

St Andrew's, Rugby

Second Sunday of Advent



15th December 2024

Collect for Advent

Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious Majesty, to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, now and ever. **Amen.**

Collect for the Third Sunday in Advent

O Lord Jesu Christ, who at thy first coming didst send thy messenger to prepare thy way before thee: Grant that the ministers and stewards of thy mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready thy way, by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at thy second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in thy sight, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading: Zephaniah 3:14-end

Sing, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel; be glad and rejoice with all the heart, O daughter of Jerusalem.

The Lord hath taken away thy judgments, he hath cast out thine enemy: the king of Israel, even the Lord, is in the midst of thee: thou shalt not see evil any more. In that day it shall be said to Jerusalem, Fear thou not: and to Zion, Let not thine hands be slack. The Lord thy God in the midst of thee is mighty; he will save, he will rejoice over thee with joy; he will rest in his love, he will joy over thee with singing.

I will gather them that are sorrowful for the solemn assembly, who

are of thee, to whom the reproach of it was a burden. Behold, at that time I will undo all that afflict thee: and I will save her that halteth, and gather her that was driven out; and I will get them praise and fame in every land where they have been put to shame. At that time will I bring you again, even in the time that I gather you: for I will make you a name and a praise among all people of the earth, when I turn back your captivity before your eyes, saith the Lord.

Gospel: Luke 3:7-18

Then said he to the multitude that came forth to be baptized of him, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bring forth therefore fruits worthy of repentance, and begin not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to our father: for I say unto you, That God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham. And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: every tree therefore which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. And the people asked him, saying, What shall we do then? He answereth and saith unto them, He that hath two coats, let him impart to him that hath none; and he that hath meat, let him do likewise. Then came also publicans to be baptized, and said unto him, Master, what shall we do? And he said unto them, Exact no more than that which is appointed you. And the soldiers likewise demanded of him, saying, And what shall we do? And he said unto them, Do violence to no man, neither accuse any falsely; and be content with your wages. And as the people were in expectation, and all men mused in their hearts of John, whether he were the Christ, or not; John answered, saying unto them all, I indeed baptize you with water; but one mightier than I cometh, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to unloose: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire: Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and will gather the wheat into his garner; but the chaff he will burn with fire unquenchable. And many other things in his exhortation preached he unto the people.

New this week

Carol-singing and Handbell-ringing in Care Homes. As usual, we will be singing in homes around the parish this Christmas: Monday 16th December 10.30 Granville, 11.15 Te Hira, 3pm Trinity Court. All are welcome—you don't need to be a trained singer—just enthusiastic! If you can help, please let Edmund or James know.

Your Church Needs You! We need help distributing Christmas Cards to all the homes in the parish and stewarding the many special events in church this season—please look at the sign-up sheets at the back of church and let Hash or Joyce know if you can help.

Nativity Trail at May Blossom Farm. Come and meet the donkeys and sing carols around the manger on Saturday 21st December, 1.30-3.30pm.

Making Christingles is fun! Helen and a team of willing volunteers will be making Christingles for the Christingle Services on the 23rd December from 10am. Snacks and hot drinks provided. Let Helen know if you would be able to help.

Prayer Shawls—ideal Christmas Presents. The wool for the shawls has been hand spun dyed and woven using much of the wool from May Blossom Farm Each shawl comes with a prayer sheet with simple suggestions for use. Price £50 and all proceeds go to the work of May Blossom Farm and the Children's Society. Contact Peter Privett after the service.

Regular Events

Bereavement Point 2pm - 3.30pm on the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month (plus the 5th if there is one!). Opportunity for group conversation and relationship building where everyone is welcome and comfort is offered <https://compassionaterugby.co.uk/>

The **Big Table Gospel** group meets every week around the talking table in the cafe, alternating on Thursday and Friday mornings. Contact John on shopround1938@gmail.com

Later Today
6.00pm Iona Evening Prayer

Diary for the week
16th - 21st December

- Monday** 9.00am Morning Prayer *in the Lady Chapel*
10.00am Ball of Yarn knitting & crochet group
11.00am Church Mice Baby & Toddler Stay & Play
6.30pm Community Singers
7.30pm Bell ringing practice *New members welcome*
- Tuesday** 9.00am Morning Prayer *in the Lady Chapel*
9.30am Reflective Eucharist *followed by coffee*
1.00pm Tuesday Lunchtime Concert
- Wednesday** 9.00am Morning Prayer *in the Lady Chapel*
12.00pm Eucharist
5.00pm Brooke School Carols
- Thursday** 9.00am Morning Prayer *in the Lady Chapel*
6.00pm Advent Eucharist
6.30pm Board games group
7.15pm Choir Practice
- Friday** ***No Morning Prayer***
8.50am—1pm Lawrence Sherriff School
- Saturday** 10.00am-12noon Café open
1.30-3.30pm May Blossom Farm Nativity Trail
- Sunday 22nd December Fourth Sunday of Advent**
8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30am Sung Eucharist
6.00pm Christmas Carol Service