



Sunday 16th November 2025

Newsletter

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CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION SERVICES – NOVEMBER

Sunday 16 November

9.30am **Sung Eucharist**

Monday 17 November

5pm **Evening Prayer**

Tuesday 18 November

5pm **Evening Prayer**

Wednesday 19 November

10am **Midweek Said Eucharist**

5pm **Evening Prayer**

Thursday 20 November

10am **Mainly Music**

1.30pm **School Year 2 Experience Advent**

Sunday 23 November

9.30am **Team Eucharist**

12.30pm **Baptism of**

All are welcome to Morning Prayer at St Mary's at 8.30am

Pray for our sick and those who care for them: Evelyn, Pat Hughes, Bob, Carol, Steph Randall, Pam, Fran and Peter, Tim Dalloway, Anne-Marie, Chris Hemsley, Angela, Winnifred Quirke, Winston Sharpe, Phil Mayhew, Mike, Henry, Samantha Hart, Sarah, Denise, Kirsty, Richard Hughes, Robert Hodges, Beryl Pritchett, The Dean, Stephen Edwards, John Whitby, John Timmins, Kerry, Maria, Peter.

MU Members, especially the house bound.

Recently Departed: Diane Taylor, Bill Prenton, Doreen Gwilt, Hal Devey, Joan Bushell

Baptism Preparation – Prayer for November

Book: The Gruffalo

*Jesus, we ask that Your presence will be with this family. Help them to know that in the face of everything Your power, love and authority goes with them. **Amen.***

Please pray for the people that live in Castlewellan Care Home in our parish and for the people who care for them.

Fr. Mel's Next Prayer Meeting

is **Monday 24th November at 14 Beech Tree Close at 7.30pm.** All welcome!

Our Team Eucharist Service is at **Church of the Ascension** at **10am on Sunday 23rd November**. There isn't a service at St Mary's that day. The school car park will be open for parking.

School Eucharist in CofA School Hall - Monday 24th November at 9:00am.

Fr Chris will be leading this for the children and staff, and it would be lovely to have a few other representatives of our church community there as well.

Speak to Fr Chris or Sian if you would like to come along 😊

Bishop's Certificate Congratulations to Jacob Davey and Liz Cross for completing their Bishop's Certificate. They will be presented with their certificate at a celebration event on **Wednesday 26th November at 7pm at the Old Palace in Worcester.**

All are welcome to come and support them at this service.

St Mary's next Community Coffee Morning is on **Thursday 27th November 10-12.**

Advent Sunday 30th November. Although it's a fifth Sunday there will be a Eucharist at both churches at **10am** on Advent Sunday (see notice above about the team service). Also, at **4pm (note the time!)** there will be a service of **Choral Evensong at St Mary's** – all are welcome to come and sing a number of Advent Carols and reflect on all that Advent means.

☀️ **Volunteers Needed!** ☀️

Mainly Music There is a new cake rota for at the back of church for the next half term up to Christmas. We would greatly appreciate if you could put your name on the list We thank everyone who has supported us in supplying cakes in the past. All our visitors always comment how they enjoy them, a big thank you to you all 😊

Church of the Ascension School Events We are still looking for friendly volunteers to help with our exciting school events at church. During these sessions, children come up from school to learn about and discuss a key event from the Christian year. This is a wonderful opportunity to share faith and inspire young minds.

These events usually happen on a **Thursday afternoon 1.15-3pm** and the next session will take place on **20th November** for Year 2 and their Advent experience. The final one for this year is on **4th December** for Year 1 and their Christmas experience.

If you could help, please let Sian or Sheila know – we'd love to have you involved.

Our Festival this December is on the theme of Light Do come along and join in creating stars and candles to decorate the church, handouts from Chris Knight are available at the back of church.

We shall need a team of welcomers and caterers on the morning of **Sat 6 Dec from 10-1** for the craft session and for the Open Day on **Sat 13th Dec from 10-4.**

Please be ready to sign up for some slots and to join in the craft 🕯️ ✂️ ✨

2nd Sunday Before Advent

Collect

Heavenly Lord, you long for the world's salvation: stir us from apathy, restrain us from excess and revive in us new hope that all creation will one day be healed in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Today's Readings

Malachi 4:1-2a

2 Thessalonians 3: 6-13

Psalm 98

Luke 21: 5-19

Post Communion

Gracious Lord, in this holy sacrament you give substance to our hope: bring us at the last to that fullness of life for which we long; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**

Stewardship campaign A few weeks ago Fr Adam talked to congregations about stewardship, our finances and giving. As part of the packs of information given out was a green pledge form. We've had a small number back but not as many as we would have hoped for. Please do consider completing a form and if you pay tax to signing the back of the form so that we can claim gift aid back on your offering.

Parish Development and the national church renewal project Thanks to all those who came to the parish development day yesterday at St Mark's. Watch this space for the outcomes of that day. As you know Grace's role is funded by the national church for three years and a key part of her role is applying for grants to modernise our buildings. Earlier in the year Church of the Ascension was successful in receiving a Grant from Enover Community Trust. This was for £33,600 which was for the new toilets to be installed. At the end of October we heard again from Enover to say that St Mary's had been successful for a grant of £32,150 which is for some new windows in the church centre and a complete redecoration of the church centre. Thank you to Grace for her work on these applications and the Enover Community Trust 😊

With Christmas fast approaching please save any stamps and bring them in.

Colin (Rowley) collects the stamps and takes them to St. Andrews URC, who take them, with theirs, to the Beacon Centre where the stamps are sorted and auctioned off with the proceeds retained by the Beacon Centre. They have asked if people donating stamps could please help by cutting around the stamps as close as possible as this has to be done to every stamp before it can be auctioned. This will greatly help them reduce the time, with their limited resources, having to cut around every stamp donated. Thank you 😊

Bishop Hugh There will be a service of welcome and installation on **Saturday 17 January at 2pm at Worcester Cathedral** as Bishop Hugh begins his ministry in the Diocese. All are welcome. If there are sufficient people wanting to attend we could look at a coach being booked. Please speak to a member of the clergy team or church wardens if you're interested in this.

Gluten Free Wafers Whenever the Eucharist is celebrated gluten free wafers will be available.