



Church News

SERVICES THIS WEEK

7 December 2 nd Sunday of Advent	9.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Berwick St John	Alison Waterhouse
	9.30am	Family Communion (CW)	Broad Chalke	Kate Woolven
	9.30am	Parish Communion (CW)	Britford	Ruth H-S
	11.00am	Morning Prayer (BCP)	Ebbesbourne Wake	Biddy Trahair
	11.00am	Parish Communion (CW)	Coombe Bissett	Ruth H-S
	11.00am	Family Service	Odstock	Adrian Taylor
	6.00pm	Carol Service	Stratford Tony	Ruth H-S

The Gospel reading for the Second Sunday in Advent

Matthew 3 v 1 - 12 - The Proclamation of John the Baptist

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord;
make his paths straight.' "

Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region around the Jordan were going out to him, and they were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins.



But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Therefore, bear fruit worthy of repentance, and do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

"I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."



Readings for the Second Sunday in Advent:

Old Testament : Isaiah 11 v 1 - 10

New Testament : Romans 15 v 4 - 13

Gospel: Matthew 3 v 1 - 12

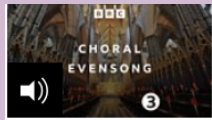
Psalm: 72 v 1 - 7, 18 - 19

If you are unable to attend a service in church this Sunday, there are services on the radio ...



8.10am BBC Radio 4 Advent Authors: Dylan Thomas

A service from Swansea led by Fr Matthew Roche-Saunders



3.00pm BBC Radio 3 Choral Evensong

Choral Vespers from Arundel Cathedral



Festive Fair

Saturday 6th December

10am - 2pm

**BARKER ROOM
ST ANDREW'S CHURCH,
NUNTON**

Products to buy from our
CreativiTea Group
and local crafters

Perfect for your gifts, stocking fillers
and tree decorations

Admission free
Donations welcome to support our churches
Refreshments available

'THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD'

A FESTIVAL OF CHRISTMAS CAROLS AND READINGS

**7PM - MONDAY 22ND DECEMBER
ALL SAINTS' CHURCH – BROAD CHALKE**

**CHOIR – THE MANOR SINGERS
ORGANIST – CHRIS MAHON
CONGREGATIONAL CAROLS**

**GET READY
FOR
CHRISTMAS!**

EVERYBODY WELCOME, ESPECIALLY CHILDREN

Come to make Christmas gifts & decorations or just enjoy a drink & some cake in Berwick St John Village Hall, SP7 0HS, from 10 to 12.30 on Saturday 13th December

- Christmas-themed bring & buy sale
- Make jam jar snow scenes, pom-pom tree decorations & paper snowflakes
- Decorate Christmas cards & gingerbread biscuits
- Sew gifts with Libby
- Enjoy coffee, tea & cake

Everything is free, a Christmas present from the Church to the village. All contributions of cakes or items for the bring & buy sale are welcome in advance or on the day & there will be a cash collection for Gillingham Food Bank. More details from Sally on 07939 261895 or Angela on 07770 753886.

Candlelit Carol Service at Alvediston

Tuesday, 23rd December at 6pm for a carol service for, and involving, all ages, to be led by the Rev. Dr. Ruth Howlett-Shipley.

If you would like to join the short procession, we will meet at the Manor, (thanks to Rodney and Sue Heath,) at 5.30pm, bearing torches, but otherwise go straight to the church and enjoy our new, effective heaters. Afterwards mulled wine and soft drinks will be provided, and if you'd like to bring a plate of mince pies or other festive food to share, that will be very welcome.

Angels & shepherds needed

Sunday, 21st December, 4pm

Bowerchalke Church

Nativity from Scratch

no rehearsals - just turn up & be part of the Christmas story

**St Martin's, Fifield
Bavant**



ADVENT SERVICE

Sunday 14th December 3pm

We will hold our usual Advent service, with poems, prayers, readings, music and hymns based on Advent Antiphons.

Do join us for this special, contemplative service midway during Advent.



Application for a Salisbury Cathedral Diocese Card

Salisbury Cathedral Diocese Cards are issued to parishioners listed on a Parish Church's Electoral Roll or Cathedral Community Roll, in the Diocese of Salisbury. Each parishioner needs to apply for an individual pass. If you are applying for more than one pass, please provide proof of address for each named individual, including young people living at the same address.

