

## Services and Meetings this week

St. Martin's, St. Kenelm's & Tresham Church: open weekdays 10 – 4pm  
St. Mary's opens daily 9am – 3pm.

### Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December

10.00am Morning Prayer at Perry & Dawes  
1.30pm Blue Coat School Christmas Service  
6.00pm Blue Coat School Christmas Service

### Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December

### Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December

9.30am Holy Communion at St. Mary's  
10.15am Coffee & Conversation after Service  
6.30pm British School Christmas Service

### Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December

### Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December

6.15pm Choir Practice at St. Mary's

### Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> December

10.00am Christingle Mingle (coffee & mince pies) at St. Mary's

### Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Eve

9.30am Holy Communion at St. Mary's  
10.00am Donkey procession from Nibley Chapel to St. Martin's  
4.00pm Christingle at St. Mary's  
5.30pm Christingle at St. Mary's  
6.00pm Christingle at St. Martin's  
9.30pm Bethlehem Midnight Mass at St. Mary's  
11.15pm Midnight Mass at St. Martin's

### Principal Readings (from Lectionary):

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: 2 Samuel 7: 1-11,16

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Romans 16: 25-end

Gospel: Luke 1: 26-38

### Monday 25<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Day

9.30am Family Communion at St. Mary's  
9.30am Family Communion at St. Martin's  
11.15am Family Communion at St. Kenelm's

### Clergy:

Rev Lesley Hewish 07827 418188 [vicar@tyndalebenefice.co.uk](mailto:vicar@tyndalebenefice.co.uk)  
Rev Peter Marsh 01453 547521 / [pcemmarsh@gmail.com](mailto:pcemmarsh@gmail.com)  
Rev Canon Jane Kenchington 07779 991 760 / [janekechington@gmail.com](mailto:janekechington@gmail.com) (Part-time)  
Rev Sue Phillipson-Masters 01454 600674 / [suepm@sky.com](mailto:suepm@sky.com)

### Vicar's Secretary & Benefice Administrator:

Kate Cropper Office Open Tuesday & Thursday, Friday 10am – 12pm  
[office@tyndalebenefice.co.uk](mailto:office@tyndalebenefice.co.uk) 01453 842175

### Wotton-under-Edge with Ozleworth Churchwardens:

Mr Douglas Hinton 07415 541359  
Mrs Anne Parry 01453 843144  
Safeguarding officer – Rev Lesley Hewish – 07827 418188

### Assist. Director of Music:

Miss Hilary Varlow 07795 515219

### North Nibley Churchwarden:

Mrs Sue Devine 01453 543748  
Mr John Hay 07973 327881

[admin@northnibleychurch.uk](mailto:admin@northnibleychurch.uk)

Safeguarding officer – Dawn Shepherd - 07534 099807 /  
[safestmartinnn@gmail.com](mailto:safestmartinnn@gmail.com)

### Alderley (including Tresham) Churchwardens:

Mrs Kay Pettifer 07850 345978  
Mrs Susan Whitfield 01666 890 338 & Safeguarding officer

[www.wottonparishchurch.org.uk](http://www.wottonparishchurch.org.uk)

[www.northnibleychurch.uk](http://www.northnibleychurch.uk)



St Mary's Wotton

**Pew Sheet Notices** – if you would like anything to be added to the pew sheet notices, please ensure they are sent to the office by the end of Wednesday (for the coming Sunday). I will do my best to fit them in.

# Tyndale



## Benefice

Wotton-under-Edge with Ozleworth

North Nibley

Alderley (including Tresham)

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2023

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

### Services

9.30am Holy Communion at St. Mary's  
9.30am Holy Communion at St. Martin's  
11.15am Tresham carol Service at Tresham Church  
11.30am Baptism of Rowan at St. Martin's  
3.00pm Living Crib at North Nibley Chapel  
6.00pm Christmas Carol Service at St. Martin's  
6.00pm 9 Lessons and carols at St. Mary's

### Collect

O Lord Jesus Christ,  
who at your first coming sent your messenger  
to prepare your way before you:  
grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries  
may likewise so prepare and make ready your way  
by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the  
just,  
that at your second coming to judge the world  
we may be found an acceptable people in your sight;  
for you are alive and reign with the Father  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

or

God for whom we watch and wait,  
you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son:  
give us courage to speak the truth,  
to hunger for justice,  
and to suffer for the cause of right,  
with Jesus Christ our Lord.

