



This + Week

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December 21st – The Fourth Sunday of Advent

A very warm welcome to everyone joining in worship here today.

Large print versions of the Order of Service are available at the back of church

A loop system is provided for the benefit of hearing aid users. Please switch it to 'T'. Please switch off mobile phones.

Parents with young children: don't worry if your child makes a noise during the service – we don't mind!

If it helps, there are some books, toys and 'busy bags' suitable for young children at the back of church.

21st December The Fourth Sunday of Advent (The Fourth Sunday in Advent)	8:00am	Holy Communion. Readings (p52) Philippians 4:4-7; John 1:19-28 (JW)
	10:30am	Nativity Service
	6:30pm	Carol Service <i>Traditional nine lessons and carols, followed by mince pies and mulled wine</i>
Tuesday	9:15am	Holy Communion
Christmas Eve	2:00pm	Christmas Eve at the Crib <i>A Special service for children of all ages</i>
	11:30pm	Midnight Communion. (Lord's Prayer: Hymn N ^o 264) <i>Prayers GW</i> <i>Communion Hymns: TBD</i> Readings Isaiah 9:2-7 (CH); Titus 2:11-14 (GW); Luke 2:1-14
Christmas Day	8:00am	Holy Communion. Readings (p52) Hebrews 1:1-12; John 1:1-14 (PH)
	10:30am	Family Communion. (Lord's Prayer: Hymn N ^o 264) <i>Prayers DT</i> <i>Communion Hymns: TBD</i> Readings Isaiah 52:7-10; Hebrews 1:1-4 (CW); John 1:1-14
28th December The Holy Innocents' (The Innocents' Day)	8:00am	Holy Communion. Readings (p60) Revelation 14:1-5; Matthew 2:13-18 (AC)
	10:30am	Family Communion. (Lord's Prayer: Hymn N ^o 264) <i>Prayers PH</i> <i>Communion Hymns: TBD</i> Readings: Jeremiah 31:15-17 (TB); 1 Corinthians 1:26-29 (AB); Matthew 2:13-18 <i>Followed by Refreshments in Church</i>
	6:30pm	Evensong Psalm 123 (pg 514) <i>Prayers JJ</i> Readings: Revelation 14:1-5; Matthew 2:13-18 (JH)

FOR OUR PRAYERS this week we pray for:

The Church: Our Bishops, (David, Chris and Mark), Archdeacon David, Area Dean Alison, our ministry team, our PCC, our Churchwardens (Jean and Andrew). The PCCs of the Radcliffe and Ainsworth parishes as we work towards establishing a four parish team in this area. Debra as she prepares to attend a Bishops' Advisory Panel conference to determine whether she will be selected for ordination training. That others from within our fellowship will answer God's call to Ordained, ALM or Reader ministry. Someone to come forward as our new Sunday School Leader.

Mission: We pray for those who have yet to encounter the love of God in Jesus Christ. As we implement our Mission Action Plan, we pray that we will continue to grow numerically, in faith and in discipleship. We pray that all of us might be good witnesses to the love of Christ in our day-to-day lives and that our footprint in the community might grow. We pray that our uniformed organisations, ABC, and Sunday School will continue to thrive and that Messy Church will grow. We ask for discernment as we explore additional possibilities for serving the young people of this parish.

Our finances: Future building work as we firm up on the work required and investigate the possibility of applying for grants. That we will meet our obligation to the Diocese to cover the cost of ministry in this parish and to support the cost of mission within the Diocese generally through the Parish Share.

Our families, friends, and our local community: Those facing financial or other difficulties. Those who are lonely or homeless at Christmas. Those who care for the frail and sick. Those living on Thompson Ave.

Our nation & the world: The Queen, her Ministers, our MP (Ivan Lewis), our councillors (Sharon Briggs, Peter Bury & Jane Lewis). Those serving overseas in the armed forces. Those affected by war and conflict. The persecuted Church, especially Christians in Sudan, Kenya, Nigeria, Pakistan, Iraq and Syria. Canon Andrew White, Vicar of Baghdad. Asia Bibi, the Pakistani Christian on Death Row, since being sentenced to death in 2010 for blasphemy.

Those in need: Those being cared for in local hospitals, hospices and nursing homes. For all who are ill, especially for: Louise Singleton, Noah Barnes, Mary Brooks, Winnie Horrobin, Irene Ellison, Adrian Atkinson, Louise Rostron, Brian Martin, Sharon McDowell and Audrey Downes.

The bereaved: All who have lost loved ones. Trusting in God, may they find healing, peace, strength and courage to face the future.

