



Sunday 14th December 2025

Newsletter

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CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION SERVICES – DECEMBER

Sunday 14 December

10.00am **Sung Eucharist**

Monday 15 December

5pm **Evening Prayer**

Tuesday 16 December

5pm **Evening Prayer**

Wednesday 17 December

10am **Midweek Said Eucharist**

5pm **Evening Prayer**

Saturday 20 December

6pm **Outdoor Carol Service**

Sunday 21 December

10.00am **Sung Eucharist**

6.30pm **Blue Christmas Service**

**All are welcome to Morning Prayer at St Mary's at 8.30am
on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday this week**

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, Russel Boyce, Scott, Thomas, Brian, Rev'd David Lingwood. MU Members, especially the house bound.

Recently Departed: Herbert Samuel Grove

Baptism Preparation – Prayer for December

Book: Aliens In Underpants

*Loving God, we ask that You help this family know and understand the fullness of Your love. Give them peace in knowing that You are with them from the beginning until the end. **Amen***

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

Teaspoon Prayers (TSP's 😊) from the Children at Church of the Ascension School

- *Dear God. Thank you for giving us this world. **Amen.***
- *Dear Lord. Sorry for being mean. **Amen.***
- *Dear Lord. Please help me to get my pen. **Amen.***

💡 You're Invited to Our Nativity! 💡

You are all warmly invited to join us for our Nativity this **Thursday (18th) at 6pm at St Mary's.**

This year's performance is based on Bob Hartman's retelling of the Nativity story and features lively **iSingPop** songs that everyone will love.

There will also be a couple of community carols at the end for everyone to sing together, followed by refreshments in the church centre.

Come along, bring family and friends, and celebrate the Christmas story with us!

Mainly Music

There is a new cake rota at the back of church and we would greatly appreciate if you could put your name on the list. We thank everyone who has supported us in supplying cakes 😊

Sunday 28 December at 10am – Team Eucharist

There will be a Team Eucharist on Sunday 28 December at **Church of the Ascension.**

There will be no service at St Mary's on this day.

Morning and Evening Prayer 29th – 31st December

Please note there will be no morning or evening prayer on Monday 29, Tuesday 30 and Wednesday 31 December. **They will recommence on Monday 5th January.**

Bishop Hugh There will be a service of welcome and installation on **Saturday 17th January at 2pm at Worcester Cathedral** as Bishop Hugh begins his ministry in the Diocese. All are welcome. It doesn't seem like we will need to book a coach. If anyone does want to attend, I'm sure we can sort lifts out if needed. Please speak to one of the clergy or churchwardens.

A prayer for Bishop Hugh

Gracious and loving God, through your Son Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd,
you have called us into the fellowship of your universal Church:

we thank you for calling your servant Hugh to be Bishop of Worcester;
sustain him by your love, strengthen him in faith, encourage him in hope
and grant him the needful gifts of grace;

that through his ministry among us we may live and grow as Kingdom People
sharing faith, hope and love in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

Confirmation Service

On **Sunday 18th January 2026** there will be a **Confirmation service at St Mary's at 10am** and all are welcome. There won't be a service at CoA.

We will be welcoming Bishop Alan Winton to lead the confirmation. He was formally the Bishop of Thetford and upon retirement he moved to Worcester and is an Honorary Assistant Bishop in the Diocese. For more information on Bishop Alan please see:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alan_Winton

We are also welcoming Bishop Victor Condori from the Diocese of Peru to the same service. Bishop Victor is in the UK to attend the installation of Bishop Hugh at the Bishop of Worcester. For more information on Bishop Victor please see:

<https://www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/news/new-assistant-bishop-in-peru.php>

Please do pray for the candidates being confirmed and if you're able to attend what I know will be an uplifting service and share some of the work in this part of God's Kingdom.

Third Sunday of Advent

Collect

God for whom we watch and wait,
you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son:
give us courage to speak the truth, to hunger for justice,
and to suffer for the cause of right, with Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Today's Readings

Isaiah 35: 1-10

Canticle: Magnificat

James 5: 7-10

Matthew 11: 2-11

Post Communion

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts;
kindle in us the fire of your Spirit that when your Christ comes again
we may shine as lights before his face; who is alive and reigns now and for ever.
Amen.

Pause, Pray, Ponder, Praise

Is a new reflective service being held on the third Sunday of the month by
Chris Knight at **Church of the Ascension** starting on
Sunday 18th January at 4 pm.

It will be a service when you will have time to just sit quietly with God.
Everyone is welcome. For more details, please speak to Chris or send her an email
to knightchristine2059@gmail.com

Used stamps for The Beacon Centre

Please remember to bring in any used stamps for us to send to this very worthy charity.

Gluten Free Wafers

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