Your pass will be valid for the duration of the electoral roll period and gives free access to the Cathedral and Chapter House during visiting hours.

YOUR KINGDOM

Thursday, 4 December 2025

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.


PRAYER FOR THE DAY



Services in Chalke Valley Benefice – December 2025

BCP = Book of Common Prayer (Traditional Language), CW = Common Worship (Contemporary Language)



7 December 2nd Sunday of Advent	9.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Berwick St John	Alison Waterhouse
	9.30am	Family Communion (CW)	Broad Chalke	Kate Woolven
	9.30am	Parish Communion (CW)	Britford	Ruth H-S
	11.00am	Morning Prayer (BCP)	Ebbesbourne Wake	Biddy Trahair
	11.00am	Parish Communion (CW)	Coombe Bissett	Ruth H-S
	11.00am	Family Service	Odstock	Adrian Taylor
	6.00pm	Carol Service	Stratford Tony	Ruth H-S
14 December 3rd Sunday of Advent	9.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Bowerchalke	Kate Woolven
	9.30am	Family Communion (CW)	Nunton	Maggie Metcalfe
	10.30am	Worship Together	Broad Chalke Hub	Janet Roe
	11.00am	Parish Communion (CW)	Homington	Alison Waterhouse
	11.00am	All Age Service	Alvediston	Biddy Trahair
	11.00am	Carol Service	Bishopstone V Hall	Ruth H-S
	3.00pm	Advent Carols	Fifield Bavant	Biddy Trahair
	3.30pm	Christingle	Charlton All Saints	Ruth H-S
19 December	6.00pm	Carol Service	Britford	Maggie Metcalfe
21 December 4th Sunday of Advent	9.30am	Parish Communion (CW)	Bishopstone	Alison Waterhouse
	11.00am	Family Communion (CW)	Ebbesbourne Wake	Ruth H-S
	4.00pm	Nativity	Bowerchalke	Kate Woolven
	5.00pm	Carol Service	Odstock	Maggie Metcalfe
	6.00pm	Carol Service	Coombe Bissett	Ruth H-S
	6.00pm	Carol Service	Berwick St John	Alison Waterhouse
22 December	7.00pm	Carol Service	Broad Chalke	Alison Waterhouse
23 December	6.00pm	Carol Service	Alvediston	Ruth H-S
24 December CHRISTMAS EVE	4.00pm	Carols round the Crib	Bishopstone	Ruth H-S
	4.00pm	Scratch Nativity	Charlton All Saints	Maggie Metcalfe
	5.00pm	Carols at War Memorial	Broad Chalke	Alison Waterhouse
	6.00pm	Carol Service	Homington	Ruth H-S
	10.00pm	'Midnight' Eucharist (CW)	Fifield Bavant	Ruth H-S
25 December CHRISTMAS DAY 	8.00am	Holy Communion (Said BCP)	Fifield Bavant	Ruth H-S
	9.30am	Family Communion (CW)	Bowerchalke	Kate Woolven
	9.30am	Parish Communion (CW)	Charlton All Saints	Maggie Metcalfe
	9.30am	Parish Communion (CW)	Bishopstone	Ruth H-S
	9.30am	Family Communion (CW)	Broad Chalke	Alison Waterhouse
	11.00am	Family Communion (CW)	Ebbesbourne Wake	Kate Woolven
	11.00am	Family Communion (CW)	Coombe Bissett	Ruth H-S
	11.00am	Family Communion (CW)	Nunton	Maggie Metcalfe
	11.00am	Family Communion (CW)	Berwick St John	Alison Waterhouse
28 December 1st Sunday of Christmas	10.00am	Parish Communion (CW)	Homington	Alison Waterhouse
	10.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Alvediston	Ruth H-S
	11.00am	Morning Prayer (BCP)	Berwick St John	Lay Led

Clergy Contacts & Working Days

Please note that the clergy team is available throughout the week and a member of the team is always available in an emergency or for an immediate pastoral need.

Revd Ruth Tel: 01722 697022 - Revd Ruth's non-working day is a Monday.

Revd Alison: 01722 697404 or 07904 034221 - Revd Alison's non-working day is a Friday.

Revd Kate: 07754 582395

Revd Maggie: 01722 325825 - Revd Maggie's non-working days are Mondays and Fridays.