

BENEFICE NEWS SHEET

St Laurence Winslow; St James' Great Horwood with Singleborough; St Mary's Addington

OUR ASPIRATIONS: HOLINESS, HOSPITALITY AND HEALING

WELCOME TO OUR SERVICE TODAY - If you are here for the first time, please introduce yourself to those around you and to the clergy. If you have pre-school children please feel free to use the children's area. A sidesperson will be happy to help if you have any questions. All baptised Christians of any denomination are invited to receive communion. If you would prefer to receive a blessing, when you come to the Altar rail, please leave your arms down by your side.

Rev. Andrew Lightbown - rector@winslowbenefice.org.uk Phone 01296-712564

1st Sunday of month St Laurence Church Winslow

8am Holy Communion BCP

9.30am Sung Eucharist

St James' Church Great Horwood

11am Parish Eucharist

2nd Sunday of month St Laurence Church Winslow

9.30am Sung Eucharist

6pm Evensong

St James' Church Great Horwood

10.30am Breakfast followed at 11am Come and Praise

3rd Sunday of month St Laurence Church Winslow

8am Holy Communion BCP

9.30am Come and Share All Age Sung Eucharist followed by breakfast

St James' Church Great Horwood

11am Parish Eucharist

4th Sunday of month St Laurence Church Winslow

9.30am Sung Eucharist with (optional) Laying on of hands with prayer for healing after receiving communion in the St Alban Chapel

St James' Church Great Horwood

8am Holy Communion BCP

11am Come and Share All Age Service

5th Sundays of the month – 9.30am Matins St Laurence Church; 11am Parish Eucharist St James' Church
St Mary's Church Addington – varied services advertised weekly. Next service Holy Communion BCP 26th November 11.15am

EVERY WEDNESDAY 12 NOON SAID EUCHARIST ST LAURENCE CHURCH

BENEFICE PRAYERS - We pray for all three communities of Winslow, Great Horwood and Addington. As part of Christians Together, we join with St Albans and the Winslow Christian Fellowship to pray for: Ewan Stewart, Marie Claire, Roy Fuller, Storm, Benedict, Steve and Charlotte, Nick and Sue, Luke Dale, Tom Holdsworth, Tim Stickland, Sophie, Rebecca, Lilly, Emily, Morag, Jamie, Ruth. From the **Memorial Book**: Terence Yearly

There is a **PRAYER BOWL** on a desk just outside the St Alban Chapel – Prayer cards are in the desk drawer. Cards are collected at regular intervals by Rev. Andrew/Father Anton and those mentioned on the cards are prayed for.

Sunday 10th December 2nd Sunday of Advent St Laurence Church Winslow

9.30am Sung Eucharist

St James' Church Great Horwood

11am Come and Praise preceded at 10.30am by breakfast

RC Mass 11.30am St Laurence Church

17th December 3rd Sunday of Advent

St Laurence Church Winslow

8am Holy Communion BCP

9.30am Come and Share All Age with Nativity

6.30pm Service of Nine Lessons and Carols

St James' Church Great Horwood

6pm Service of Nine Lessons and Carols

St Mary's Church Addington

4pm Service of Nine Lessons and Carols

REGULAR EVENTS ST JAMES CHURCH AND GREAT HORWOOD

On the 2nd Sunday of each month FOOD is followed by our COME AND PRAISE SERVICE!!! This service starts at 11am with bacon and sausage sarnies beforehand at 10.30am..... delicious. You could then join in with the Music Group by playing your own instrument or by playing the percussion instruments supplied. The Service always includes fun activities in which you can take part.

GREAT HORWOOD TODDLER GROUP – every Monday in Village Hall from 1.30-3pm. £1.50 for 1st child, Additional children = 50p. A small friendly group – tea/coffee/juice available.

GREAT HORWOOD VILLAGE HALL – OPEN FOR COFFEE every Wednesday 9.30-11.30am with 'pop up' post office. All welcome.

REGULAR EVENTS AT ST LAURENCE CHURCH

BELL RINGING PRACTICE – St Laurence Church 7.30pm Mondays

ST LAURENCE ROOM open for coffee 10-12 noon every Wednesday

TODDLER TIME – Wednesdays in Church 10-11am + refreshments

HOUSE GROUP – Tuesdays 8-9.30pm. Contact church warden for details

BIBLE STUDY GROUP – 1st/3rd Tuesdays 10.30am starting 16th January. Contact Jo for details.

IN TOUCH GROUP – 2pm 1st Thursday in each month

CHOIR PRACTICE – Fridays 6.30pm-Juniors; 7.30pm-Adults

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY COLLECTING BOXES - available in the children's corner. Please encourage your child to fill the box with small change to help those children less fortunate than themselves at Christmas. Boxes can be returned at the Crib and Christingle services on Christmas Eve and at other services up until Sunday January 21st. Contact **Angela 714678**

CHRISTMAS FAIRS - a big thank you to all the many different people involved in our Christmas Fairs.

To all, for their contributions, support at the events, delicious refreshments and to those who set up and manned the stalls.

Thank you also to St Laurence Church choir and theband (can you please check the name with Derry).

An amazing £2463.83 was raised for Church funds. Thank you everyone.

REGULAR GIVING ENVELOPES - have you collected yours from the back of the Church? Please continue to use the same number and sign for the envelopes on the sheet provided. If you would like to join the scheme please see Terry as there are a few sets available. Thank you for your weekly support.

<p>Sunday 24th December St Laurence Church Winslow 9.30am Benefice Said Eucharist 3pm Musical Nativity "A King is Born" 5pm Christingle 11.30pm Midnight Mass</p>	<p>Christmas Day St Laurence Church 9.30am Family Christmas Eucharist St James' Church Great Horwood 10.30am Family Christmas Eucharist</p>	<p>Sunday 31st December 2.30pm Wedding St Laurence Church St James' Church Great Horwood 11am Benefice Said Eucharist No other services in Benefice</p>
<p>Sunday 7th January The Epiphany</p>		
<p>St James' Church Great Horwood 4pm Christingle 11.30pm Midnight Mass</p>	<p>St Laurence Church 8am Holy Communion BCP 9.30am Sung Eucharist</p>	<p>St James' Church Great Horwood 11am Parish Eucharist</p>

READINGS 10th December Advent 2

Isaiah 40 : 1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: 'In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.' A voice says, 'Cry out!' And I said, 'What shall I cry?' All people are grass; their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, 'Here is your God!' See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

2 Peter 3 : 8-15a

But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed. Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation. So also our beloved brother Paul wrote to you according to the wisdom given to him.

Gospel: Mark 1 : 1-8

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,"' John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.'