

The United Benefice of Henley-on-Thames with Remenham
THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN
Registered Charity

The Second Sunday of Advent (Cycle C) December 9th 2018

Welcome to this ancient Parish Church. If you are a visitor or a new member of the congregation, you will find the order of service in the booklets. The hymns are not announced - they can be found on this sheet. The crèche is available throughout the service for toddlers and parents; Junior Church also takes place in the Chantry House. Tea & coffee are served in the Chantry House after the service: please join us and make yourself known.

Entrance Hymn: 12 On Jordan's bank

The Opening Prayer

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us,
and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness
we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us,
your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honour and glory, now and for ever.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The First Reading: Baruch 5

Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem,
and put on for ever the beauty of the glory from God.

Put on the robe of the righteousness that comes from God;

put on your head the diadem of the glory of the Everlasting;

for God will show your splendour everywhere under heaven.

For God will give you evermore the name, 'Righteous Peace, Godly Glory'.

Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height; look towards the east, and see your children gathered from west and east at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing that God has remembered them. For they went out from you on foot, led away by their enemies; but God will bring them back to you, carried in glory, as on a royal throne. For God has ordered that every high mountain and the everlasting hills be made low and the valleys filled up, to make level ground, so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God. The woods and every fragrant tree have shaded Israel at God's command. For God will lead Israel with joy, in the light of his glory, with the mercy and righteousness that come from him.

Benedictus (The Song of Zechariah)

Bless the Lord, the God of Israel, who has come to set us free.

He has raised for us a Saviour sprung from royal David's tree.

Through his prophets God had spoken of the hope the Christ would bring;
of his faithfulness and mercy let each generation sing.

Long ago God made a promise he would set his people free,
that in all our life and worship we might know true liberty,
to be holy, to be righteous in his sight throughout our days;
now this child will be a herald making ready all God's ways.

Let all people know salvation through forgiveness of their sin,
as our God in his compassion bids a shining dawn begin.
So may all who dwell in darkness see the shadows disappear
while he guides our feet in pathways where his peace is ever near.

To the Father be all glory with the Spirit and the Son,
as it was, is now and shall be while eternal ages run.

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The Gospel Reading: Luke 3:1-6

The Proclamation of John the Baptist

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."

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THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

The Offertory Hymn: **5** Hark! a herald voice is calling

The Anthem: The truth from above *Ralph Vaughan-Williams*

This is the truth sent from above,
The truth of God, the God of love;
Therefore don't turn me from your door,
But hearken all, both rich and poor.

The first thing which I do relate,
Is that God did man create;
The next thing which to you I'll tell,
Woman was made with man to dwell.

Thus we were heirs to endless woes,
Till God the Lord did interpose
And so a promise soon did run
That He would redeem us by His Son.

And at that season of the year
Our blest Redeemer did appear
He here did live, and here did preach,
And many thousands He did teach.

Thus He in love to us behaved,
To show us how we must be saved;
And if you want to know the way
Be pleas'd to hear what He did say.

The Final Hymn: **295** Let all mortal flesh keep silence

The Organ Voluntary: Epilogue on "Winchester New" *Eric Thiman*

Today's Sung Eucharist:

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| Sidesmen | Richard Fletcher and Lavinia Southern |
| Lessons | Carol Brook-Partridge |
| Intercessions | Sue Hockley |
| Servers | Sheila Croton and Louis Bell |
| Acolytes | Tania Tindall and Sue Hockley |
| Chalice | Gill Aitchison and Sheila Croton |
| Coffee | Sheila and George Constantinidi |

Please replace the kneelers on your pew before leaving. Thank you!

This Week

Mon 10	Feria	Shiplake College rehearsal 8.30am-4.00pm (SM)
Tues 11	Feria	Shiplake College rehearsal 8.30am-4.00pm (SM)
Wed 12	Feria	Shiplake College rehearsal 8.30am-11.45am (SM) Funeral of Noel Armstead 1.30pm (SM) Mothers Union 2.30pm (CH)
Thurs 13	S Lucy	Eucharist (CW Trd) 10.00am (SM) Shiplake College rehearsal 11.00am-12.30pm (SM) <i>Shiplake College set up in afternoon (SM)</i> Henley Municipal Charities Lunch 9am-4pm (CH) Choir Practice 7.15pm (SM)
Fri 14	S John of The Cross	Praying Together 9.30am (CH) Advent Bible Study 10.15am Shiplake College Carol Service 11.30am (SM) Amnesty International Concert 7.30pm (CH)
Sat 15	Feria	

Morning Prayer will be said at 9am and Evening Prayer usually at 5pm at St Mary's on weekdays

Sunday December 16 ~ The Third Sunday of Advent

8.00am Eucharist (SM) 9.30am Sung Eucharist (SM)
11.15am Said Matins (SN) 4.00pm Candlelit Carol Service (SN)
6.30pm Candlelit Carol Service (SM)

Please pray for The Church:

Falkland Islands - The Rt Revd Timothy Thornton

The sick:

Nicola, Neil, Helen, Stella, Maria, John Ogden, Jennifer, Kathryn, Henry

The departed:

Noel Armstead, Andrew Dixon

Those whose year's minds falls this week:

George Whitfield (10), Evelyn Best (13), Ronald May (14), John Houldsworth (15)

Notices for the week beginning 9 December

This years' Advent Bible Study continues on Fridays 14 and 21 December at 10.15am in the Chantry House. These sessions will give us an opportunity to get to know Luke's gospel in more depth, with a particular focus on the gospels for the Sundays of Advent. All are welcome.

Advent and Christmas are a wonderful opportunity to invite friends and family who do not usually come to church to share in celebrating the season. Our Christmas candlelit carol service is on Sunday 16 December at 6.30pm and our Christingle service is on Christmas Eve at 3.00pm.

The Henley Food Bank Box can be found by the crèche. Please bring donations on Sunday mornings - toiletry items, tinned veg, tinned fruit, savoury biscuits, tinned meat, long lasting milk, cereal, crisps, biscuits, squash, pasta sauce. A Christmas list is on the noticeboard at the back of church.

Amnesty International Reading are delighted to host an evening of 'Music, Mulled Wine & Mine Pies', Friday 14 December at 7.30pm in The Chantry House. This year's programme will include Walton's 'Facade' Suite and works from Mozart to Debussy. Presented by Syrinx (flute, oboe, clarinet, horn, bassoon and piano). Tickets include refreshments during the interval, £14 (£8 unwaged) available from amnesty.reading@gmail.com tel. 077 40423894 or online at <https://billetto.co.uk/en/e/music-mulled-wine-mince-pies-tickets-310934>

On Sunday February 17 there will be a united benefice confirmation service with Bishop Colin at 10.30am at St Mary's. Please speak to Fr Jeremy if you would like to be confirmed.

Do you need extra help at home this Christmas? Or know someone who needs extra care? Please call Carmen 07827803645.

***Parish Office ~ Mon, Tues 9.30am-12.30pm : Wed, Fri, 9.30am-4.30pm
tel: 577340 email: office.hwr@lineone.net rector.hwr@btinternet.com
Fr Jeremy is always happy to talk to parishioners about any subject, please call the parish
office to make an appointment. Saturday is the his day off and Friday is his study day.
Fr Jeremy would appreciate being spared calls on these days except in an emergency.***