

Lectionary Readings

Sun 21st 4th Sunday of Advent

Reading 1: Isaiah 7:10-16
 Reading 2: Romans 1:1-7
 Gospel: Matthew 1:18-end

Wanlip Readings: Carols by Candlelight

Reading 1: Micah 5:2-4
 Reading 2: Isaiah 35
 Reading 3: Jeremiah 22:13-16 & 23:5,6
 Reading 4: Isaiah 11:1-9
 Reading 5: Isaiah 52:7-10
 Reading 6: Philippians 2:5-11
 Reading 7: Luke 2:1-20

Mon 22nd

Psalm: 124
 Reading 1: Malachi 1:1, 6-end
 Reading 2: Matthew 19:1-12

Tue 23rd

Psalm: 130
 Reading 1: Malachi 2:1-16
 Reading 2: Matthew 19:13-15

Wed 24th Christmas Eve

Psalm: 45
 Reading 1: Malachi 2:17 – 3:12
 Reading 2: Matthew 19:16-end

Midnight Mass

Reading 1: Isaiah 62:6-end
 Reading 2: Titus 3:4-7
 Gospel: Luke 2:1-20

Thu 25th Christmas Day

Psalm: 110
 Reading 1: Isaiah 62:1-5
 Reading 2: Matthew 1:18-end

Holy Communion Readings

Reading 1: Isaiah 52:7-10
 Reading 2: Hebrews 1:1-4 [5-12]
 Gospel: John 1:1-14

Fri 26th Stephen, deacon, first martyr

Psalm: 13
 Reading 1: Jeremiah 26:12-15
 Reading 2: Acts 6

Sat 27th John, Apostle and Evangelist

Psalm: 21
 Reading 1: Exodus 33:12-end
 Reading 2: 1 John 2:1-11

Sun 28th 1st Sunday of Christmas

Reading 1: Isaiah 63:7-9
 Reading 2: Hebrews 2:10-end
 Gospel: Matthew 2:13-end

Wanlip Readings

Reading 1: Isaiah 63:7-9 or Heb. 2:10-end
 Reading 2: Matthew 2:13-end
 Psalm: 148

21st December 2025

Collect for the 4th Sunday of Advent

God our redeemer, who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son: grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour, so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our judge; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Post Communion Prayer

Heavenly Father, who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of the promised saviour: fill us your servants with your grace, that in all things we may embrace your holy will and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Collect for Christmas Eve (Midnight Mass)

Eternal God, who made this most holy night to shine with the brightness of your one true light: bring us, who have known the revelation of that light on earth, to see the radiance of your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Post Communion Prayer

God our Father, in this night you have made known to us again the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ: confirm our faith and fix our eyes on him until the day dawns and Christ the Morning Star rises in our hearts. To him be glory both now & for ever. **Amen**

Collect for Christmas Day

Almighty God, you have given us your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him and as at this time to be born of a pure virgin: grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Post Communion Prayer for Christmas Day

God our Father, whose Word has come among us in the Holy Child of Bethlehem: may the light of faith illumine our hearts and shine in our words and deeds; through him who is Christ the Lord. **Amen**

This week we are grateful for....

Our families & friends

Additional Notices for the Week:

Christmas Cards

Thank you so much for all the Christmas Cards we have received this year. Instead of buying cards, we have given money to charity instead. *Amanda and Paul & Rachael and Phil*

Midnight Mass rehearsal

There will be a rehearsal for those helping with / taking part in Midnight Mass at 3pm on Monday (22nd!). Please come if you think it would help you with your role (I am at home typing this, so can't remember who's down for what!) *Amanda*

Cedar Mews on Christmas Eve

The service at Cedar Mews on Christmas Eve will now be at **11:30am** and not 2:30pm. You are welcome to join us along with the residents and staff. *Kerry*

Christingle service – Christmas Eve

The Christingle service on Christmas Eve is at **4:30pm** as per the posters, not as in the diary.

Information Sheets for 28th December and 4th January

I will be off for Christmas until Tuesday 6th January. The Information sheets for 28th Dec and 4th Jan have already been produced. If you have any other notices for announcement in church, please give them to a member of the clergy or a churchwarden on the day. Thanks. *Sheryl*

Morning Prayer at the Rectory

That there will be no morning prayer in the Rectory on Monday 22nd December.

Drinks & Nibbles at the Rectory – Tomorrow night (22nd December)

We just can't give gifts to all the wonderful people who help and support Amanda in her role as Rector here, so please do come along to our "Thank you" Christmas Event "Drinks & Nibbles" on Monday 22nd December from 7-10:30pm. Drop in for a short while or long - everyone welcome, no matter how small you think your help and support is - it all adds up! Even if it's 'only' praying at home - that is help too!

Items for Information Sheets 17th & 25th January

I will be on holiday for 2 weeks in January, so if you have any notices to be included in the information sheets for the 17th & 25th Jan, can you please let me have them before I am on Thursday 8th Jan as I will be out of the office from then until Tuesday 27th Jan. Thanks. *Sheryl*

Knitted stockings & Christmas decorations

Grateful thanks to those who bought items, Kate & Cynthia for help with the knitting and Doreen & Rosie for selling items, also for donations received. £350.00 raised for St James handrail fund. *Brenda & Joan*

Warm Space over Christmas & New Year

Birstall will be closed - Tuesday 23rd December and Tuesday 30th December.

Wanlip will be closed - Friday 26th December and Friday 2nd January. *Janet & Team*

Wanlip Christmas Fair

Thank you to everyone who helped and supported the Wanlip Fair. £1377.67 was raised. *Julie*