

# NOTICES / DIARY DATES

Event	Date and time	Venue
Crib Service	Christmas Eve (3:00 pm)	St. John's Church
Midnight Mass of the Nativity	Christmas Eve (11:15 pm)	St. John's Church
Parish Communion with Carols	Christmas Day (10:00 am)	St. John's Church
In-church Parish Communion Service with Carols to mark the Feast-day of St. John's the Evangelist	Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> December (9:30 am)	St. John's Church
In-church Parish Communion Services (1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday after Christmas)	Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> January (8:00 & 10:00 am)	St. John's Church
Team Morning Prayer	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> January (8:45 am)	St. John's Church
Parish Communion (1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday after Epiphany)	Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> January (10:00 am)	St. John's Church
Team Morning Prayer	Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> January (8:45 am)	St. Dunstan's Monks Risborough
PCC Standing Committee Meeting	Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> January (7:30 pm)	-
Team Morning Prayer	Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> January (8:45 am)	Holy Trinity Bledlow
Team Morning Prayer	Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> January (8:45 am)	St. Mary's Princes Risborough
Team Morning Prayer	Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> February (8:45 am)	St. Dunstan's Monks Risborough

## ONE CAN TRUST

One Can Trust are trying to create bags that enable families to make a nutritious meal. Soup is not needed, but all donations for the food cupboard are welcome. Sources of protein e.g., tinned meat, tinned fish, lentils etc. In addition, items such as tinned tomatoes and cook-in sauces will enable people can where possible prepare meals of their choice. We are being told that donations to the Trust have been down recently, but demand remains high. Any offerings that you can donate will be welcomed (we have a donations box outside the Church Porch). Thank you.

### Key Contacts:

Vicar:	Rev. Canon Tony Bundock	01844 347741
Team Rector:	Rev. David Williams	01844 346984
Licensed Lay Minister:	Mr Graham King	01844 343910
Churchwardens:	Mrs Pat Rushmere	01494 562140
	Mrs Margaret Gray	01844 347094
PCC Secretary & Pew Sheet editor:	Mr Mark Roberts	01296 437345

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## PARISH CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, LACEY GREEN



Coming to Faith, Growing in Faith

Week Commencing  
24<sup>TH</sup> & 25<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2022  
**CHRISTMAS**

### WELCOME TO TODAY'S WORSHIP

You are warmly welcomed to St. John's Church, particularly if you are new to our congregation or are a visitor.

## WORSHIP AT ST. JOHN'S

Wearing masks in church is now optional except for the Lady chapel where we request that masks are still worn in this part of the Church. Please continue to maintain social distancing where possible and sanitise your hands. We are continuing to offer, for those who wish it, hosts intincted by the Celebrant at all Communion Services. Reintroduction of the Common Cup will be considered again at a later time. The Lady Chapel area will continue to be set aside as a mandatory social distancing area for those who feel they need to socially distance themselves from others and where masks will be worn. Please respect this. Where possible, we will be serving coffee after the 10:00 am Service on Sundays.

We have now received the card reader so we will shortly be able to take cashless offerings during services / donations. Linked to this we also have a QR code for members of the congregation to donate via their Smartphone, which can be used as of now. You will need a QR reader App to use this. Thank you for however you choose to make your offering.



### Weekly Services:

#### SUNDAY

8:00 am	In-church Said BCP Communion Service (1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sun)
10:00 am	In-church Parish Communion Service with Hymns

#### TUESDAY

9:30 am	In-church Said Parish Communion Service
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## FOCUS ON... THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

The Twelve Days of Christmas, also known to some as "Twelvetide", is the festive Christian season celebrating the Nativity of our Lord and Saviour Jesus. In some Western ecclesiastical traditions, "Christmas Day" is considered the "First Day of Christmas" and the Twelve Days are 25 December to 5th January, inclusive, with 6th January being a "thirteenth day" in some usage and languages. However, 6th January in some traditions is itself to be considered Twelfth Day/Twelfth Night with the Twelve Days "of" Christmas then actually commencing after Christmas Day and thus lasting from 26th December to 6th January. For many Christian denominations, including the Anglican Communion and the Lutheran Church, the Twelve Days of Christmas do represent what we know as Christmastide; but for others, and notably the Roman Catholic Church, the season of Christmastide lasts longer than the Twelve Days of Christmas. In the year 567 AD, the Council of Tours "proclaimed the twelve days from Christmas to Epiphany (traditionally 6<sup>th</sup> January) as a sacred and festive season, and established the duty of Advent fasting in preparation for the feast." In the Eastern Orthodox tradition both Christmas and Epiphany are among the "Twelve Great Feasts" that are only second to Easter in importance. "The Twelve Days of Christmas" is notably the title of a traditional English Christmas folk carol. Described as a "classic example of a cumulative song" and believed to have originated from a children's forfeit game, the lyrics detail a series of increasingly numerous gifts given on each of the twelve days of Christmas. The words of the carol were first published in England in the late eighteenth century. A large number of different melodies have been associated with the song, of which the best known is derived from a 1909 arrangement of a traditional folk melody by the English composer Frederic Austin.

*Canon Tony Bundock*

## COLLECT FOR CHRISTMAS EVE MIDNIGHT

Eternal God, who made this most holy night to shine with the brightness of your one true light: bring us, who have known the revelation of that light on earth, to see the radiance of your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever, Amen.



## READINGS FOR CHRISTMAS EVE MIDNIGHT MASS (SET III)

Isaiah Ch. 52 VV. 7 – 10  
Hebrews Ch. 1 VV. 1 – 12

John Ch. 1 VV. 1 – 14

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER FOR CHRISTMAS EVE MIDNIGHT MASS

God our Father, in this night you have made known to us again the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ: confirm our faith and fix our eyes on him until the day dawns and Christ the Morning Star rises in our hearts. To him be glory both now and for ever, Amen.

## PRAYER CHAIN PRAYER



Christ, born for us. Son of God, given for us. Help us to know you more deeply this Christmastide, Amen.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us evermore, Amen.

## COLLECT FOR CHRISTMAS DAY

Almighty God, you have given us your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him and as at this time to be born of a pure virgin: grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever, Amen.

## READINGS FOR CHRISTMAS DAY (SET II)

Isaiah Ch. 62 VV. 6 – 12  
Titus Ch. 3 VV. 4 – 7

Luke Ch. 2 VV. 1 – 20.



## POST COMMUNION PRAYER FOR CHRISTMAS

God our Father, whose Word has come among us in the Holy Child of Bethlehem: may the light of faith illumine our hearts and shine in our words and deeds; through him who is Christ the Lord, Amen.