

Parish of St. Thomas, Apostle & Martyr, Ipswich

28th November 2021—1st Sunday of Advent

Collect:

Almighty God, as your kingdom dawns, turn us from the darkness of sin to the light of holiness, that we may be ready to meet you in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Psalm 25.1-9

1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

2 O my God, in you I trust; do not let me be put to shame; do not let my enemies exult over me.

3 Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame; let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

4 Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths.

5 Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long.

6 Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

7 Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for your goodness' sake, O Lord!

8 Good and upright is the Lord; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

9 He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way.

A reading from the First Epistle to the Thessalonians (3.9-end)

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.



Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (21.25-36)

‘There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see “the Son of Man coming in a cloud” with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.’

Then he told them a parable: ‘Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.’

‘Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.’

This is the gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

Post Communion Prayer

O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear, he may not find us sleeping in sin but active in his service and joyful in his praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Notices:

First Aiders: Do you hold a current first aid certificate? Would you be willing to use your skills in church if the need arose? If so, please let Rachel or Lyanne know! We'd like to keep a list of qualified first aiders (although we hope not to need it!).

Funding Committee: we are looking for volunteers to be on a funding committee. The purpose is to find and apply for grants for our building work. If this might be you, please speak to Rachel or John.

Christmas Notices:

Inspiring Angels: Our Christmas theme this year is Angels. As part of this we want to 'angel bomb' our parish! This means we are looking for crafted angels of any type / colour / material, to hang in windows, shops, notice boards, your homes, everywhere!

Christmas Fayre: thank you to all who volunteered at the Fayre, and to all who came along! Total raised to follow.

Advent Quiet Day: at the cathedral, led by Revd. Jackie on the 29th November. Please save the date!

Messy Church and Crafternoon: on 4th December! Messy Church from 10:30am—come along for stories, crafting and food! Christmas Crafternoon from 1:30pm until 3:30pm—make Christmas cards and decorations, all are welcome to join.

Beer and Carols: Friday 10th December at 7:30pm—save the date!

Christmas Meal: our church meal out will be on the 12th December, at the Hintlesham George. A £10 deposit is required. Please speak to Daphne to sign up and for any questions.

Advent Taize Service: Hosted by the St. Thomas Pilgrim Community on Monday 13th December at 7:30pm. Light refreshments will be provided afterwards.



Fr. John Irwin (28th)
Fiona McDonald (30th)
Peggy Blyth (2nd)
Jill Last (3rd)
William Elwis (4th)

Church Website:

<http://stthomasipswich.org.uk/>

Sunday Worship & other Worship resources on the Church Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/stthomasipswich/>

This Week:

Sunday 28th November (Advent 1)

8.15am: BCP Eucharist

9am: Big Church Breakfast

10am: All Age Eucharist with Facebook livestream, followed by Bring and Share Lunch

Monday 29th November

ADVENT QUIET DAY AT THE CATHEDRAL

11.30-1.30: Church open for prayer

Tuesday 30th November

6.30-7.30pm: Zoom Meditation Group. Contact Lucy for details & link: lucydrake22@gmail.com

Wednesday 1st December

10am: Eucharist

7pm: Faith Pictures (in Community Room)

Thursday 2nd December

11.30-1.30: Church open for prayer

Saturday 4th December

10.30am: Messy Church

1:30pm: Christmas Crafternoon

Sunday 5th December (Advent 2)

10am: Eucharist with Facebook livestream

Please pray for:

Those with chronic or long-term illness:

Rosemary, Eric, Jenny, Kathy, Andrew, Peggy, Margaret, Natacha, Samantha, Theresa

Those undergoing treatment or currently ill:

Gloria, Leslie, Angela, Helen, Pat, Daniel, Ezra

Those who have recently died, and their families mourning their loss:

Contacts:

Priest in Charge: Revd Rachel Revely

m: 07429 325559 **Email:** rachel.revely@outlook.com

Rachel's days off: Fridays and Saturdays

Assistant Curate: Revd Cat Connolly

m: 07530 412988 **Email:** revcatconnolly@gmail.com

Cat's day off: Mondays

Assistant Curate, SSM: Revd John Irwin

m: 07957 579680 **Email:** rev.john@irwin.ch

John's Parish days (normally): Wednesday and Thursday

Lay Evangelist: Malcolm Gibbs **m:** 07906 663530

Director of Music: Simon Clark BA FLCM FRCO

m: 07961 859344 **Email:** sussexi@aol.com

Church wardens: Roger Elmer **m:** 07810 274586

Stephen Marginson 01473 258791

If you would like to chat, you could also ring:

Mary Bullass 625135

Gloria Elmer 745590

Rev Jackie 07962 172639

Rev Pat 464748

Rev Canon Chris 462109