

WELCOME TO OUR CHURCHES & SERVICES



30th November 2025 – 1st Sunday of Advent

THIS WEEK

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. Amen.*

Readings: Isaiah 2.1-5, Matthew 24:36-44

Hymns: Carol Book 5 O come, O come, Emmanuel

MP 204 Hail to the Lord's anointed

Carol Book 8 Hark the glad sound

Carol Book 11 Lo, he comes with clouds descending

SUNDAY WORSHIP

10.00am Holy Communion at St. Mary's

We hope to be able to live stream the 10am service on Facebook.

4.00pm Messy Advent Family Event at St. Mary's

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Mon 7.30pm Bell ringing Practice

Wed 10.30am Holy Communion at St. Mary's

Frid 10.00am Refresh Café at St. Mary's

Sat 9.00am Village Green Pray-ers

SUNDAY WORSHIP – Sunday 7th December 2025

8.30am Holy Communion at Reach

10.00am Advent Café Church St. Mary's

4.30pm Christingle Service at St. Mary's

FOR YOUR PRAYERS:

- Loving God, as we set out on our Advent journey, fill our hearts with the desire to walk in your paths and learn your ways. Give us the grace we need to build relationships one step at a time. Amen.

- We continue to pray for an end to the war in Ukraine. Be near to those who are anxious; bring comfort to all who are suffering.

- We pray for the peoples of Gaza and Israel, that a stable and lasting ceasefire plan may be secured.

- We pray for world leaders and those in positions of power. May they work for justice, peace, and the dignity of all people, especially the poor and marginalised. May they seek to serve rather than to be served.

- For the work of organisations helping families around the world to overcome poverty and injustice, wherever the need is greatest, and there is high risk of famine including: Myanmar, Haiti, Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Yemen, Syria, DRC, South Sudan.

- We give thanks for the beauty of our world. We pray for people whose lives are destroyed by floods, heatwaves, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions and other natural occurrences. Help us to care actively for this world, to take responsibility for looking after it rather than simply using and abusing it. We pray that world leaders, local governments and communities work together to protect our common home.

- As the commercial aspect of the Christmas season begins, we pray for all those that are struggling financially. Let us remember the true meaning of Advent and give the gift of our time, to those who need it most.

- For all those struggling in today's difficult economic situation. May adequate immediate provision be made available, and support to find longer term solutions, so that everyone has their basic needs met for food, shelter, employment and security. For national and international governments as they tackle the economic and social issues which affect them. May those in authority act with wisdom and justice to bring greatest good for the greatest number of people.

- We give thanks for the gift of community, a place where we can connect, support, and encourage one another. We pray for unity, understanding, and love among all members. Help us to see each other as your children, and to treat each other with kindness and compassion.

- For the new Archbishop of Canterbury elect, Bishop Sarah Mullally – for grace to fulfil this challenging role, for wisdom, discernment, humility and courage. For our leaders as the Diocese continues the process of choosing a new Bishop of Ely.

- For this parish, for Eleanor, Paula, Jo, Kevin & all in leadership. For our work with children, young people and families, including Refresh Café, Messy Church and Connect Café. For those involved on the teams, and for all who come along.

- For those living in:- Anchor Lane, Chandlers Court, Hatley Drive, Kingfisher Drive, Myrtle Drive, Silver Street (Burwell), Blackberry Drove (Reach)

- For those in special need: Danny, Sarah, Jackie C, Neil, Janice, Sonny (Jackie & Tony's Great Grandson), Kate, Jennie D, John D, Joanne, Pam C, Michael (Ysanne's brother), Jackie L, Sue A, Daphne, Hilary, Paul (Alison K's friend), Lesha (Janice Fearn's granddaughter), Jessica, Paul (Christine's husband), Steve (Boppo), David K.

- For the bereaved including the family and friends of Joan Rickett, and for those remembering anniversaries of loss of loved ones.

FOR YOUR ATTENTION

* **Knitted stockings and sweets** will need to be given to Paula or left in the vestry by Sunday 30th Nov ready to take to HMP Whitemoor on Monday 1st Dec. Thankyou.

* As part of the Church of England's **safeguarding audit**, the INEQE Safeguarding Group will be visiting Ely Diocese for a week next February. As many contributors as possible are invited to complete an anonymous and confidential survey (closing on 2nd December). These responses will contribute to INEQE's final report and recommendations.

<https://elydiocese.org/ineqe-safeguarding-group-want-to-hear-your-views.php>

* **Carols by Candlelight** Sun 21st Dec. We would be grateful for **donations** towards the refreshments after the service: **red wine** for the mulled wine and **mince pies** (please let me know in advance), either leave in Church kitchen or contact Val who will collect, by Sun 21st Dec morning. Thanks very much.

PASTORAL CARE

Please contact Eleanor or Paula with messages about pastoral news, needs & concerns, requests for prayer. Revd Canon Dr Eleanor Williams 01638 741262 vicar@stmarysburwell.org.uk

Revd Paula Spalding (Associate Priest): 07849 936085 associatepriest@stmarysburwell.org.uk