



Sunday 7th December 2025

Newsletter

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CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION SERVICES – DECEMBER

Sunday 7 December

10.00am Morning Prayer
4pm Christingle

Monday 8 December

5pm Evening Prayer
7.30pm Fr Mel's Prayer Meeting

Tuesday 9 December

5pm Soul Food
5pm Evening Prayer

Wednesday 10 December

10am Midweek Said Eucharist
5pm Evening Prayer

Thursday 11 December

10am Mainly Music

Friday 12 December

7.30pm Singing for Pleasure Christmas Concert



Saturday 13 December

10-3pm Light Festival Open Day with School Choir

Sunday 14 December

10.00am Sung Eucharist

**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: Bill Prenton, Joan Bushell, Alan Lester.

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 Oaklands Care Home in our parish and for the people who care for them.

Fr. Mel's last Prayer Meeting before Christmas will be a bring and share supper on **Monday 8th December at 7.30pm at 14 Beech Tree Close.**



The Singing for Pleasure Group Christmas Concert



is being held at **Church of the Ascension** on **Friday 12th December at 7.30pm.**

Tickets are £5 to include refreshments after the concert and available in advance from Floss Jephson on 07534 491331 or Floss will be in church at CofA on Sunday and at St Mary's on Monday morning. Tickets can also be purchased on the door.

Everyone is welcome at the last **Community Coffee Morning** of the year at St Mary's this coming **Thursday 11th December 10-12.**



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. 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.

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.**

Mainly Music There is a new cake rota at the back of church for next half term. 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.

Our Festival this December is on the theme of Light

Thank you to all who came along and joined in creating stars and candles to decorate the church. And to the team of welcomers and caterers 😊 Please let Sheila or Chris Knight know if you are able to help at the Open Day on **Sat 13th December from 10-4.**

Help for Asylum Seekers Thank you everyone who has donated clothing. We now have plenty to pass on and will let you know if we're approached to help again.

Used stamps for The Beacon Centre With Christmas fast approaching, please remember to bring in any used stamps for us to send to this very worthy charity.

Thank You

The collection for BLESMA at our Remembrance Parade and Service raised **£360.**

Well done to the generous community of Wall Heath 😊

Second Sunday of Advent

Collect

Almighty God, purify our hearts and minds,
that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as judge and saviour
we may be ready to receive him, who is our Lord and our God. **Amen.**

Today's Readings

Isaiah 11: 1-10

Psalms 72: 1-7, 18-19

Romans 15: 4-13

Matthew 3: 1-12

Post Communion

Father in heaven, who sent your Son to redeem the world
and will send him again to be our judge:
give us grace so to imitate him in the humility and purity of his first coming
that, when he comes again, we may be ready to greet him with joyful love and firm faith;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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

- *Dear God. Thank you for giving me friends and family. **Amen.***
- *Dear Lord. Sorry for not picking up litter on the playground. **Amen.***
- *Dear Lord. Please help people who are naughty to be good. **Amen.***

Parish Development

Whilst we often reflect on numbers when looking at our parish development and the funding from the national church another equally important aspect to it is about faith development. How are we deepening our discipleship?

One really exciting example is Sian's work in Church of the Ascension School where she has worked with a group of children in the school to become worship leaders. This has now developed to the point where they develop their own acts of worship and lead other children and adults in this worship.

This same work will be shortly beginning at St Mary's school so please do pray for our young worship leaders and for their continued faith development.

A note from Lindsey in the Parish Office.

Over the last few weeks, I have been trying out a new working pattern: Mondays and Wednesdays 9-5 and then Fridays 9-12.30.

This seems to be working well so after discussing it with Fr Adam, where possible, I will be working these hours from **5th January.**

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

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