

THIS WEEK

Sunday 1 December - First Sunday of Advent

8.00am **HOLY COMMUNION**, page no 47

President: Revd Kate Moore

8.30am Breakfast with the Bible, led by Canon Imogen Nay

9.30am **PARISH EUCHARIST Parade Service**

President: Canon Ivor Moody

Preacher: Canon Imogen Nay

11.15am **CHORAL EUCHARIST**

President: Revd Kate Moore

Preacher: Canon Ivor Moody

3.30pm **EVENING PRAYER**

6.00pm **ADVENT PROCESSION**

NEXT WEEK

Sunday 8 December - Second Sunday of Advent

8.00am **HOLY COMMUNION**, page no 49

President: Canon Alison Kennedy

8.30am Breakfast with the Bible, led by Linda Brown

9.30am **PARISH EUCHARIST**

President: Canon Imogen Nay

Preacher: Canon Ivor Moody

11.15am **MATINS**

Preacher: Canon Imogen Nay

3.30pm **BBC ESSEX CAROL SERVICE** (Tickets only via BBC Essex)

Preacher: Rt Revd Stephen Cottrell, Bishop of Chelmsford

Daily Prayer through the Week (Mon to Sat):

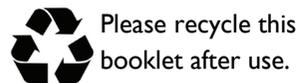
Morning Prayer: 7.45 am

Holy Communion: 8.15 am (also Wed at 12.35 pm & Thurs at 10.00 am)

Midday Prayer in St Cedd's Chapel

Evensong/Evening Prayer: 5.15 pm (sung on Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri,
said on Wednesday & Saturday)

On certain Saturdays Evensong is sung by a choir
– please check the Music & Services list for dates



Printed by Diocesan Print Unit
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CATHEDRAL LIFE WEEKLY

First Sunday of Advent, 1 December 2019



Cathedral Market

ON Saturday 7 December, from 9.30am - 2.30pm, the Cathedral will be buzzing with Christmas excitement. The annual Christmas market will be full of high-quality craft stalls including Cathedral groups, local charities and Backnang, our twin town who will be bringing goods from Germany.



The Social Committee will be providing home-made mince pies, delicious cakes and hot lunches.

To add to the festive feel, a succession of musical groups, including the Cathedral School, will be providing entertainment throughout the day.

This is one of the Cathedral's major fund-raising events of the year and has raised many thousands of pounds to support the Cathedral's mission and been an outreach to the city, provided a venue for other charities to raise funds for themselves.

Do come along and pick up a few Christmas presents and enjoy the festive atmosphere.

Contact us at:

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and visit our website: chelmsfordcathedral.org.uk
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Diocese of
Chelmsford

Study Notes on the Sunday Gospel

Readings for Advent 1 (1 December):

Isaiah 2.1-5
Ps 122
Matthew 24.36-44

Let us pray in Advent time with longing and waiting for the coming of the Lord

At this time of year, we move into winter, a time of quiet, of waiting in growing darkness for the return of the light. With the beginning of **Advent**, the Church also moves into an attitude of watchful waiting. The readings of the Advent liturgy invite in us two attitudes: hope for that which is not yet fulfilled and wakefulness of mind and heart. Together they prepare us to enter into the mystery of the divine gift; God with us.

At the heart of our faith is the conviction that in Bethlehem in Judea, God gave us in Jesus the definitive answer to all our longings; the fulfilment of the deepest desires of our hearts. The liturgy slowly teaches us to listen to this longing and, as we remain wakeful, we can begin to sense another longing that is deeper than our own: the longing that is in God for us.

The readings today invite us to wait in hope and expectation.

