

## WELCOME TO OUR CHURCHES & SERVICES



14<sup>th</sup> December 2025 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

### THIS WEEK

**Collect:** *O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.*

**Readings:** Isaiah 35:1-10 Matthew 11:2-11

**Hymns:** MP 538 On Jordan's bank

Carol book 58 Of the Father's heart begotten

Carol Book 9 Let all mortal flesh

Carol Book 7 Hills of the north

### SUNDAY WORSHIP

10.00am Holy Communion at St. Mary's

*We hope to be able to live stream on Facebook.*

4.00pm Churches Together Carols at Ness Court

### WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

**Mon** 1.45pm School visit

7.30pm Bell ringing practice

**Wed** 10.30am Holy Communion at Reach

10.30am Holy Communion at Ness Court

**Thurs** 9.00am Montessori Nativity

**Frid** 10.00am Refresh Café at St. Mary's

**Sat** 9.00am Village Green Pray-ers

### SUNDAY WORSHIP – Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2025

8.30am Holy Communion at Burwell

10.00am Holy Communion at Burwell

6.30pm Carols by Candlelight at St. Mary's

### FOR YOUR PRAYERS:

- In this season of Advent, help your Church to wait well. Where we are tempted to rush ahead, slow us down. Where we cling to old expectations, open our eyes to new possibilities. May we be faithful in watching for your presence in unexpected places.

- We continue to pray for an end to the war in Ukraine. Be near to those who are anxious; bring comfort to all who are suffering.

- We pray for the peoples of Gaza and Israel, that a stable and lasting ceasefire plan may be secured.

- We pray for world leaders and those in positions of power. May they work for justice, peace, and the dignity of all people, especially the poor and marginalised. May they seek to serve rather than to be served.

- For the work of organisations helping families around the world to overcome poverty and injustice, wherever the need is greatest, and there is high risk of famine including: Myanmar, Haiti, Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Yemen, Syria, DRC, South Sudan.

- We give thanks for the beauty of our world. We pray for people whose lives are destroyed by floods, heatwaves, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions and other natural occurrences. Help us to care actively for this world, to take responsibility for looking after it rather than simply using and abusing it. We pray that world leaders, local governments and communities work together to protect our common home.

- As the commercial aspect of the Christmas season begins, we pray for all those that are struggling financially. Let us remember the true meaning of Advent and give the gift of our time, to those who need it most.

- For all those struggling in today's difficult economic situation. May adequate immediate provision be made available, and support to find longer term solutions, so that everyone has their basic needs met for food, shelter, employment and security. For national and international governments as they tackle the economic and social issues which affect them. May those in authority act with wisdom and justice to bring greatest good for the greatest number of people.

- We give thanks for the gift of community, a place where we can connect, support, and encourage one another. We pray for unity, understanding, and love among all members. Help us to see each other as your children, and to treat each other with kindness and compassion.

- For the new Archbishop of Canterbury elect, Bishop Sarah Mullally – for grace to fulfil this challenging role, for wisdom, discernment, humility and courage. For our leaders as the Diocese continues the process of choosing a new Bishop of Ely.

- For this parish, for Eleanor, Paula, Jo, Kevin & all in leadership. For our work with children, young people and families, including Refresh Café, Messy Church and Connect Café. For those involved on the teams, and for all who come along.

- For those living in:- Baker Drive, Ness Court, Ness Road, The Avenue (Burwell), Chapel Lane (Reach).

- For those in special need: Danny, Sarah, Jackie C, Neil, Janice, Sonny (Jackie & Tony's Great Grandson), Kate, Jennie D, John D, Joanne, Pam C, Michael (Ysanne's brother), Jackie L, Sue A, Daphne, Hilary, Paul (Alison K's friend), Lesha (Janice Fearn's granddaughter), Jessica, Paul (Christine's husband), Steve (Boppo), David K.

- For the bereaved including the family and friends of Joan Rickett, Phil Hudson (Paula's brother), Canon Jim Garrard (of Ely Cathedral) and for those remembering anniversaries of loss of loved ones.

### FOR YOUR ATTENTION

\* **Knitted Christmas Stockings:** the Visitor Centre staff and volunteers at HMP Whitemoor deeply appreciate our contributions; the stockings are being extremely well-received, and they are so grateful for the time and effort that has clearly been put into them. There were a few left-over packs of Smarties which I asked the staff & volunteers to share, and they are enjoying those. Thank you all so much, we sent 150 stockings this year. Paula

\* Congratulations to **Revd Virginia Moggridge**, who has been appointed as Rector of the **Raddesley benefice**, to start in February 2026.

\* **Carols by Candlelight** Sun 21<sup>st</sup>. We would be grateful for **donations** towards refreshments after the service: **red wine** for the mulled wine and **mince pies** (please let me know in advance), either leave in Church kitchen or contact Val ([valbadcock@btinternet.com](mailto:valbadcock@btinternet.com)) who will collect, by Sun 21<sup>st</sup> Dec morning. Thanks very much.

### PASTORAL CARE

Please contact Eleanor or Paula with messages about pastoral news, needs & concerns, requests for prayer. Revd Canon Dr Eleanor Williams 01638 741262 [vicar@stmarysburwell.org.uk](mailto:vicar@stmarysburwell.org.uk)

Revd Paula Spalding (Associate Priest): 07849 936085 [associatepriest@stmarysburwell.org.uk](mailto:associatepriest@stmarysburwell.org.uk)