

HELP PLEASE. We have produced a Christmas Card from the church which advertises all of our Christmas Services beginning with our Advent Carol Service. We would like every home in the parish to receive a card by 1st December. There are collections of cards with street names on at the back of church ready to begin distributing this week. Please take as many streets as you can and deliver. Many hands make light work.

Christmas Market

Calling all Mince Pie Makers of St Mary's!

Our usual 'baker' cannot make the many dozens of mince pies she so kindly donates each year, so we need to appeal to our church members for supplies for Saturday, 30 November. Last year your response was overwhelming and extremely generous: a mince pie mountain in fact, all of which were sold, contributing funds for St Mary's. Thank you very much for your help.



Christmas Market. Please make a note in your diaries of our Christmas Market to be held in the church hall on Saturday 30th November 10.00am—12 noon.

There will be a final meeting for all those helping with stalls on Wednesday 20 November at 7.30 pm in the Narthex. If you are able to volunteer to help or have any further questions please contact the coordinator Katey Fletcher 01384 378182 or e mail kateyfletcher@btinternet.com

A memorial service for Michael Woodall will be held in church on Friday 29th November at 4.15pm preceded by a private family committal at the crematorium.

Maggie Abbotts will be running a Fairtrade stall in church following our 10.00am service today.



The Parish Church of St Mary Oldswinford

Sunday November 17 2019

Second Sunday before Advent



A warm welcome to any visitors who are worshipping with us today. Please join us for a chat over a cup of coffee after our 10.00am service. If you would like to find out about any of the activities associated with church please speak to a

warden or sides person or visit our website at

www.stmaryschurcholdswinford.org.uk or our Facebook page at

www.facebook.com/StMarysChurchOldswinford.

Our services today are as follows:

8.00am - Holy Communion

President: Revd John Flitcroft

Readings from the BCP Page 241 **Sides:** Gillian Shaw

10.00am - Parish Communion

President: Revd John Flitcroft **Preacher:** Roger King

Warden: Malcolm Frost **Sides:** Sally Frost and Mike Blaxland

Reader: Sally Frost **Intercessions:** Peter Thomson

Children Together: Peter & Kathryn Hancox

Coffee: Peter & Kathryn Hancox

Anthem: God be in my head—*Rutter*

Voluntary: The King's Majesty - *Corl*

1.00pm Baptism led by Revd John Flitcroft

supported by MU members Brenda Selby and Chris Brinsdon

6.30pm – Evensong

Officiant: Revd John Flitcroft **Preacher:** Revd John Flitcroft

Warden: Maggie Abbotts

Readers: Maggie Abbotts & Judith Nex

Anthem: View me, Lord —*Lloyd*

Voluntary: Adagio BWV 564ii - *J S Bach*

Collect for this week:

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son was revealed to destroy the works of the devil and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life: grant that we, having this hope, may purify ourselves even as he is pure; that when he shall appear in power and great glory we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Readings for our 10.00am service

The Old Testament Reading

Malachi 4: 1—2a

See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the Lord of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings.

This is the Word of the Lord
THANKS BE TO GOD.

The Gospel Reading

Luke 21: 5—19

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke
GLORY TO YOU, O LORD.

When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, he said, “As for these things that you see, the days will come when

What's going on?

Please ask if you would like to know any more about the events listed on these pages.

SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY

24 November

Christ The King

8.00 am Communion (BCP)

Led by Revd Alex French

10.00am Parish Communion

Led by Revd Alex French

6.30pm Evensong

Led by Revd Alex French

Christmas Hamper

The usual Christmas Hamper is being prepared to be raffled at the Christmas Market. Please sign the list at the back of church if you are able to donate anything to be included in the hamper. Thankyou.



CHURCH DIARY FOR THIS WEEK

Monday 18

Parish office closed today.

Piano tuner in church

7.30pm PCC Meeting

Tuesday 19

9.30am Organ being tuned in church

2.00pm Tea in the Coach House

7.30pm All Saints-Advent Prayer Group meet in the rectory.

Wednesday 20

10.00am Prayer Group meeting at the home of Marjorie

2.30pm All Saints-Advent Prayer Group meet in the rectory.

Thursday 21

10.30am Holy Communion with wedding blessing in church led by Revd John followed by refreshments in the narthex.