Sunday 8 DECEMBER THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT	9.30 & 11.15 Isaiah 11.1-10 <i>Benedictus</i> Matthew 3.1-12	3.30 pm <i>Ps 80</i> Isaiah 40.1-11 2 Peter 3.8-15a
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THE WEEK AHEAD

Sunday 1 December

6pm Advent Procession

Monday 2 December

5.30 - 7.00pm Youth Group (8pm yr 9+) (YMCA)

Wednesday 4 December

9.30am Parent and Toddler Group (Chapter House)

12.35pm Eucharist

1.00 - 3.00pm Welcome on Wednesday: coffee and cake in the North Transept

1.00 - 4.00pm Friendship Club (Chapter House)

Thursday 5 December

10.00am Eucharist

8pm Mothers' Union (Chapter House)

Saturday 7 December

9.30am - 2.30pm Cathedral Christmas market

7.30pm Caprice Concert

Thursday 12 December 2pm

Mothers' Union meeting in the Learning Centre for seasonal readings and mince pies.

Saturday 14 December 7pm

Cathedral Choirs Christmas Concert: With the London Brass Consort, festive Christmas music old and new with something for all the family including audience participation. Tickets: £5 - £20 available from the Cathedral Bookstall and ticketsource.co.uk More details in the 'Guide to Events'.

Christmas Day Lunch

The annual Christmas Day lunch will take place in Chapter House and includes two courses; a turkey roast and a dessert and a glass of wine. Cost is £10 per head and payment is required by December 16. Mark Gerber is kindly catering again to ensure no one is on their own on

Christmas Day. Payment to Malcolm Treacher at 3 Havencourt CMI IEA, tel: 01245 250061 or leave with the vergers.

Sunday 5 January

An **Epiphany Lunch** in support of English for Women and Chelmsford Cathedral Choir will be held at Cuton Hall, the home of Yvonne and John Spence. Gathering from 12.30 for a two-course hot lunch with wine and soft drinks. Tickets £15. Call 01245 465108 or email yvonne.spence@hotmail.com

Saturday 29 February 10 - 3.30pm

Desert Springs, Lent Quiet Day with Canon Imogen Nay at Pleshey Retreat House. The Quiet Day will give you a chance to enter into Lent, focusing on what can resource you in times of desert and difficulty. See the Cathedral website for full details and to sign up. Places are limited.

NOTICES & DATES FOR THE DIARY

A very warm welcome to Chelmsford Cathedral especially if you are a visitor or here for the first time. Everything you need for the celebration is contained in the service booklet. Please ask one of the welcome stewards on duty at the doors if you have any questions.

Junior Church meets again next week, starting at 9.30am in Chapter House.

Yellow Envelopes If you are a UK tax payer, please use a yellow Gift Aid envelope (available at the doors) to increase the value of your donation by 25% at no extra cost to you. Remember to fill in your full name, house number and postcode and the date.

Cathedral Christmas cards, books for Advent and 2020 diaries are now available on the Bookstall.

Imogen is delighted to announce that Jean Elliott has been appointed as Children and Family Minister and will start in the New Year. More information about Jean and her new role will be published in January; she comes to us with vast experience of working with children and families in a church context.

At Chelmsford Cathedral we are committed to helping each other live out our Christian lives in the context of loving relationships. Whether you are new to the Cathedral community, a long standing member or simply interested in exploring faith why not join our new Fellowship Group? Held on a Tuesday evening from 7pm, in

Great Leighs, the group will be hosted by Gary Fleming our ordinand who is on placement with us for two years. For more details email: garyalanfleming@gmail.com or talk to Canon Imogen Nay.

Monday 2 December 1.30 - 4.30pm

Christmas Wreath making workshop in the Chapter House. £15. The Flower Guild have a few places left. If you would like to join us and make yourself a Christmas wreath please contact Pippa Alston for all the details tel: 07870 305670 pippaalston@aol.com. Any profits to the Flower Guild.

Friday 6 December 5 - 9pm

Wreath making in the Learning Centre. The CCCA are hoping to make 100 wreaths to sell at the Christmas Market on their tombola stall the following day. If you would like to help (and maybe use your skills learned at the Flower Guild workshop), please come along.

