



Parish of Wiverton in the Vale:
One flock, One Shepherd, Six Pastures

Notices 20th December 2020

ADVENT 4 & CHRISTMAS

DIARY FOR THE NEXT 2 WEEKS

SUNDAY 20TH DECEMBER – ADVENT 4

9.00am – Holy Communion (St Andrew's, Langar)

10.30am – Carol Service (on our website)

Please [click here](#) to join the service at 10.30am (or later).

www.wivertoninthevale.co.uk/online-services

11.30am – Time for a Cuppa (via Zoom)

Please join us for a cuppa after the online service.

3.00pm-3.40pm – JOY! Christmas special (via Zoom)

For more information, please contact Vivien at

vivien_s_hall@yahoo.co.uk



MONDAY 21ST DECEMBER

9.00am – All Parish Morning Prayer (via Zoom)

All are invited to parish prayers via Zoom on Mondays and Fridays

10.30am-12.30pm – St Giles' Cropwell Bishop, open for private prayer

THURSDAY 24TH DECEMBER – CHRISTMAS EVE

6.00pm – Holy Communion (All Saints, Granby) This is now fully booked.

FRIDAY 25TH DECEMBER – CHRISTMAS DAY

8.30am – Christmas Message (on our website) A brief Christmas Day reading, message, prayer and song

Please [click here](#) to view the message from 8.30am onwards.

10.00am – Holy Communion (St Andrew's, Langar) Please see advert for booking details

10.00am – Holy Communion (St John the Divine, Colston Bassett) Please see advert for booking details

SUNDAY 27TH DECEMBER – CHRISTMAS 1

10.00am – Holy Communion (St Giles', Cropwell Bishop)

No recorded service today

11.30am – Time for a Cuppa (via Zoom)

MONDAY 28TH DECEMBER

9.00am – **All Parish Morning Prayer** (via Zoom)

St Giles' Cropwell Bishop, **NOT open for private prayer**

SUNDAY 3RD JANUARY 2021 – EPHIPHANY

9.00am – **Holy Communion** (St John the Divine, Colston Bassett)

10.30am – **Sunday Service** (on our website)

11.30am – **Time for a Cuppa** (via Zoom)

3.00pm-3.40pm – **JOY! Three Wise Men** (via Zoom)

CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS

If you are attending one of the services over the Christmas period, please note that the offertory plate will not be passed around in the usual way. However, there will be an offertory plate or donation box available if you would like to make a Christmas offering towards the running costs and work of the Parish.



CHRISTMAS HOLY COMMUNION SERVICES

Places at our Parish Church services over Christmas are filling up fast.

Please contact the appropriate warden and/or Peter Hills on pah17hills@hotmail.com to book your place as soon as possible.



Christmas Eve 6pm, All Saints
Granby - now fully booked

Christmas Day 10am, St John's
Colston Bassett - places available

Christmas Day 10am, St Andrew's
Langar - places available

27th December 10am, St Giles
Cropwell Bishop - places available

THE LIGHT SHINES IN THE DARKNESS!

A remarkable lady I met in Scotland used to live in a village called Sleitel on the very north coast of Sutherland. It is now deserted except for the sheep grazing amongst the empty house. It was a family favourite to walk to Sleitel and picnic overlooking the sea. As a child she and others had to walk four miles to Skeray school along the rough path, in all weathers, early morning and at end of day, dark in winter, with massive storms and strong winds, it was dangerous. She said that their fathers went early and lit braziers at the headland and on the hilltops to light the way. The older children held hands with the younger and they walked singing and chatting and encouraging each other. The sea crags are fearsome, the drops massive, the paths created by the sheep are often very steep. No health and safety in those days! But they had each other and they had the light. That light shines in the darkness. It gave them and us direction, guidance, security and helps us overcome fear of the unknown. That journey gave them a number of life skills - courage, mutual responsibility, confidence, overcoming fear, developing grit and toughness, perseverance, hope and faith. We need that now.

Gospel of John chapter 1 – 'In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing as made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood.' The physical and the spiritual darkness in the world – that is what Jesus came to bring to all God's people. The greatest love story ever told. 'For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life!' That is the Christmas message.

Every household has a story to tell about this year. For some it has been horrible and oppressive, with long periods of gloom and loss. Deprivation and sorrow with loss of life or sickness in family and friends. Burdened by exhausted service caring for others, whether in the National Health Service or caring in the community. And there is more to come! Until we have a vaccine and cure we have to address the possible consequences for us and for those we love contracting the virus. But is that it?

