

News Sheet for Sunday 8th December 2024

LINK FOR THE LIVESTREAM SERVICE - <https://cofewrecclesham.org.uk/streamed-services/>

Please click on the link from ten minutes beforehand and there will be the livestream link to take you to the service

From Advent to Christmas Day there are no flowers in the church and so our flower team will have a well-earned break and we look forward to our glorious Christmas flowers – thank you so much!

Thank you to those who have provided hospitality this week – and to all who make up our **worship team** for this Sunday's service – we are blessed...

Today we will be celebrating the Baptism of Chiko, Tino and Lesley – we pray for them as they make this commitment on their journey of faith...

NOTICES

What's on Today:

CHRISTINGLE – 4PM SUNDAY 8TH DECEMBER – make a Christingle with refreshments after - **Carol and David** will be leading our Christingle this year – please do bring your candle boxes and prepare to enjoy making your Christingle – **and all for The Children's Society** – festive refreshments will be served

Evensong – 7.30pm 8th December at St James' Church, Rowledge - with a choir and organist, celebrating 'The light, hope and peace of Advent'.

THANK YOUs

CHRISTMAS WASSAIL THANK YOUs – we thank **Robert & David, Chris & Frank and Rob & Sam** (behind the scenes...) and all who took part – more to follow!

WREATH MAKING – HUGE THANK YOU TO VANDA who organized and led the sessions – we had another year of amazing wreath making – 130 people coming along to be with their friends and make wreaths and enjoy the St Peter's hospitality and welcome – raising £3,000 for church funds along the way!

THANK YOUs – Vanda – Rob & Sam – helpers at the sessions: Chris W – Susan – Geoff – Wendy – Clare – Myung-hye – and all who provided wonderful and abundant foliage – and to all who chipped in one way or another, thank you SO much!

Thank you – to **Gerald Martin and Lizzy** for preparing and setting up the Advent liturgical array of candles and vestments for this season – we are blessed with Gerald's faithful service as Sacristan for many years – and I personally thank Gerald for his guidance and wisdom upon liturgical matters – and to Lizzy who ably helps Gerald with this very worthy and important part of our Worship....

THIS WEEK - Farnham Assist Carol Service – 2pm Monday afternoon (9th December)

at Farnham Baptist Church. Free parking is available at the Church and the Church and Hall are accessible for those with mobility challenges. **Everyone is very welcome and no booking is required. Refreshments will then be served in the hall afterwards.**

ST PETER'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAMME IS UP ON THE NOTICE BOARD – please make a note of dates/times as we spiritually journey through Advent and on into the glorious joy of Christ's birth

CHRISTMAS HAMPER RAFFLE – THANK YOU CHRIS for putting together the wonderful hamper – and to all who provided the goodies – RAFFLE TICKETS NOW ON SALE - £1 A TICKET – DRAW AFTER CAROL SERVICE ON 22ND DECEMBER

ADVENT REFLECTIONS

- This year look out for the daily Advent Reflections – from Cafod (Catholic Aid Agency) – and there will also be a daily reflection complementing the small group theme of seeing the story of God's Salvation through Jesus in the music and scripture words of Handel's Messiah...

COMING UP:

- **7.30PM TUESDAY 17TH DECEMBER – ROWLEDGE COMMUNITY CHOIR CHRISTMAS CONCERT** – a free concert with retiring collection for church funds – festive refreshments & raffle
- **6PM SUNDAY 22ND DECEMBER – Carol Service by Candlelight** – followed by refreshments – RAFFLE DRAW!

- **6PM TUESDAY 31ST DECEMBER** - A SHORT, REFLECTIVE SERVICE FOR NEW YEAR'S - come along to herald in the New Year of 2025 with thoughts and prayers of hope and commitment to bear witness to the light and promise of peace and goodwill to all, and to bless our own lives, family, friends and communities as we begin this 2025 journey into the unknown in faith and trust.
- **3-5PM SUNDAY 12TH JANUARY 2025** - **Wildlife of Southern Britain: A talk by Ian Stone** – a light-hearted talk with quiz at the end – afternoon tea and cake will be served!

TODAY'S SERVICE – 8TH December – Second Sunday of Advent

8am - Holy Communion

10am – Parish Communion for the Second Sunday of Advent with Holy Baptism – with refreshments in the church afterwards

4pm – Christingle – with refreshments

Readings & Hymns: There are **Pew Bibles** available to browse/follow the readings at the back of church

Lectionary - Malachi 3.1-4: The Benedictus: Luke 1.68-79; Philippians 1.3-11; Luke 3.1-6

Hymns: 270 Hills of the north rejoice; 400 long ago prophets knew – 416 Lord the light of your love is shining – Cm 40 Longing for light – 652 we are marching in the light of God

The Collect for Second Sunday of Advent – today's gathering prayer of the Church

O Lord, raise up your power and come among us, that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in the running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever, **Amen**

NEXT SUNDAY'S SERVICE – 15th December

8am - Holy Communion

10am – Junior Nativity – plus welcoming guests Wrecclesham Songbirds – **Our wonderful impromptu nativity – dressing up and participation welcome! All wear your Christmas jumpers if you have one!**

EVERY WEDNESDAY: 8AM ONLINE MORNING PRAYER (although Jacqueline is in person at St Peter's Church when she leads it – you are welcome to join her either in person or on zoom...)

