

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 1st January 2024 – New Years Day

No Perry and Dawes Service

Tuesday 2nd January – Office Closed

Wednesday 3rd January – Office Closed

9.30am Holy Communion at St. Mary's
10.15am Coffee & Conversation after Service
2.15pm Mothers Union AGM at St. Mary's – all welcome

Thursday 4th January – Office Open

Friday 5th January – Office Closed

6.15pm Choir Practice at St. Mary's

Saturday 6th January

Sunday 7th January – Epiphany

9.30am Family Service at St. Martin's
10.00am Holy Communion Service at St. Mary's

Principal Reading (from the Lectionary)

1st Reading: Isaiah 60: 1-6

2nd Reading: Ephesians 3: 1-12

Gospel: Matthew 2: 1-12

Clergy:

Rev Lesley Hewish 07827 418188 vicar@tyndalebenefice.co.uk
Rev Peter Marsh 01453 547521 / pcemarsh@gmail.com
Rev Canon Jane Kenchington 07779 991 760 / janekenchington@gmail.com (Part-time)

Rev Sue Phillipson-Masters 01454 600674 / suepm@sky.com

Vicar's Secretary & Benefice Administrator:

Kate Cropper Office Open See above 10am – 12pm
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
Safeguarding officer – Dawn Shepherd - 07534 099807 / safestmartinnn@gmail.com

Alderley (including Tresham) Churchwardens:

Mrs Kay Pettifer 07850 345978
Mrs Susan Whitfield 01666 890 338 & Safeguarding officer
www.wottonparishchurch.org.uk  St Mary's Wotton
www.northnibleychurch.uk

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.

Happy New Year to you all

Tyndale



Benefice

Wotton-under-Edge with Ozleworth
North Nibley
Alderley (including Tresham)

Sunday 31st December 2023
1st Sunday of Christmas

Services

11.00am Benefice Holy Communion with guest Speaker Rev Pauline Godfrey

6.00pm New Year Eve Concert at St. Mary's – tickets available from The Cotswold Book Room or on the door.

Collect

Almighty God,
who wonderfully created us in your own image
and yet more wonderfully restored us
through your Son Jesus Christ:
grant that, as he came to share in our humanity,
so we may share the life of his divinity;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

or

God in Trinity,
eternal unity of perfect love:
gather the nations to be one family,
and draw us into your holy life
through the birth of Emmanuel,
our Lord Jesus Christ.

Post Communion Prayer

Heavenly Father,
whose blessed Son shared at Nazareth the life of an earthly home:
help your Church to live as one family,
united in love and obedience,
and bring us all at last to our home in heaven;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory.

All: Alleluia.

Principal Readings

1st Reading: *Colossians 3:12-17*

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord* has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ* dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God.* And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Gospel: *Matthew 5:13-16*

'You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

For your prayers:

For the family and friends of:

Michael Weeden who died on 19th December

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

Christmas and New Year Blessings from Rev Lesley

I can't believe this is my second Christmas with the Tyndale benefice!! In fact, this is the first time I've been here for the whole of advent. Last year Covid took me out for a few days, and I missed all school services. But 2023 has allowed me to see all aspects of the lead up to Christmas. I am writing this on the morning after the last school carol service. Between them North Nibley School, Blue Coat, British school, KLB, and The Old Rosehillians will have brought close to 2000 people through our church doors in last week. I hope you find these figures as encouraging as I do.

There is much to look forward to. We have a good number of weddings being booked through into 2025 so our churches continue to be important to families and couples as they make life decisions. And we also have a healthy number of baptism enquiries too.

I would like to give thanks for each one of you who gives their time, energy (both physical and emotional) in keeping our churches forward facing. Every act of love and kindness is seen by God and your prayers make such a difference.

Next year each of our churches will welcome new faces through our doors. Many members of our communities seek our church buildings as safe places to walk into to find peace and solace. Our continued task for 2024 is to ensure that everyone is welcomed unconditionally. Our future is with those new faces arriving at the most unexpected times.

It is for us to ensure that others see Christ's light shining through us. Who will those people be for you in 2024? I suggest we look at who Jesus hung out with. I will leave you to

think about this as you read through scripture, engage in your house groups, maybe you could join the new alpha course in Jan; and as you hear God's word preached at every opportunity in our services, listen to what God has to say to you.

Leading into the Christmas Season, please remember that God loves each of you just as you are. He knows you by name. God wants the very best for you and for us as a community of Christian people. So don't hold your light under a bushel. I still feel there are many of you I only know in passing at a service. Please do get in touch and book yourself in for a coffee with me in January and Feb.

Take Christ's light out into the world. Jesus isn't just for Christmas, he is there for each of us in every moment of every day.

Rev Lesley

******* NOTICES *******

St. Mary's Sunday 31st 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.

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 1st January 2024 – there will be NO services on these days at Perry & Dawes.

Benefice Office will be closed Friday 22nd December until Thursday 4th January. Friday 5th January the office will be closed.

Alpha Course – Introductory evening & Food 11th Jan, 7pm at The Baptist Church. Email vince@wottonbaptist.org.uk or 07973 261057 for more details.

Good things
are better
together.
Introductory Evening & Food
Thursday 11 January, 7pm
Wotton Baptist Church
email vince@wottonbaptist.org.uk
mob 07973 261057

You're
invited
to Alpha.

Hymn Words – We Seek Your Kingdom

We seek your kingdom throughout every sphere
We long for heaven's demonstration here
Jesus your light shine bright for all to see
Transform, revive, and heal society

Before all things, in him were all things made
Inspiring culture, media, and trade
May all our work serve your economy
Transform, revive, and heal society

Peace, truth, and justice reigning everywhere
With us be present in our public square
Fill all who lead with your integrity
Transform, revive, and heal society

Forgive us Lord, when we have not engaged
Failing to scribe your heart on history's page
Make us again what we were made to be
Transform, revive, and heal society

Faithful to govern ever may we be
Selfless in service, loving constantly
In everything may your authority
Transform, revive, and heal society.