



2nd January 2022: Second Sunday of Christmas

Season: Christmas is a twelve day festival celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ, which runs until 6th January

Liturgical Colour: White **Why?** White symbolizes purity, light, glory, and joy.

9.30 am Parish Eucharist

President: Revd Richard Leslie

Deacon and Preacher: Lauryn Awbrey

Reading: Ephesians 1.3-14

Reader: Nick Pearce

Music Setting: Mass of St Thomas

Hymns: 86, 810, 88, 83

No Parish Coffee in the Parish Hall

Thanks to Revd Richard Leslie, our celebrant this morning for providing holiday cover this morning.

SUNDAY READINGS AND PRAYERS

The Collect

Almighty God,
in the birth of your Son
you have poured on us the new light of your incarnate Word,
and shown us the fullness of your love:
help us to walk in his light and dwell in his love
that we may know the fullness of his joy;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

New Testament Reading: Ephesians 1.3-14

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹²so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

Gospel Reading: John 1.10-18

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

¹⁵(John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") ¹⁶From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

Post-Communion Prayer

All praise to you, almighty God and heavenly king,
who sent your Son into the world
to take our nature upon him
and to be born of a pure virgin:
grant that, as we are born again in him,
so he may continually dwell in us
and reign on earth as he reigns in heaven,
now and for ever.
Amen.

IN OUR PRAYERS

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer
www.stalbans.anglican.org/faith/daily-prayers

Deanery of Ampthill and Shefford

Sunday: Bishop of Bedford
Monday: Parish of Hertford
Tuesday: Parish of Ampthill
Wednesday: Parish of Arlesey
Thursday: Parish of Aspley Guise
Friday: Parish of Astwick
Saturday: Parish of Barton-le-Cley

In our Parish for the sick

Claire, Sue, Christine, Hermione, Karen, Chris, Paul, Pat, Tamsin,
Mike, Miriam, Daniel, Pat, Barbara and all whose names are
entered on our St Luke's Cell Prayer List

In their year's mind

Amelie Simkin (2nd); Karen Rollings (3rd); Desmond King,
Frances Wathen, Beryl Cooper (4th); Peter Van Dijk (5th);
Blanche Watts, Frank Millard (6th); James Johnson,
Pamela Murray (8th).

For the homes and families in

Sunday Alzey Gardens, Aldwick Road
Monday Aran Close, Ashcroft Close
Tuesday Barlings Road, Barnfield Road
Wednesday Barrons Row, Beech Close
Thursday Beeson End Lane, Bewdley Close
Friday Birch Way, Bowling Close
Saturday Broadstone Road, Burnsall Place

Please let Tim know if we can pray for you.