Beaminster Area Team
15 Churches: One community in Christ

PEW NEWS

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29 November 2026
First Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 64:1-9
Psalm 80:1-8, 18-20
(*or* 80:1-8)
I Corinthians 1:3-9
Mark 13:24-end

Year B
Purple

Please keep this copy of Pew News for reference over the coming week.
If you would like a notice about local events included in the next issue, please email beaminsterteam@gmail.com by 9 am on Tuesday 1st December

Good News 29 November 2026

Advent gives us a time to focus on prayer, beginning with our Advent Carol service this evening. Each church will receive a candle for their worship during Advent and beyond, drawing us together in praying for our locality. There is a daily Advent prayer diary on the website, and opportunities to join in with prayer across the team during Advent.

https://beaminsterteamchurches.org/advent-prayer-events/

Gill is planning a screening of the 10th anniversary service to celebrate Eco Church. You can share in the service on Saturday 12th December, St. Mary's Church, Beaminster, 3.00 pm followed by refreshments.

Monday 30th November Team Council, 7pm St Mary's Beaminster.

Tuesday 8th December, 7pm, St Mary's Beaminster, a simple service of prayer and reflection for Advent: from darkness to light.

First Sunday of Advent 29 November

Isaiah 64.1-9

64O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—
2 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!
3 When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.
4 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.
5 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.
6 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.
7 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.
8 Yet, O Lord, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
9 Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord,
and do not remember iniquity for ever.
Now consider, we are all your people.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY FRIDAY 18TH DECEMBER 7.30PM

The Crewkerne Silver Band presents **A Christmas Fanfare** in St Mary's, Beaminster. Tickets £10 (accompanied children free) onsale in the Beaminster Church office, from crewkernesilverband@gmail.com or on the door. 50% of proceeds to St Mary's Church. Refreshments will be available.

1 Corinthians 1.3-9

3 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
4 I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has
been given you in Christ Jesus, 5for in every way you have been enriched in
him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— 6just as the testimony of
Christ has been strengthened among you— 7so that you are not lacking in
any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ.
8He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the
day of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9God is faithful; by him you were called into the
fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Mark 13.24-end

The Coming of the Son of Man

24 'But in those days, after that suffering,
the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light,
25 and the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.
26Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in clouds" with great power and
glory. 27Then 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.

The Lesson of the Fig Tree

28 '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. 29So also, when you
see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates.
30Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have
taken place. 31Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass
away.

The Necessity for Watchfulness

32 'But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor
the Son, but only the Father. 33Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when
the time will come. 34It 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. 35Therefore, 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, 36or else he may find you asleep when he comes
suddenly. 37And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.'

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.

Or

Alternative Collect

Almighty God,
as your kingdom dawns,
turn us from the darkness of sin to the light of holiness,
that we may be ready to meet you
in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Post Communion

Almighty God, who on the day of Pentecost sent your Holy Spirit to the apostles with the wind from heaven and in tongues of flame, filling them with joy and boldness to preach the gospel: by the power of the same Spirit strengthen us to witness to your truth and to draw everyone to the fire of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Or

Lord God, the source of truth and love, keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, united in prayer and the breaking of bread, and one in joy and simplicity of heart, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Noticeboard

The last Messy Church of the year will be on Saturday 5th December 10-11am in St Mary's Church, Beaminster. Children must be accompanied. Drink and snack provided

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Toller Porcorum **Church Christmas lunch Sunday December 6th 12pm for 12.30 in Village Hall** Festive food with vegetarian option. Tickets in Toller PO or book via the Toller Village Hall Website by Wednesday December 2nd Four courses £17/ £8 for children.