

NEWSLETTER

Sunday 28 November: Advent Sunday

Readings: Jeremiah 33.14-16; 1 Thessalonians 3.9-end; Luke 21.25-36



Today

10.30am Benefice Communion: Holy Trinity, Stockton
Rev Nick Bird and Rev Mark Poole
4.00pm Evensong: Holy Trinity, Holtby
Rev Nick Bird

A reflection from Rev Dr John Schofield

Dear Friends,

Advent is upon us. We celebrate God's promise to send a Saviour to rescue us, as promised of old, to be a present reality, and as the one who culminates history at the end of time.

When Moses encountered the burning bush (Exodus 3), he asked for God's name and was given a word often translated as "I AM who I AM" (written as four Hebrew letters: the Tetragram). It is the Hebrew verb "to be". (This is like French conjugation of être: Je suis; Tu es; Il est; Nous sommes; Vous êtes; Ils sont). But the tense of the word of 'being' is simultaneously past, present and future: God is for all times eternal. (And isn't 'Je suis' so much like 'Je sus'!)

Advent in looking at the prophets' call culminating in John the Baptist's ministry, and at Mary accepting her role in God's plan for salvation sets God's revelation and call in the past, our present, and also the future. I hope you hold on to this season's glimpsing of eternity in the preparations for Christmas, and don't hurry too much towards the 25th December.

Blessings for the season,

John



 [Online Benefice Worship](#) (YouTube)

This week

Monday 29 December

9.00am [Morning Prayer \(zoom\)](#)
1.30pm Sewing and Art Groups: St Nicholas Tower Room
7.00pm Benefice Prayer Meeting (zoom)

Tuesday 30 December

9.00am Morning Prayer: St Mary, Warthill
1.45pm Little People, Play and Praise: St Nicholas Tower Room

Wednesday 1 December

9.00am Holy Communion: St Nicholas, Dunnington
9.45am Coffee Time: St Nicholas Tower Room
10.00am Holy Communion: Holy Trinity, Stockton
7.00pm [Compline \(zoom\)](#)

Thursday 2 December

9.00am [Morning Prayer \(zoom\)](#)

Friday 3 December

10.00am Methodist Women in Britain York Circuit
Advent Service: Melbourne Terrace
Methodist Circuit Hub
3.30pm Christingle Making: St Nicholas Tower Room

Saturday 4 December

10.00 am Community Café: St Nicholas Tower Room

Sunday 5 December: Advent 2

Readings: Malachi 3.1-4; Philippians 1.3-11; Luke 3.1-6
8.00am Holy Communion: St Nicholas, Dunnington
9.00am Holy Communion: St Mary's, Warthill
10.30am Holy Communion: St Nicholas, Dunnington
10.30am Christingle Service: Holy Trinity, Stockton
4.00pm Christingle Service: St Nicholas, Dunnington

 [Online Benefice Worship](#) (YouTube)

Celebrate Christingle with us

Join us and help give young
people a brighter future

Sunday 5th December

4pm

St. Nicholas Church



christingle.org



Charity Registration No. 221124

XT12336/0919

Parish Churches News & Events

At the heart of Christmas



Advent Resources: The Church of England has a wealth of resources available on their website to help us mark the season of Advent. This year's theme is 'at the heart of Christmas', and the reflections, printed materials, and services will be available here www.churchofengland.org/resources/advent-and-christmas-2021-resources-heart-christmas from this Thursday.

Benefice Prayer Meeting: There will be a benefice prayer meeting via Zoom on Monday 29th November starting at 7pm and finishing at 8pm prompt. All are very welcome to join and a link will be emailed nearer the time.

Advent at St Nicholas Church: In the Lady Chapel there are some prayer stations to help you through the season of Advent. Do explore them either on a Sunday or during the week. The Church is open daily from 9.00 until 4.00pm. On the first Sunday in Advent, we remember that Advent is a time of waiting and longing. What are you waiting for?

Benefice Christmas Cards: The cards are now ready for delivery in your parish church. Thank you to those who folded and counted them.

Methodist Women in Britain York Circuit Advent Service: December 3rd at 10:00 am for 10:30 am Melbourne Terrace Methodist Circuit Hub, 10:00 refreshments for 10:30 am start. Please come, all are welcome.

Christmas Menu Parish Lunch. I am sorry the list for this lunch is now full, therefore it is very important if you find you cannot come to cross your name off, as I am sure we will have a waiting list.

Christingle: There will be Christingle services on Sunday 5th December 10.30am at Holy Trinity, Stockton, and at 4.00pm St Nicholas, Dunnington. If you would like to take a 'candle' for your donation to the Children's Society there are now some in the Tower Room.

Reading the lesson and leading intercessions at St Nicholas: Please can you let Judith know by 30th November if you **don't want** to be on either of the rotas, January to April. Hopefully the new rota will be ready for 5th December.

Christingle Making: We are planning to make Christingles at St Nicholas Church from 3.30 until about 4.00 on Friday 3rd December.



Sunday Coffee at St Nicholas: Serving coffee is part of our ministry of welcome. Talking over coffee is part of the sharing and caring that we want all to experience. For this to happen we would like people to volunteer to serve coffee before and/or after the 10.30 service. If you can help, please sign your name against a date/s on the list on the rota board, that are convenient to you.

Midweek meditation at Lidgett Methodist Church: A chance to be still and silent in the middle of our busy weeks. Every Wednesday, 7.30am in room 3 for 30 minutes. All are welcome to use the silence for whatever you need. Stillness, meditation, mindfulness, prayer. A safe, inclusive space. No agenda. A chance to regroup ourselves in the middle of a busy week and before work or school. Please respect the silence when you arrive.

PCC Members, please save the date!: There will be a Social Evening for all PCC members, and their partners, from across the Benefice on Tuesday 7th December at 7.00pm in the Tower Room.

Christmas Gifts for IDAS: If you would like to support the work of IDAS (Woman's Refuge), this Christmas, they would once again like supermarket vouchers, so the 'mums' can do their own shopping. They can accept a limited number of toys and toiletries. Please take your donation to a Benefice Church service, or leave at 7 Water Lane, Dunnington, by 9th December.

Update from our Treasurer: The charities for our annual charity giving for 2020 (it's a percentage of the previous year's offertories) have been chosen...

£3,400 UNICEF's Vaccinaid campaign

£1,700 Christians Against Poverty, York

£1,700 Healthcare Workers Foundation

In addition, £782.15 has been raised from our Harvest collections for Carecent.



Grapevine Reminder: The deadline for January's edition of the Grapevine is a little earlier than normal, to account for the Christmas break. Please send any items to Lou at: grapevine.rey@gmail.com by **Monday 6th December**.

Lectionary Corner at St Nicholas

30 November: Andrew the Apostle

To receive newsletters by email, contact grapevine.rey@gmail.com. Also available on the St Nicholas Church website and in St Nicholas Church.

To receive the Methodist Circuit News, please contact the office by email yorkcircuitoffice@gmail.com or phone 07984 019995.

Next newsletter on **Sunday 5th December** [Email items to grapevine.rey@gmail.com](mailto:grapevine.rey@gmail.com) by **9.00 am on Thursday 2nd December**.