### Post Communion Prayer

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts;  
kindle in us the fire of your Spirit  
that when your Christ comes again  
we may shine as lights before his face;  
who is alive and reigns now and for ever.

### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,  
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God

**All: Alleluia.**

### Congregation response for the lighting the Advent wreath

People of God: return!

You are called to be God's own.

From the mountains announce the good news.

God comes in justice and peace,

to all who follow his ways.

You are God's children.

**Lord, make us one in the peace of Christ**

**today and for ever. Amen.**

## **Principal Readings**

### **1<sup>st</sup> Reading – Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-end**

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me,  
because the Lord has anointed me;  
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,  
to bind up the broken-hearted,  
to proclaim liberty to the captives,  
and release to the prisoners;  
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour,  
and the day of vengeance of our God;  
to comfort all who mourn;  
to provide for those who mourn in Zion—  
to give them a garland instead of ashes,  
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,  
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.  
They will be called oaks of righteousness,  
the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.  
They shall build up the ancient ruins,  
they shall raise up the former devastations;  
they shall repair the ruined cities,  
the devastations of many generations.

For I the Lord love justice,  
I hate robbery and wrongdoing;  
I will faithfully give them their recompense,  
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.  
Their descendants shall be known among the nations,  
and their offspring among the peoples;  
all who see them shall acknowledge  
that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed.  
I will greatly rejoice in the Lord,  
my whole being shall exult in my God;  
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,  
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,  
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,  
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.  
For as the earth brings forth its shoots,  
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,  
so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise  
to spring up before all the nations.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading – 1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24**

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil.  
May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

### **Gospel Reading – John 1: 6-8, 19-24**

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, 'I am not the Messiah.' And they asked him, 'What then? Are you Elijah?' He said, 'I am not.' 'Are you the prophet?' He answered, 'No.' Then they said to him, 'Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?' He said, 'I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, "Make straight the way of the Lord"', as the prophet Isaiah said.  
Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.

## **For your prayers:**

### ***For the family and friends of:***

**Prayer Chain/Ministry** - There is a group of people who will pray for you. To request prayer contact Joan Deveney (01453 844370) or Pat Forster (01453 842557). The Prayer Chain operates for a fortnight, unless otherwise requested.

*In December, we pray for Holy Cross Church*

**\*\*\*\*\* NOTICES \*\*\*\*\***

**St. Mary's Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> Dec at 9.30am** – Coffee will be served before the service from 9am. There will be no coffee after the service so that the church can be set up for Christingle.

**St. Mary's Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> Dec Benefice Communion at 11.00am** – Bucks Fizz (& coffee) will be served before the service from 10.30am. Revd Pauline Godfrey, Head of Discipleship and Vocations and Deputy Director of Mission & Ministry will be the guest speaker.

**Mince Pies required at St. Mary's** – call out for mince pies for the 9 Lessons and Carols on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> Dec at 6pm. Home made would be wonderful, but any will be great. Please let Alan & Shirley or Kate in the office know if you can help.

**St. Mary's New Year Eve's Concert, 6pm** – Justine and friends invite you to join them for a light hearted musical start to your evening with a Viennese flavour. Tickets £15 (includes an interval drink) from Cotswold Book Room or on the door.

**Perry & Dawes Monday 25<sup>th</sup> December and Monday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024** – there will be NO services on these days at Perry & Dawes.

**St. Mary's Christmas Flowers** – if you are able to donate a bit of money towards them, that would be wonderful. Jar at the back of the church.

**St. Nicholas, Ozleworth Carol Service** – 6pm on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December. Car share if you are able, as there is limited parking. Take a torch!

**Benefice Office** will be closed between Christmas and Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January.



**St. Mary's Christingle Mingle**

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> December

Coffee and mince pies available between 10 & 12pm to support the work of the Children's Society

We are making 500 Christingles from 9.30 onwards in the church

Come and read the stories on display in church and fill a candle with coins.

If you would like to help make Christingles or bake mince pies contact Kate Tutty 01453 844371

## **A Christmas Poem**

Light looked down and saw the darkness.  
I will go there', said light.  
Peace looked down and saw war.  
'I will go there', said peace.  
Love looked down and saw hatred.  
'I will go there', said love.  
So he,  
the Lord of Light,  
the Prince of Peace  
the King of Love  
came down and crept in beside us.

*From John Bell (1745-1831)*