

Sunday 30th November 2025

Advent Sunday

10.00 a.m. Church Family Communion with Children's Church

4.00 p.m. Tea Time Church

Collect for Today

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. **Amen**

Service Readings

Isaiah 2:1-5 (*p.641*), Romans 13:11-14 (*p.158*) and Matthew 24:36-44 (*p.26*)

Please pray for

... Rebecca Brown, Mark & Jan Knott, Jenny Powell and Mike Woodcock.

... the family of Roy Wakefield as they prepare for his funeral.

... the family and friends of Revd Canon Thomas New, Ernest Barnard, Brenda Horsley, Marianne Hehn, Yvonne Quittenton, Beth Reynolds, Zoe Collins and Peter Scurfield whose anniversary of death is at this.

... those who live and work in Hedgeway, Henley Bank, High View Road and Hollow Close.

... the Koens family in Papua New Guinea supporting the work of Bible translation through vehicle maintenance, teaching, missionary care.

Post Communion Prayer

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.**

Financial Giving

We take a collection during our services. If you don't give regularly by standing order or the envelope scheme, please put your donation in the bag, tap the card reader on your way out, or use the QR code on the back of this news-sheet. Thank you.

Dear Friends

Who can't wait till Christmas? Well, welcome to the season of waiting. Advent starts here. Cardboard doors at the ready!

The world at large might tell you it's been the Christmas season for weeks, or even months. My car radio has been playing Heart Christmas, Magic Christmas and Smooth Christmas since September (that's my choice, admittedly). I had my first mince pie in August.

But we know it's not Christmas just yet - and we should wait for our presents.

As Christians, we're not just counting the days till Christ's birth this Advent, but awaiting Christ's return. The Advent season can remind us that we still wait - well past December 25th. But waiting doesn't have to be passive.

While we look forward to heaven, to Christ's return, to a time of peace and future hope, we can reflect on what Jesus has asked of us: to forgive swiftly, to keep our word, to serve others, to love our neighbour, to love our enemies, to love God with all our heart, mind and soul.

...So why wait?

I pray that over these weeks we'll find time to reconnect with Christ to come, as we open doors, light our candles, and be a light to others.

Bless you this Advent

Paul Young

Mission Focus for November: Clare and Andrew Koens, Papua New Guinea

Clare and Andrew Koens provide support to the Wycliffe Bible translators in Papua New Guinea. One of Andrew's tasks is looking after the motorbikes (including "the Jesus Video Bike" pictured in November's magazine) used by the translators to access villages and deliver hymnbooks, bibles and school supplies. Clare works in staff care, parent coaching and education. Their children Levi, Heidi and Eowyn are at school – please pray that more teachers can come so a full curriculum can be offered at their school. wycliffe.org.uk/.

Notices

Advent Sunday TODAY: We'll be lighting our advent candles, beginning the journey towards Christmas.

Thank you to Jo Smalley and all those who helped to make our tea and board games event at Dray Court such a success. We enjoyed delicious cakes, games, puzzles and lots of fun together!

Guildford Food Bank: During November we will be collecting items for the Guildford Food Bank. In December they are expecting to support over 400 client households, which is double the number they saw in December 2022! Please bring your donations to the box provided in church. The items they need this time are: sharing boxes of chocolates or sweets, bags or boxes of sharing savoury snacks, gift toiletries, tinned meat, tinned fish, laundry detergent, dried flavoured noodles, toothpaste. Thank you!

Carol Singing with the Guides: Tuesday 9th December, 6.30pm gathering at the hall. As always, we'll be joining the Guides in visiting Dray Court and other friends in the parish.

Decorating our Christmas Tree: After the Christingle Café-style Altogether Worship service on 7th December, we'll be decorating the Christmas tree! Join the fun by staying after to add the baubles and tinsel and to enjoy a mince pie.

Advent & Christmas Services:

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| 7 | Sunday 7 th : | 10am | <i>Christingle at Café Style Altogether Worship</i> |
| | | 4pm | <i>Christingle at Tea-time Church</i> |
| 7 | Sunday 14 th : | 6pm | <i>Nine Lessons & Carols</i> |
| 7 | Sunday 21 st : | 10am | <i>Morning Worship & Nativity</i> |
| 7 | Wednesday 24 th : | 4pm | <i>Crib Service</i> |
| 7 | Christmas Day: | 8am | <i>BCP Communion</i> |
| | | 10am | <i>All-Age Communion</i> |

Diary for the Coming Week

Morning prayer Mon, Tues and Weds 9.15am in the Reading Room and on Zoom. Thurs Holy Communion at 9.30am in the Reading Room.

Tues 2nd Funeral of Roy Wakefield, Woking Crematorium, 4.00pm

Weds 3rd Central Team Meeting, Vicarage, 10.00am
Sharing & Learning Group, 5 Elmside, 7.45pm

Thurs 4th Holy Communion, Reading Room, 9.30am,
Choir Rehearsal, 8.00pm

Fri 5th Baby & Toddler Group, Church, 10.00am

Sat 6th Band Rehearsal, Church, 10.00am

Sun 7th *Christingle*
Holy Communion, Reading Room, 8.00am
Christingle Café-Style Altogether Worship, 10.00am
Christingle Tea Time Church, Reading Room, 4.00pm
Youth Group, Church Hall, 5.30pm

Daily Readings for the coming week

Mon 1st Ps. 47, Ezekiel 47:1-12, John 12:20-32

Tues 2nd Ps. 80, Isaiah 26:1-13, Matthew 12:22-37

Weds 3rd Ps. 7, Isaiah 28:1-13, Matthew 12:38-end

Thurs 4th Ps. 42, Isaiah 28:14-end, Matthew 13:1-23

Fri 5th Ps. 25, Isaiah 29:1-14, Matthew 13:24-43

Sat 6th Ps. 9, Isaiah 29:15-end, Matthew 13:44-end

Service Readings for Sunday 7th December: Second Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 11:1-10, Romans 15:4-13 and Matthew 3:1-12

Contacts

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