



Parish Church of St Peter and St Paul, Olney

Sunday 10am 28th November 2021

1st Sunday of Advent



Welcome and notices

Reading: Jeremiah 33: 14-16

Gospel: Luke 21: 125-36

Wed 24th Isaiah 25: 6-10a, Psalm 23

9.30 am: Matthew 15: 29-37

Opening Hymn: 493: O come O come Emmanuel

Collect: 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

Anthem: 'Prepare ye the way of the Lord' from 'Godspell' by Stephen Schwartz.

Response: Lord, show us how to live: **and give us the courage to go forward**

Intercessions: Almighty God as the new day dawns on this Advent Sunday; we give thanks for the first glimmers of the light which remind us of the coming of your Son Jesus Christ. We believe that your light has the power to overcome all our darkness and pray that throughout the Season of Advent we may share in the mystery of your coming into the world.

Loving God we dedicate to you all of the activities organised by our church during Advent and pray for all who will attend. Let it be that through prayer, praise and music they may make their own preparations for a Holy Christmas.

King of the Nations, today our hopes for our troubled world are for an end to terrorism, a resolution to the migrant crisis and for the nations of the world to care for the earth, (our home).

Father God although in everyday life we are sometimes separated by language and culture from the people we live amongst, our hope for our world is to see your will done here on earth as it is in heaven. We pray for our neighbours, not only with words, but day by day, that through our actions we might demonstrate our Christian faith in a very real sense.

Gracious God we raise before you the ill, the lonely and distressed and especially those without hope for the future. We pray for healing, wholeness and hope in their lives and we pray for ourselves. Help us to bring life, love, joy and hope, to those who live in despair. **Amen**

We pray blessing and healing for those who are sick: *Toby O'Grady, Kevin, Pat Major, Bar, Georgina, Michael Seabrook, Rebekah Geary, Kate Nicholas, Jo Lais, Ann Murtagh, Rob & Judith Spray, Debbie Bowman, Richard, Poppy Bailey, Rosemary Palmer, John W and Andrew Geary.*

We remember the recently departed and pray for comfort for their families & friends: *Roger Cook*

We remember and give thanks for those whose Yearsmind is now. Amen.

Offertory Hymn: 102: Come Thou long expected Jesus

Post Communion Prayer: **O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear, he may not find us sleeping in sin but active in his service and joyful in his praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

Final Hymn: 424: Lo! He comes with clouds descending

Listening Ear. Please email prayer@olney.church for Prayer

Funerals. None.

Thanks to David. There will be a card in church and a chance to donate towards a gift for David. Please put in donation bucket and sign the card. Thank you, *Susan*

Christmas Tree Festival. Our Christmas Tree Festival is going to be a very sparkly event; with over 50 trees registered. Our Mayor will officially open the Festival at 11.30am; our MP and the High Sheriff will be there too, with the Lord Lieutenant arriving at 1.30pm. It would be lovely if our Church family could be there to greet them.

There is a programme of music from choirs and musicians throughout the two days. Sunday is a busy day, but do pop in if you can; we are finishing with carol singing at 4pm, which was beautiful last time. **Sunday Club.** Will meet amongst the trees on the 5th of December at 10am. *Susan H Dickens.* 5th December 2021. Thank you to all who have put their names down, so far, to help to set up, take down and assist on the cakes, mulled wine, soup, raffle and refreshment stalls. Volunteers are still needed so if you are able to give an hour or so of your time, the rotas are at the back of the church for you to look at. May we remind everyone that we are raising monies for the church which we have been unable to do over the last eighteen months. If you have any questions, please talk to Pat, Gill or Katie (in the Church Office).

Olney Brass Band Concert. Sat 11th Dec at 7.30 in church. Entrance £10. Children Free. Mulled Wine and mince pies. Tickets on the door. Do come along for what promises to be a splendid evening.

Phone Charger. A phone charger was found on the John Newton Tomb. If it is yours, please call the office with a description and a contact no. so that we can return it.



Christingle Service -This lovely service will take place on 28th November at 4pm in church.

Why not bring along all your family, your children and grandchildren and make a Christingle to take home?

Christmas Services at a glance: 5th Dec 8.30am Said Communion; 12th Dec 10am Holy Communion; 14th Dec Olney Middle school concerts at 1.30 and 7.30; 19th Dec 10am Holy Communion and 6pm Carols by Candlelight; 24th December 4pm Crib Service and 11pm Midnight Mass; 25th December 10 am Holy Communion; 26th December 10am Said Communion. More details to follow.

Church Mice. Each week on Thursday, in Church, 10 - 11am.

Exploring Faith: Advent Group will meet for the next 3 weeks (1, 8 and 15 December) in Church at 10.30 on Wednesdays. The first meeting was a well-attended and enjoyable session. Booklets available Janet

Christmas Day 10am. If you will be attending this service and could help out as a sidesperson, please could you let me know. *Susan*

Christmas Flowers. As usual Ann Minney is collecting for the church's Christmas flowers. If anyone would like to make a donation please see Ann in church. Let's help to make our church look beautiful this year, as we look forward to being able to celebrate this special season together again. Thank you.

Keep in touch. request a weekly email copy through office@olney.church or susan.bailey@olney.church

Website: <http://olney.church/>

Twitter: @olneychurch

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/stpeterandstpaulchurcholney>