

News Sheet for Sunday 22nd December 2024 – Fourth Sunday of Advent (Mary)

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...

NOTICES

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 – THE DRAW WILL TAKE PLACE AFTER THIS EVENING'S CAROL SERVICE**

THANK YOU:

ROWLEDGE COMMUNITY CHOIR - Thank you so much for a wonderful performance and to all who helped to make this such a warm and festive gathering – Kathryn, Susan and Myung Hye for hospitality, Colin and Rob for the raffle and all who helped to clear up afterwards... We are delighted to have raised over £420 for the church – **thank you so much to our dear friends, Rowledge Community Choir!**

CHRISTINGLE – This year's Christingle raised **£200** which we will send to The Children's Society – what a marvellous effort and thank you again to Carol and David for leading the service and to all who came along / contributed offerings for the cause...

COMING UP:

- **CHRISTMAS EVE** – 4pm Crib Service – 11pm Midnight Mass
- **CHRISTMAS DAY** – 8am Holy Communion (no hymns/traditional language) – 10am Celebration Communion
- **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 – 22nd December – Fourth Sunday of Advent

8am - Holy Communion

10am – Parish Communion for the Fourth Sunday of Advent

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

Lectionary: Micah 5.2-5a; Ps 80.1-8; Hebrews 10.5-10; Luke 1.39-45(46-55)

Hymns: 612 Tell out my soul – 475 Of the Father's love begotten – 586 Sing we of the Blessed Mother – 117 Come thou long expected Jesus – 399 Lo he comes with clouds descending

The Collect for Fourth Sunday of Advent – today's gathering prayer of the Church – full version

God our redeemer, who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son: grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour, so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our judge; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

NEXT SUNDAY'S SERVICE – 29th December

8am - Holy Communion

10am – Parish Communion for the First Sunday of Christmas

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:

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 – Tony Booker – who very sadly died suddenly on Saturday 14th December. We pray in trust that Tony is reunited with Mavis and we pray for Tony's friends who mourn.

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 – 22nd December – The Fourth Sunday of Advent

First Reading: Micah Chapter 5:2-5 (Pew Bible p.938)

The Lord says to his people: But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days.

Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labour has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace. NRSV

Second Reading: Hebrews Chapter 10:5-10 (Pew Bible 1212)

When Christ came into the world, he said, 'Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt-offerings and sin-offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, "See, God, I have come to do your will, O God" (in the scroll of the book it is written of me).' When he said above, 'You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt-offerings and sin-offerings' (these are offered according to the law), then he added, 'See, I have come to do your will.' He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. 10And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. NRSV

Gospel Reading – Luke Chapter 1:39-45 (Pew Bible p.1031)

Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.'

And Mary said, 'My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.' NRSV