History tells us that in other times the nation and the nations of the world have experienced war, conflict, disease and collapse of political, social, ethical, moral and economic structures with catastrophe consequences. How does our community and nation respond? What is our role and how do we stand in the world and face the challenges?

Whatever the challenges like those Scottish children going to school, we need first to pray. That conversation with Our Lord Jesus - in the power of the Holy Spirit, and to hear Him speak and to fulfil what each of us all called to be and do for Him! It is not easy but Almighty God gives us the strength. Like the children have faith in Christ Jesus, be people of vision, character, grit and determination, integrity, hope, love, and remember iron sharpens iron.

Keeping our eyes on Jesus at all times. In His power we look at the world through His eyes - Love the world through and in the heart of Jesus. Seek the wisdom of Christ Jesus through knowing His Mind. To stretch out our hands to be reconcilers for individuals,



families, communities, nations and races, to heal broken lives and restore the lost. To share and love all peoples into the Kingdom of God .

Peace and Hope for Christmas in this world.

READINGS

Isaiah 9: 2-7 (NRSV)

²The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.

³You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.

⁴ For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.
⁵ For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire.
⁶ For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
⁷ His authority shall grow continually,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.
He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onward and forevermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

John 1: 1-14 (NRSV)

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. **2** He was in the beginning with God. **3** All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being **4** in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. **5** The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.
6 There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. **7** He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. **8** He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. **9** The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.
10 He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. **11** He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. **12** But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, **13** who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.
14 And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

CHRISTMAS FOOD APPEAL – A BIG THANK YOU

The response to the appeal has been incredible. So much so that we have been able to make up hampers, not only for the families at Langar, but also to send to Cropwell Bishop. We also put aside the non-perishable items and have sent them to The Children's Centre in Bingham where they are putting together food parcels for families too.



Emily Brown, Head Teacher at Langar Church of England School

"The kindness and generosity of our community never ceases to amaze me, and today's gesture has moved us to tears!"

LANGAR CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL NATIVITY

As a result of national and local restrictions due to the current pandemic, Langar School is unable to perform their annual Nativity to a live audience this year. However, they have produced this special online version which they hope you will enjoy just as much. Please visit www.wivertoninthevale.co.uk/nativity2020 to watch it.

PRAYERS

**Holy Jesus,
By being born one of us
And lying humbly in a manger
You show us how much God loves the world.
Let the light of your love always shine in our hearts,
Until we reach our home in heaven
And see you on your throne of glory.
Amen.**

Church of England, Times and Seasons

Come, Lord Jesus,
Come as King.

Rule in our hearts,
Come as love.

Rule in our minds,
Come as peace.

Rule in our actions,
Come as power.

Rule in our days,
Come as joy.

Rule in our darkness,
Come as light.

Rule in our bodies,
Come as health.

Rule in our labours,
Come as hope.

Thy Kingdom come
Among us.

by David Adams



HOW CAN WE GIVE? The Church of England receives no government funding other than some tax concessions, and our churches are dependent upon money given or raised locally to fund their ministry and upkeep, including heating, insurance and maintenance.

If you would like to set up or to change an existing order, please contact the Parish Treasurer in confidence, see below for details.

You can also now make one-off donations online through the service provided by our partners, Give A Little and SumUp at:

www.wivertoninthevale.co.uk/donate



KEEPING IN TOUCH; STAYING INFORMED

These **notices** are posted week by week on the Parish website: www.wivertoninthevale.co.uk

To receive a copy of these notices by email every Saturday, please subscribe to the website notification service at: www.wivertoninthevale.co.uk/subscribe

**Copy deadline for items to be included in next week's Notice Sheet:
Wednesday 30th December, to the Parish Administrator.**

KEY CONTACTS

Revd. Rachel

phone: 07944 992178 email: rector@wivertoninthevale.co.uk
On sick leave

Parish Administrator: Anna Hemati Kang Sofla:

phone: 07592 873751 email: administrator@wivertoninthevale.co.uk
On annual leave 21st-28th December

Parish Treasurer: Max Jordan:

phone: 0115 9899299 email: treasurer@wivertoninthevale.co.uk

Safeguarding Officer: Gareth Parker

phone: 07738 091338 email: gareth.parker@wivertoninthevale.co.uk

Any concerns regarding a safeguarding issue should be directed to the Safeguarding Coordinator for the Parish.

Further information and contact details can be found on the parish website at www.wivertoninthevale.co.uk/whos-who