St John the Baptist Church, Tisbury

reflecting Jesus Christ



Sunday 19th December

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Do stay for refreshments after the 9.30 service. Please wear a face covering while collecting your refreshments, and take them outside to consume them.

Today's Services

9.30am Parish Communion

President and Preacher: The Revd Juliette Hulme

Setting: The Brecon Service Philip Moore

Hymns: NEH 7 Hills of the north rejoice; NVCB 43 The Angel Gabriel from heaven came

Advent Gospel Acclamation John Harper Offertory hymn: NEH 185 Sing we of the blessed mother

During Communion: O radiant dawn James MacMillan Closing Hymn: NEH 10 Long ago, prophets knew

Voluntary: Von Himmel hoch da komm ich her JS Bach

There is no service of Choral Evensong today

Holy Communion at St John's

It has been decided, in view of the spread of the Omicron variant of the Coronavirus, to suspend for the time being the sharing of the chalice at St John's. Communion will be received in one kind only, that is, the wafer only. A reminder that communion in one kind is full communion.

Christmas services

Advance booking is essential for all Christmas services at St John's. Some socially distanced pews are available. To book, please contact the Parish Administrator (see below), stating which service(s) you wish to attend, how many seats you require, and whether you need socially distanced seating.

Monday 20th December at 7.30pm Village Carol Service

Friday 24th December at 4.00pm Crib Service (particularly suitable for children)

Friday 24th December at 10.00pm The First Eucharist of Christmas

Saturday 25th December at 9.30am Parish Communion for Christmas Day

Drive-in Carols Tuesday 21st December at 6pm Dinton

For further details of this benefice event, please see separate flyer. To book, please email revmarkh@icloud.com

9.30am Holy Communion (CW) Hindon

A said service of Holy Communion in contemporary language led by the Revd Joanna Naish.

This is the only service in the Nadder Valley Benefice on Boxing Day – there are no services at St Johns on that day.

In Memoriam

The funeral of the late John Gibbons will take place at St John's on Thursday 30th December at 10.30am. All who knew John are very welcome. We continue to pray for Louise and the family at this time of loss.

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

The Collect

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.

The Old Testament Reading: Micah 5.2-5a

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.

The Gospel: Luke 1.39-45

In those days 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 leaped 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 leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."



Visitation (c 1445) Rogier van der Weyden Oil on panel Museum der bildenden Künste, Leipzig

For your prayers

In the last few days of Advent, we reflect on how different Christmas will be in homes in our linked diocese of Cueibet, South Sudan, and we pray for our brothers and sisters there as they celebrate Christ's birth.

We pray for protection for all children who are not safe in their homes or on the streets. We ask for wisdom and perception for all those responsible for their welfare- family, social workers and police. We pray for strength for our NHS as Covid cases rise steeply with the spread of the Omicron variant. We pray for churches throughout the world this Christmas as they seek to share the good news of Christ's birth.

