

ST DENYS CHURCH EVINGTON, BULLETIN

Sunday 30th November 2025, First Sunday of Advent



Dear Friends, this Sunday is Advent Sunday, the start of the four weeks when we prepare for the birth of Jesus our Saviour. This Christian festival has almost been taken over by the commercialisation of Christmas, with baubles and sparkle, gift ideas and special offers starting as early as September or even earlier. It is a busy time when many people get stressed and heave a sigh of relief when Christmas Day finally arrives and no more shopping can be done.

As Christians we also sometimes get stressed, but we need to remember what our preparations are for. We are preparing to celebrate the birth of a baby in a stable in Bethlehem to a young woman named Mary, a baby named Jesus who will become the Saviour of the world. We need to take time away from the hustle and bustle of shopping, cooking and wrapping of parcels, which use up so much energy in the run up to Christmas, to stop, look and listen.

At St Denys there are many opportunities to do this. If you would like a quiet time to stop, do call into church for our Blue Christmas held twice on Saturday mornings in December, the first on Saturday 6th from 10am to 12 noon.

On Saturday and Sunday 13th and 14th December we have our Christmas Tree Festival, an opportunity to stop to look and admire the decorated trees and chat with people over refreshments in the Parish Centre.

There are opportunities to stop and listen, and of course join in, at our Carol Singing at the Cow and Plough on Wednesday 17th December at 7pm and also at our traditional Carol Service on Sunday 21st December at 6pm which is always very popular.

On Christmas Eve at 4pm we have our Crib and Christingle service and when we have finished all our preparations we can come and worship the new- born King at our Midnight service or on Christmas morning.

Do enjoy the baubles and sparkle, the joy of buying gifts, but also take time to remember the true meaning of Christmas and use the opportunities at St Denys to help you to stop, look and listen.

With good wishes to you all, **Ann Bennett**

COMING UP THIS WEEK:

Friday 28th 11am Burial of Ashes in the Tower Remembrance Garden

Friday 28th 12pm Private Booking in the parish centre

Sunday 30th 10am Holy Communion in church and on Zoom; ID 820 0369 6332
(password from Qyan)

Monday 1st December 10am Private Booking in the parish centre

Monday 1st 2pm Monday Meet meet in the parish centre

Tuesday 2nd 7.30pm Lily House Bereavement Group church & parish centre

Wednesday 3rd 9.45am & 1.45pm Linden Primary School visit to church

Wednesday 3rd 5.30pm Wreath Making Workshop

Thursday 4th 10.30am Gentle Exercise Group in the parish centre

Thursday 4th 10am—12 noon Open Church

Thursday 4th 10am Holy Communion (BCP, said)



Readings for today: Isaiah 2 vs 1-5; Matthew 24vs 36-44



The Revd Arthur Deegan will return to preside and preach at our service of Holy Communion this Sunday 30th November at 10am. Refreshments will be served in the parish centre after the service. All are welcome.

Church Heating! With regret, the heating has stopped working in church due to an electrical issue. It is very unlikely to be fixed before Sunday. It has therefore been decided that Sunday's service at 10am will take place in the parish centre using the mobile altar and small piano.



Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion will be held on Thursday 4th December at 10am. The Revd Jonathan Surridge will preside and preach. Refreshments will be served after the service.

Mrs Suzanne Watson We are sorry to report that very sadly, Suzanne passed peacefully away in her sleep, at home, on Tuesday 25th November, aged 92, just a week or two before her 93rd birthday. Please pray for her family, friends and carer as they mourn her loss. Details of the funeral arrangements will be made known when known. May she rest in peace and rise in glory.

Please pray and give thanks for the local School Visits to St. Denys taking place in the run up to Christmas, and for Kimberley and the Ministry Team, and those volunteers assisting them in running the sessions. Also, the school assemblies they will take. Pray that, our links with the schools will grow stronger, and that all children and teachers, may learn about this special time of year for us as Christians; and all involved, experience something of the joy and wonder of the birth of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Volunteers Needed! More people are needed to help out during the Christmas Tree Festival on Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th December. If you can do so, please review the list at the back of the church to see where there are gaps, or contact Ann Mason on 0116 2739 714. Thank you.

The Renowned Cantamici Choir will be in concert at St. Denys on Saturday 6th December at 7pm. They will perform a Christmas programme of music. Tickets only £10, pay at the door! A raffle will be held too, for the chance to win decent prizes. All are very welcome and refreshments will be served in the parish centre after the concert. This is a fundraiser for St. Denys so do come along and bring your family and friends, and spread the word!

Global Carol Service Saturday 13 December, 5pm–6.30pm – St. Paul's Church, Hamble Road, Oadby LE2 4NX. The Diocese of Leicester Intercultural Worshipping Communities invite you to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ with a vibrant blend of music, language, and community. This event will feature choir singing, readings, and prayers reflecting various cultures. Experience carols sung in multiple languages as we come together to tell the Christmas story that unites hearts across all nations. Everyone is welcome, and entry is free. After the service, enjoy warm fellowship and taste global flavours.

Carol Singing will take place on Wednesday 17th December in the Cow and Plough pub at 7pm, led by Chris Hossack. We are hoping as many people as possible from St. Denys will join him on this festive occasion.



'Come and Sing' Candlelit Christmas Carol Service, Sunday 21st December at 6pm. Would you like to be part of a choir for this service? It would be lovely to have church members take part. The music will be straightforward, with one rehearsal on the day at 3.30pm. Please **get** in touch. **Qyan**



Christmas Services

Night Prayer (Compline) - Tuesdays throughout December on Zoom 8pm
Zoom link information to be confirmed

Blue Christmas - Saturday 6th December 10am-12pm

Christmas Tree Festival - Saturday 13th December 11am-5pm and Sunday
14th December 12pm-4pm

Carol Singing - Wednesday 17th December at Cow and Plough, 7pm

Blue Christmas - Saturday 20th December 10am-12pm

Candlelit 9 Lessons and Carol Service - Sunday 21st December 6pm

Crib & Christingle Service - Wednesday 24th December at 4pm

Midnight Holy Communion Service - Wednesday 24th December at 11.15pm

Christmas Day Family Service - Thursday 25th December at 10am

Collect for the First Sunday in Advent 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.

Pray for those known to us personally, who are suffering from long term health conditions.

Also pray for the sick: Joan Ackland, Karen Dawes, Ann Dixon, Val Lamont, Morag and Ron Maund, Richard Williams. **Pray for those who mourn including the family and friends of** Stephenson Blake, Vinette Jaimeson, Adalin Kiffin, Pearl Lee, Suzanne Watson



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St. Denys website, including the Giving Links for Church and

Youth Work: www.stdenys.org.uk

