

**Calendar for 7th to 14th
December 2025**

Sunday 7th December – Advent 2

- 8.00am** Said Eucharist (BCP) – **St Peter and St Paul**
 Readings: Isaiah 11.1-10 (OT Pg. 588); Romans 15.4-13 (NT Pg. 154);
 Matthew 3.1-12 (NT Pg. 2). (All Page Nos. refer to the Pew Bible)
- 9.30am** Advent Eucharist with Carols – **St Mary's Church, Ballinger**
- 10.00am** Sung Parish Eucharist – **St Peter and St Paul and live online**
- 11.30am – 4.30pm** Christmas Tree Festival – **St Peter and St Paul**
- 6.00pm** Said Evening Prayer – **St Peter and St Paul**

Wednesday 10th December

- 9.30am** Holy Communion – **St Peter and St Paul**
10.30am Coffee 'n' Share - **St Peter and St Paul**

Sunday 14th December – Advent 3 / Gaudete Sunday

- 8.00am** Said Eucharist (BCP) – **St Peter and St Paul**
 Readings: Isaiah 35.1-10; James 5.7-10; Matthew 11.2-11.
- 10.00am** Family Eucharist, including Christingle and Christmas Jumper Competition – **St Peter and St Paul and live online**
- 6.00pm** Sung Compline – **St Peter and St Paul**

Future Dates for your Diary (at St Peter and St Paul unless stated)

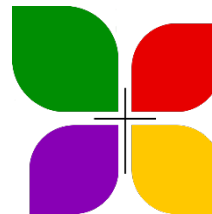
- Friday 19th December, 6.00pm:** Carol Service at Little Hampden
- Sunday 21st December, 6.00pm:** Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols
- Christmas Eve, 3.00pm:** Christingle Service at St Mary's, Ballinger.
- Christmas Eve, 4.00pm:** Crib Service
- Christmas Eve, 9.00pm:** Said Eucharist with Carols at St Mary's, Ballinger.
- Christmas Eve, 11.00pm:** Midnight Mass
- Christmas Day, 8.00am:** Said Eucharist
- Christmas Day, 10.00am:** Sung Family Eucharist



The Chiltern Foodbank is currently looking for donations of...
 Fabric Conditioner; Garlic Granules; Instant Coffee; Kitchen Roll;
 Mixed Herbs; Tinned Chicken; Tinned Rice Pudding.
All items must be within BBE date, please.
chiltern.foodbank.org.uk

STAFF AVAILABILITY:

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St Peter and St Paul, Great Missenden
St Mary's Church, Ballinger
Little Hampden

**Helping one another to Know, to
Serve and to Share God's love**

Sunday 7th December – The Second Sunday of Advent

Please include in our prayers:

- for our new Archdeacon, the Revd Cassa Messervy, presently Rector of St Mary's Haddenham;
- for our Archbishop of Canterbury Elect, the Rt Revd Dame Sarah Mullally;
- for peace throughout the world, especially as we approach this Christmas Season;
- for those involved in the appointing of a Youth Worker in our Benefice;
- for our Christmas Services and those who will attend them.

John the Baptist is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, 'The voice of one crying in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."' Matthew 3.3

Collect

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever.

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.

Collect words – © Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England (2000)

News and Events

The Vicar writes...

John appears on the scene in the run-up to Christmas, reminding us that he is the only warm-up act for Jesus' own appearance. He is clearly cast by Matthew as an Old Testament prophet, and as such is a hinge between the Old and New Testaments. So, although his message, 'repent' and 'bear fruit', is not that different to Jesus' message, it is clear that he is not the Messiah: his job is to point people to Jesus and let them make their own mind up about him. Maybe that's our job in the church too.

(Based on Matthew 3.1-12.)

The Vine and Branch is a new group, working to keep our beautiful churchyard and surroundings a sanctuary for all to enjoy. Much of this work is a project that Chris Nickless initiated, as he worked to gain a silver A Rocha award for this church and we would very much like to continue this.

There are a variety of tasks, some big, some small: sweeping leaves, pruning, keeping drains clear, caring for wild flower meadows and the Quiet Garden and looking after bird boxes. If you'd like to be a part of this, please speak to Jane Ray or Wendy Harris (organist) for more info.

Coffee 'n' Share. On 10th and 17th December, we will meet in the church as usual at 10.30am. There will then be a break over the festive period before Coffee 'n' Share re-commences on 7th January at Abbeyfield.

Christmas Giving. Each year, our Christmas giving is shared with those in need, and this year we are supporting Missenden Walled Garden, Embrace the Middle East and the charity that supports our own Parish of Great Missenden with Ballinger and Little Hampden.

Christmas Postcards. If you are able to share our Christmas postcards with your friends and neighbours, please pick them up from the back of the Church. As well as sharing Christmas greetings from the Church family, they also detail some of the special events taking place in all three Churches this Christmas and provide a warm invitation to join us.

Old Tea Warehouse Christmas Gifts. Thanks to your ongoing kindness, we now have 52 Christmas gifts for the residents of the Old Tea Warehouse. I think several people have yet to bring them to church so it's almost certain that we will reach our target number of 64. I would really like to thank you all so much for your generosity. These gifts will make all the difference on Christmas morning, I'm sure. Karen.

Churches Together Invitation. Don't spend Christmas Day alone! Come and join us for lunch at Great Missenden Baptist Church Hall. To book a place, please phone Mary Spooner on 01494 862 431. Thursday 25th December, 12.30pm for 1pm, return home about 3.20pm. Local transport can be arranged. No charge.

The school hall is at the heart of Great Missenden Church of England School. It is where we celebrate achievements in assemblies, hold PE lessons, perform nativities, Year 6 Leavers production, run after-school clubs and more. It is also a space enjoyed by the wider community for events such as yoga, ballroom dancing and drama. Unfortunately, the hall floor has deteriorated beyond repair and now requires a full replacement at a cost of £19,500. Our wonderful PTA has committed £13,000 and, while we are applying for further grants, we need your help to make this possible. If you are able to make a donation – large or small – it will make a real difference in restoring this vital space for our children and community.

Account Name: Great Missenden C of E Combined School.

Account No.: 11263168

Sort Code: 30-14-77

Thank you in advance for supporting the school!

Blister Pack Recycling. In memory of Chris Nickless, we are re-starting our medicine blister pack recycling. If you have empty blister packs, please add these to the box at the back of the Church and these will be taken to Boots in Amersham for recycling. Many thanks, Vivienne Davis.

Eco Tip for December. As Advent begins, let us turn our gaze to the true meaning of Christmas – God with us, Emmanuel. The humble birth of a child in a stable may seem distant from the way we celebrate today, but it offers a profound reminder of simplicity. This season, let's reflect on the story that we wish our actions and choices to tell. Consider A Rocha UK's blog on journeying towards a zero-waste Christmas (<http://www.arocha.org.uk/journeying-towards-a-zero-waste-christmas>). May our hearts and our celebrations align with the simplicity and beauty of the Christmas story.

Brahms Requiem Come and Sing Workshop, Saturday 31st January 2026, St Mary's Church Henley-on-Thames. Enjoy a day singing choruses from Brahms much loved choral masterpiece. The day runs from 10am until 4pm and includes a tea break with homemade cakes and will finish with an informal performance. Tickets: £24 with score hire (£20 without score hire); £10 18-30/concessions with score hire; £5 informal performance. Buy your tickets at <https://buytickets.at/henleychoralsociety/1902381>

Please note, you can subscribe to the online version of the Newssheet by contacting the Church Office by email: office@missendenchurch.org.uk