lawrence, Gnosall) we remember: Audrey Hollows, Teresa Mary Payne, Joan Eileen Webb, Cyril Evans, George Richardson.

The Staffordshire Border Group of Churches are committed to Safeguarding and has adopted the National and Diocesan Safeguarding Policies. Our Benefice Safeguarding Officer is Adie Harris and can be contacted on 01785 284027.
In an emergency where there is imminent risk of harm to a child or vulnerable adult, please contact the police on 999 or your local social services department.

Notices

This Week's Services- 29th November

Norbury 10:30am Benefice Communion
Moreton 3pm Christingle

Next Week's Services- 6th December

Gnosall 8am Holy Communion
10am Benefice Sunday Celebration Christingle

Weekly Diary

Please contact the office if you would like the code to join any of our online services.

Monday 30th November 9am-3pm Christmas activities at St Lawrence for Key Stage 1 children
3pm-4pm Advent Book Club at the vicarage
9.30pm Compline on Zoom
Tuesday 1st December 9.30am Morning Prayer online
10.15am Assembly at Woodseaves School
Wednesday 2nd December 5pm Blue Christmas service at St Lawrence hosted by Mother's Union
9.30pm Compline on Zoom
Thursday 3rd 10.15am Assembly at St Lawrence
Friday 4th 11am Holy Communion at Gingercroft
7pm PCC Christmas party at Norbury Village Hall
9.30pm Compline on Zoom

Please take this pew sheet with you at the end of the service to help you in your prayers this week.

Prayer diary for this week:

Monday For the school children's activities in St Lawrence Church
Tuesday For pupils attending assembly at Woodseaves School
Wednesday Mother's Union Blue Christmas Service at St Lawrence
Thursday For pupils attending assembly at Gnosall school
Friday Those receiving Holy Communion at Gingercroft Care Home
Saturday Those across the benefice planning Christmas services and activities
Sunday For a successful Miniature Nativity Exhibition at Moreton

Vespers

The next Vespers will be on Sunday 6 December at **6.45pm.**

Coffee and Chat

Change of date from Saturday Dec 5th to Saturday Dec 12th. Everyone welcome.

Moreton Church

Miniature Nativity exhibition in Church – 29th November until end of December – open every day 10am – 4pm. The Exhibition will be opened by Rev Rachael 3pm on 29th November followed by a Christingle Service led by Rev Rachael.

Life Sucks Without Socks

This Advent, our benefice is supporting the Mother's Union campaign, *Life Sucks without Socks.* We are collecting donations of thick, warm socks, hats, gloves, scarves and pants for the homeless. We would love to collect 150 items to mark the 150th anniversary of Mother's Union. Bring your donations to church or drop them off in the House of Bread box on the vicarage drive throughout Advent.

Christmas is Coming!

Raising funds for St. Peter's Church, Norbury
WIN A CHRISTMAS HAMPER. *Christmas Quiz sheets will be available from Saturday 28th November*
Completed sheets to be returned with £3.00 entry fee by 18th December Contact Jane for further information 01785 284463 j_swinnerton29@hotmail.com

Blue Christmas Service

Wednesday 2nd December, 5pm, St Lawrence Church,
Christmas can be a difficult time of year. If you are grieving, lonely, anxious or simply not feeling festive, you are warmly invited to join us for a quiet, reflective service of prayer, readings and music. Come as you are, and find a little space and comfort in the company of others. Hosted by Mother's Union.

Advent Book Club

You are invited to join us to explore 'Walking with Angels' by Eleanor Sanderson, the Archbishop of York's Advent book for 2026.
The book club will meet at the vicarage on each of the 4 Mondays of Advent from 3-4pm, and each week we will focus on a chapter of the book as follows:
Monday 30th Nov: 'The Lord is with you'
Monday 7th Dec: 'Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty'
Monday 14th Dec: 'Glory to God in the highest'
Monday 21st Dec: 'Come, Lord Jesus, come!'
Come to all of the sessions, or just the ones you can make. Each week is 'stand-alone' so it won't matter if you can't make them all. The book is widely available, including from Amazon or Eden booksellers. Let Rachael know if you need help to obtain a copy.

Gnosall Adbaston Norbury Just Giving Pages