Christ Church Ainsworth

**'Celebrating, encouraging, proclaiming and supporting faith, hope and love
in Jesus Christ our Lord...'**

CHRISTMAS SERVICES:

Sunday 21 st	10-30am	Nativity Service
	6:30pm	Carol Service
	<i>(Traditional nine lessons & carols followed by mince pies & mulled wine!)</i>	
Christmas Eve	2:00pm	Christmas Eve at the Crib
	<i>(During which we welcome Joseph and Mary as they return from their Posada journey)</i>	
	11:30pm	Midnight Communion
Christmas Day	8:00am	Holy Communion
	10:30am	Family Communion

NOTICES – 21st December 2014

- **Debra Johnstone** has been sponsored by the Diocese to attend a Bishops' Advisory Panel conference, which will take place sometime early in 2015. The outcome of the conference will determine whether Debra is selected for ordination training. Please hold Debra in your prayers as she prepares for the conference and pray that she will be selected so that, in the fullness of time, she can serve in this parish as a priest.
- **Refreshments after services:** There will be refreshments after the 10:30 service next Sunday. Since we will probably have over-indulged over Christmas (and have plenty of biscuits!) we will not do cakes this time
- **Christmas Flower donations:** - Anyone wishing to donate towards the Christmas flowers for the Church can hand their donations to Marilyn Wildin, Beryl Sixsmith or Vicar Dave. Thank you to all who donate, and contribute to the Altar flowers throughout the year.
- **Churchyard team** are not meeting over the Christmas period. They will start again at 9:30am on Wednesday 7th. If you have a bit of time to spare and would like to help your Church in a practical way then please join them
- **2015 Diaries** are at the back of Church. These are free but donations are always welcome!
- **Christmas leaflets** containing details the Christmas services for all Radcliffe churches (including our own) are at the back of Church. Please take one to give to a friend
- **Readers:** We would like volunteers to read at the Epiphany Carol Services to be held at 6.30 p.m. on 4th January. Please speak to Andrew Lowe if you are able to do a reading on one or both of these dates.
- **Volunteers:** we are seeking a) an additional Sunday School leader; b) additional helpers to assist at Baptisms; and c) more volunteers to lead our prayers at our 10.30am services and, especially, at our 6.30pm services. Please speak with Revd Dave in confidence if you feel God is calling you to any of these important roles.
- **Iraqi Christians** Direct donations to support Christian and other refugees in Iraq can still be made to the Diocese of Cyprus and the Gulf <http://cypgulf.org/iraq/> the Foundation for Relief and Reconciliation in the Middle East, which supports the work of Canon Andrew White & St George's, Baghdad <http://frrme.org/> and Open Doors <https://partners.opendoorsuk.org/sslpage.aspx?pid=497>
- **Christmas Day:** St. Philip's Community Centre (in Radcliffe) are hosting a Christmas Lunch from 1pm to 3pm on Christmas Day for people who are on their own. Transport will be provided and, with that in mind, volunteer drivers are needed for 12.30pm pick-ups and 3.30pm return journeys. Please let Revd Dave know if you would like to attend or can volunteer as a driver.
- **Busy Bags** are available at the back of Church for the benefit of young children. Enjoy! There are also some larger toys by the font. Don't worry if your youngsters get a bit noisy during the service or get restless and wander about a bit (providing they're supervised). Nobody minds, that's what young children do!
- **Prayer:** One way of praying is to write a short prayer and hang it on the Prayer Tree (next to the pulpit). The Holy Spirit knows exactly what is on your heart so these do not need to be masterpieces of prose! Cryptic prayers will do! Please date them and we will remove them after two months (simply re-date your prayer before the end of two months if you want it to stay up longer.)
- **The Church and Community Hall** is available for private bookings at very reasonable rates. Please ring Geoff Hampson on 07910 817577 or see www.ainsworthchurchandcommunityhall.co.uk for details

To receive the Pew Sheet by e-mail, send an e-mail to vicar@ainsworthparish.org.uk with 'send pew sheet' in the subject. Otherwise download from <http://www.ainsworthparish.org.uk/pewsheets.html>

Collects	
Common Worship Eternal God, as Mary waited for the birth of your Son, so we wait for his coming in glory; bring us through the birth pangs of this present age to see, with her, our great salvation in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.	Book of Common Prayer O LORD, raise up (we pray thee) thy power, and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness, we are sore let and hindered in running the race that is set before us, thy bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through the satisfaction of thy Son our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost be honour and glory, world without end. Amen.

If you pay tax, please Gift Aid your offering(s). This enables us to claim back the tax paid on offerings and in 2013 this boosted our funds by £7436. Envelopes for occasional givers are in the pews and forms for regular givers are in the porch. **The only details that need to be given,** are your **full** name, address and post code and an acknowledgement that you pay tax to the value of the amount to be claimed. Bank Standing Order forms are also available in the Church porch. Completed forms can be put on the collection plate with your offering.