



*St Michael & All Angels,
Chetwynd*

Parish Newsletter
January 2026

Chetwynd Church Services:

4 th January	9.00am	Holy Communion <i>Epistle: Isaiah, Chapter 60, Verses 1 - 6</i> <i>Gospel: Matthew Chapter 2, verses 1-12</i>
11 th January	9.00am	Holy Communion <i>Epistle: Isaiah, Chapter 42, verses 1-12</i> <i>Gospel: Matthew, Chapter 3, verses 13 - 17</i>
18 th January	10.30am	Churches Together in Newport Service St Nicholas Church, Newport (No service at Chetwynd)
25 th January	9.00am	Holy Communion <i>Epistle: Isaiah, Chapter 9, verses 1 - 4</i> <i>Gospel: Matthew, Chapter 4, verses 12 – 23</i> <i>Everyone is welcome to stay after this service for refreshments!</i>

Flower Rota

January Meg Jones

Coffee Rota

25th January Sue Askin

Christmas at Chetwynd

It has been lovely to see so many people joining us throughout Christmastide. We are grateful to everyone who helped prepare and decorate the church for the whole of the festive season.

Thanks, as always, to the team of Newport Bellringers for their festive ringing which welcomed us into church for the service of Carols and Christingles – hearing the bells is always such a joy! The Friends of Chetwynd Church Choir led and inspired our carol singing amazingly and we thank Simone Fowler in her endeavours as recruitment officer. Special thanks to all who prepared the Christingles and provided the festive refreshments, including Richard Pearson for the much-appreciated mulled wine!

As the festive season continues, we give thanks to Andrew Watson-Jones for the floodlit lighting of church, which provides such a stunning and much-admired scene in Chetwynd and beyond!

All of your efforts and generosity have helped make this season truly special for all.



Reflections on 2025

As we come to the close of another year, we pause to reflect on all that 2025 has brought to our church family. It has been a year of mixed emotions – moments of deep sadness and times of great joy and blessing. We mourned the loss of our very dear Andy Parkes and Ward Caddick, whose presence and friendship meant so much to us all. They will remain in our hearts and prayers, and we continue to give thanks for their lives and the love they shared within our community.

Alongside this sorrow, we have seen many signs of hope and renewal. The installation of our new heating system has transformed the warmth and comfort of our church, and the new lighting has also made such a difference.

The aftermath of Storm Claudia has proved to be a setback for our church finances and, although the majority of the cost of repairs will be covered by insurance, there is still a £2000 excess for us to fund. We are grateful for all of those who have contributed generously so far and, with our ongoing appeals and fundraising efforts, look forward to seeing the church fully repaired and restored in the near future.

We have been blessed to welcome new families into our parish and congregation. As always, the friendship, kindness, and fellowship we share continue to be a source of strength and joy. Outside of our weekly services, there are so many people who quietly work behind the scenes to keep our church running on a day-to-day basis, and we especially thank Jane Caddick, Mike Parton and the Millward family for everything they do.

We are deeply grateful to the clergy who have supported our regular worship during this time of interregnum and have very much enjoyed welcoming them to Chetwynd. We are fortunate that we are able to maintain a full schedule of services and worship. Our thanks to Ven. Nick Watson, Rev. Geoff Smith, Rev. Lesley Armstrong, Rev. James Graham, Rev. Sue Symons, Rev. Bill Mash, Rev. Janet Holmes, Rev. Preb. Graham Fowell and, as always, special thanks to Sandra Price and Eddie Loewendahl.

It is also worthy of mention that several members of our congregation have celebrated milestone birthdays over the past year. This includes both of our churchwardens, Robert and Sue, and, for Kathleen Birks and Pat Parsons, extra special wishes to them both as they celebrate their 90th birthdays! Love and best wishes to you all 😊

As we look ahead to the next steps in recruiting our new rector, we hold close our interregnum prayer, trusting in God's guidance for the future of our parish.

*Gracious and loving God,
We come before You in this time of interregnum, seeking Your guidance and peace for the Benefice of Newport with Longford, and Chetwynd.
We give thanks for the faithful witness of the congregations at St Nicholas, Newport, and St Michael and All Angels, Chetwynd.*

*Bless and uphold the lay readers, visiting ministers, churchwardens, and all who serve so faithfully during this time of transition.
May they be strengthened by Your Spirit and encouraged in their ministry.
Grant unity, patience, and hope to all members of our church family as we look ahead in faith.*

*Lord of the harvest, we pray for priests discerning their next calling.
Stir their hearts, that they may hear Your voice and recognise the opportunities and blessings of serving as Rector of this benefice.
May You raise up a shepherd who will lead with wisdom, compassion, and joy.*

Help us to remain steadfast in prayer, open to Your leading, and ready to welcome the one You are preparing for us.

*In the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour,
Amen.*



Prayer for January

*God of new beginnings, as we step into this January light,
we thank you for the quiet gift of a fresh year.
In the stillness of winter, open our hearts to the hope you plant in hidden places.*

*Where we feel weary, renew us; where we feel uncertain, steady us;
Where we long for change, guide our steps with your wisdom.*

*Lord Jesus, Light of the World, as the Magi once followed the star,
Teach us to seek you with the same courage and wonder.
Shine your truth on the paths we walk - in our homes, our work, our
parish, and in the lives of all entrusted to our care.
May your Epiphany light reveal what is good, heal what is broken, and
draw us closer to your heart.*

*Holy Spirit, breath of new life, stir in us a renewed desire to serve,
To listen well, to love generously, and to walk faithfully in the days ahead.
Bless our community of St Michael & All Angels,
Its ministries, its friendships, its quiet acts of kindness,
And all who seek refuge, purpose, or peace within its walls.*

*As this new year unfolds, may we be people of hope, bearers of your light,
and witnesses to the grace that makes all things new.*

*Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
Amen.*

We also remember in our prayers at this time:

Jules, James & Becky Parkes and Jane Caddick.

Weekly Collect Reflections

Reverend **James Graham** continues to provide us with a series of reflections on each weekly Collect from the Book of Common Prayer. These are sent via email along with our weekly Benefice newsletter and are also published on our website below. *(If you would like to have printed copies, please let Jenny know.)*

[Weekly Collect Reflections - News - St. Michael & All Angels, Chetwynd - A Church Near You](#)

[News - St. Michael & All Angels, Chetwynd - A Church Near You](#)

[Worship and Prayer - St. Michael & All Angels, Chetwynd - A Church Near You](#)

Safeguarding

Please click the link below for our parish safeguarding information, including our updated policy for 2025 – 2026:

[Safeguarding - St. Michael & All Angels, Chetwynd - A Church Near You](#)

Lichfield Diocese News

Please click the link below for the latest bulletin with news and information from around the Diocese:

[News - Diocese of Lichfield](#)

Contacts:

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or by clicking the 'donate' button on our website:

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/4412/>



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Anyone is welcome to suggest or add articles / photographs to the monthly newsletter. Do send any material to chetwyndchurch@gmail.com.



Wishing everyone a happy, healthy and blessed 2026.