

# Parish of St. Thomas, Apostle & Martyr, Ipswich

## 5th December 2021—2nd Sunday of Advent

**Hymn Numbers: 567, 529, 329**

### **Collect:**

Almighty God, purify our hearts and minds, that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as judge and saviour we may be ready to receive him, who is our Lord and our God. **Amen.**

### **A reading from the Epistle to the Philippians (1.3-11)**

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that on the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

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



### **Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (3.1-6)**

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."'

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

### **Post Communion Prayer**

Father in heaven, who sent your Son to redeem the world and will send him again to be our judge: give us the grace so to imitate him in the humility and purity of his first coming that, when he comes again, we may be ready to greet him with joyful love and firm faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## Notices:

**Christingle Making:** can you spare some time to help make some Christingles for a school visit the next morning? If so, please come along to the Vicarage on Wednesday 15th December at 7pm. Mince pies will be provided!

**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! The support we had was incredible, and the total we raised will follow.

**Beer and Carols:** This Friday 10th December at 7:30pm—bring a beer or alcoholic beverage of choice, enjoy some snacks and your favourite carols, played by request!

**Christmas Meal:** our church meal out will be on the 12th December, at the Hintlesham George. If you have not yet paid up for your meal, could you please settle with Daphne as soon as possible? Thank you.

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



Brian Sears (5th)  
Gareth Andrews (7th)  
Maggie Rose (9th)

## **Church Website:**

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

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

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

## **This Week:**

### **Sunday 5th December (Advent 2)**

**10am:** Eucharist with Facebook livestream

### **Monday 6th December**

**11.30-1.30:** Church open for prayer

**4.15pm:** STPC Evening Prayer—contact Malcolm for more details

### **Tuesday 7th December**

**6.30-7.30pm:** Zoom Meditation Group. Contact Lucy for details & link: [lucydrake22@gmail.com](mailto:lucydrake22@gmail.com)

### **Wednesday 8th December**

**10am:** Eucharist

**7pm:** Faith Pictures (in Community Room)

### **Thursday 9th December**

**11.30-1.30:** Church open for prayer

### **Sunday 12th December (Advent 3)**

**10am:** Eucharist with Facebook livestream

**12noon:** Church Christmas Meal at Hintlesham George

**6pm:** Quiet Christmas (a peaceful, quiet Christmas service)

## ***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](mailto:rachel.revely@outlook.com)

*Rachel's days off: Fridays and Saturdays*

**Assistant Curate:** Revd Cat Connolly

**m:** 07530 412988 **Email:** [revcatconnolly@gmail.com](mailto:revcatconnolly@gmail.com)

*Cat's day off: Mondays*

**Assistant Curate, SSM:** Revd John Irwin

**m:** 07957 579680 **Email:** [rev.john@irwin.ch](mailto: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:** [susseksi@aol.com](mailto:susseksi@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