Join Zoom Meeting - <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87443605688?pwd=UYiMVbph9q6XaSTsxcawvA4ixebxjT.1>

Meeting ID: 874 4360 5688 - Passcode: 307447

FREE TICKET PASS FOR WESTMINSTER ABBEY – I have secured a pass that allows 6 visits for the year church family members to use – up to four people per visit- **there are three passes left for the coming year** – please see Jacqueline to reserve your pass

Please see Notice Board for up to date news / events / services

PRAYERS FOR:

Jenny Emberson, Andrew Jones, Beryl Tate, Gerald Martin, Zoe Perkins – for all who are poorly, and give thanks for the healing and ongoing wellbeing of all recovering and on the mend from illness...

RIP – Pat Wood - Pat contributed to the life of the Parish, St Peter's Church and a stalwart of Wrecclesham Mother's Union – please pray for Bridget and Nicholas as they mourn...

A Service of Thanksgiving will be held for Pat at 1pm on Friday 20th December at St Peter's Church

We remember all those dear to us whose years' mind falls around this time....:

(please let Jacqueline know if you would like someone remembered by name ...)

Please also pray for the life and work of our Church, that we might be part of God's revival, and loving and transforming grace here in our place...

Please contact Jacqueline on vicar@cofewrecclesham.org.uk or 716431 / 07806 775974 if you have a notice to share – or if you would like to talk about something else – her day off is a Monday....

OTHER NOTICES

PCC

- **From April 2025 – vacancies for the service positions of Churchwarden and PCC Secretary** – we are aware that both Rob and Judith will be stepping down from their roles as Churchwarden and PCC Secretary. Do you think either might be something God is prompting you to think about – if so, please do come and have a chat with Jacqueline or, indeed, Rob or Judith in the first instance.
- **WRECCLESHAM FETE TEAM** – **We would love two or three people to represent St Peter's** when the planning for 2025 fete begins – this is to liaise with the wider fete team to keep up to date with plans and to help

*organise our own contributions. We always trust that help comes forward on the day, but the finer details of planning and ideas is something that a little group would be ideal to facilitate – **please do let Rob know if you can help...***

St Peter's School is looking to recruit a Foundation Governor to join them as they seek to bring the best school-life experience to our children. This is a volunteer role and if you are interested to discuss the role with a current governor or to know more, please do see the poster on the notice board with information and contact details - please email: info@stpeters-farnham.surrey.sch.uk

Farnham Assist – 2024 Programme now available by the notice boards – Farnham Assist reach out to older people who live alone or who are carers

Calling all singers.... Do you like to sing? Come and join our informal choir. No experience needed, you don't need to read music or commit to regular Sundays. We will meet at 9.30 before the service to run through the hymns with David - just turn up. For more information please contact me on 07548830018 or email carolzeiher@sky.com.

THIS WEEK'S THANK YOUs... Please see notice above – and to all of us for being there for each other and doing what we can for the love of the Lord and our St Peter's Church! ☺

GENERAL NOTICES

WRECCLESHAM OVER 60'S – On 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month @ 1.30pm – a lovely group meet at the Leverton Hall – please pick up a leaflet for information....

Farnham Foodbank BASKET IS LOCATED ON THE RIGHT-HAND SIDE OF THE CHURCH BY THE DOOR
Please only donate long-life goods – fresh and perishable goods cannot be accepted – thank you for all that you contribute

Urgent : new food list (getting ready for Christmas orders): Christmas cake, Mince pies, Chocolate Selection boxes, Packets of custard - Items such as stuffing and gravy - thank you so much...

Please continue to put donations in the basket and Lizzy Hendry will kindly be taking the food to the Foodbank – thank you everyone...

Contact: mail: info@farnham.foodbank.org.uk or call 07901 58153 visit our website farnham.foodbank.org.uk

Diocese News - If you would like to receive news and information from the Diocese, please sign up to their [weekly parish brief](#).

Lectionary Readings – 8TH December – Second Sunday of Advent

Old Testament Reading: Malachi Chapter 3:1-4

Thus says the Lord God: See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight – indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years

Reading 2: - Philippians Chapter 1.3-11

My brothers and sisters, ³I thank my God every time I remember you, ⁴constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, ⁵because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶I 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. ⁷It 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. ⁸For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. ⁹And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight ¹⁰to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, ¹¹having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

Gospel Reading – Luke Chapter 3.1-6

¹In 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, ²during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, ⁴as 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. ⁵Every 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; ⁶and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."