Friday 22

Clergy day off. The clergy would appreciate being spared calls on this day except in an emergency.

Saturday 23

10.00am—11.00am Vestry hour with Revd John

10.00am—12.00pm Open Church



We invite you to offer prayers for

Worldwide Church:

The Reformed Episcopal Church of Spain with Bishop Carols Lopez-Lozano. Also the Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church with Archbishop Umas Villma and Bishops Tilt Saumae and Joel Luhamets.

Churches Together:

Amblecote Wordsley Methodist Church

Bishop John has asked us to pray

for Dr Stephen Edwards the new residentiary Canon at Worcester Cathedral and all other new members of the Cathedral Staff, who work to support the mission of the Diocese in the city centre.

The work of St Mary's.....

Our All Saints to Advent prayer groups that will be meeting this week. For those that will lead these groups and those who will attend. For Maisie Willcox who will be baptised here today. For her parents and God parents who will support her. For Ian and Liz whose wedding will be blessed during our service on Thursday morning. For our PCC who will be meeting this week.

Those living in:

Stanley Road and Bramber Way

Local Community:

Corbett Hospital

Among those who are ill:

Peter & Angela Viner, Pamela Peacock, the Rogerson family, Iris Wheeler, Mary Joyce Tolley, Mavis Kynaston, Maureen Baker, Joe and Ros Yeates, Noah Bingham, Barbara Crompton and Brian Drew.

We continue to pray for:

Colin Millward, Josh Raffan, Ian Moore, Joe Chiswell, Judy Taylor, Rory Macintosh, Elian Irvine-Boden, Martin Aston, Ruth Hardy, Anna Scudamore, Jonathan Bryan, Noah Cantius, Denis Noakes, Penny Webb, The May family, Heather and Alex.

Those in nursing home care:

Margaret Moulton, Dorothy Gibson and Betty Shore.

The departed:

Michael Woodall and Jan Jones.

Please inform the clergy or a member of the pastoral care team as soon as possible if you know of any illness or particular need within the congregation.



not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.” They asked him, “Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?” And he said, “Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’ and, ‘The time is near!’ Do not go after them.

“When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.” Then he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

“But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. This will give you an opportunity to testify. So make up your minds not to prepare your defence in advance; for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. You will be hated by all because of my name. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your souls.

This is the Gospel of the Lord
PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST.

Post Communion Prayer:

Gracious Lord, in this holy sacrament you give substance to our hope: bring us at the last to that fullness of life for which we long; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen**

Readings for our 6.30pm service.

Old Testament Reading

Daniel 6: 11—23

The conspirators came and found Daniel praying and seeking mercy before his God. Then they approached the king and said concerning the interdict, “O king! Did you not sign an interdict, that anyone who prays to anyone, divine or human, within thirty days except to you, O king, shall be thrown into a den of lions?” The king answered, “The thing stands fast, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which cannot be revoked.” Then they responded to the king, “Daniel, one of the exiles from Judah, pays no attention to you, O king, or to the interdict you have signed, but he is saying his prayers three times a day.”

When the king heard the charge, he was very much distressed. He was determined to save Daniel, and until the sun went down he made every effort to rescue him. Then the conspirators came to the king and said to him, “Know, O king, that it is a law of the Medes and Persians that no interdict or ordinance that the king establishes can be changed.”

Then the king gave the command, and Daniel was brought and thrown into the den of lions. The king said to Daniel, “May your God, whom you faithfully serve, deliver you!” A stone was brought and laid on the mouth of the den, and the king sealed it with his own signet and with the signet of his lords, so that nothing might be changed concerning Daniel. Then the king went to his palace and spent the night fasting; no food was brought to him, and sleep fled from him.

Then, at break of day, the king got up and hurried to the den of lions. When he came near the den where Daniel was, he cried out anxiously to Daniel, “O Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God whom you faithfully serve been able to deliver you from the lions?” Daniel then said to the king, “O king, live forever! My God sent his angel and shut the lions’ mouths so that they would not hurt me, because I was found blameless before him; and also before you, O king, I have done no wrong.” Then the king was exceedingly glad and commanded that Daniel be taken up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no kind of harm was found on him, because he had trusted in his God.

The New Testament Reading

Matthew 13: 1—9, 18—23

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: “Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!”

“Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