Saturday 7 December 9.30am - 2.30pm

Cathedral Christmas Market: Plans are already underway. If you have prizes for the Christmas draw, particularly items for a Christmas Hamper Prize, please contact Yvonne Spence. Tel: 01245 465108 or yvonnespence@hotmail.com

Sunday 8 December 1pm

Meeting Point lunch: the next lunch is taking place at Pontlands. Book with Penny tel: 07872 942625.

Daily Gospel Readings for this week, to use in your daily prayer:

Monday	Matthew 8.5-11
Tuesday	Luke 10.21-24
Wednesday	Matthew 15.29-37
Thursday	Matthew 7.21, 24-27
Friday	Matthew 9.27-31
Saturday	Matthew 9.35 - 10.1, 6-8

You can find a simple 10 minute reflection at: pray-as-you-go.org

Please pray for:

- Teresa Hipgrave, Rita James, Winnie Towers, Norman Sharpe, and all those receiving home communion and all in need of our prayers
- The Redeemed Christian Church of God, Thanksgiving House
- Mission Agencies and their work throughout the Anglican Communion

The Faith Covenant - two years on

On Thursday 15th November over 120 faith, community and public services representatives gathered in a lecture theatre on the Chelmsford Campus of the Anglia Ruskin University to celebrate the first two years of life of the Essex Faith Covenant (EFC) which was launched at First Site in Colchester in October 2017.



The EFC is part of a national initiative to encourage faith and community groups and public services to collaborate more closely in the care and provision for residents, especially those who are vulnerable, but the EFC is the first of its kind in its County wide focus, directed and driven by the Essex County Council (ECC) under the careful guidance of Andrew Lowing.

Delegates were informed that over thirty organisations had now joined the Covenant, and two projects - Chelmsford City Council's 'Culture in the Park' event and ECC / Braintree District Council's Supporting Refugee Resettlement – presented on their service to the community, and their support for minority and marginal groups.

The speakers for the evening were Stephen Timms, Labour Party candidate for East Ham, Daniel Singleton The National Executive Director at Faith Action and Councillor John Spence, ECC Cabinet Member. Stephen pointed out that the contribution of numerous faith groups nationally to the wellbeing and support of countless individuals and communities across a variety of needs was a hugely important contribution to society, and one that has been consistently underestimated and sidelined. He said that this was the biggest motivator for the planning of Faith Covenants by The All Party Parliamentary Group Faith Action, as a way of proactively building relationships and trust between faith groups and public services, and to create opportunities to raise awareness and share learning and knowledge

between them. This was reiterated by John Spence who pointed out that Essex and East London contained some of the most deprived communities nationally, and that one of the most valuable contributions that faith groups bring to the table is unsurpassed local knowledge and contacts with their communities at a level it just wasn't possible for councils to have.

Daniel Singleton was full of praise for the EFC, describing it as targeted, focussed and very effective. He said that he used the EFC as a template to describe to other potential Faith Covenant participants around the country what a Faith Covenant could look like and achieve, and he looked forward to the possibility of developing further projects for the County with us.

One of the highlights of the evening was a short speech by Chanelle Wilson, Director of Welfare and Wellbeing at Havens Hospices in Witham and Southend, who announced that from that evening they would be new Covenant members. It was a great testimony to the Covenant in action, continuing to attract new members, and was also significant as the Southend area up to that point was under represented in the EFC.

The evening closed with a Q and A panel Chaired by John Spence, and Stan Keller from the Jewish community, Sidra Naeem from the Islamic community (and a Deputy Lord Lieutenant), Ivor Moody, Chair of the Mid Essex Inter Faith Forum and Chair of the EFC, Daniel Singleton and Stephen Timms, who answered a variety of questions from the floor.

We are grateful to Anglia Ruskin University for its hospitality and in particular Rachel Moss their Public Engagement Officer for helping to organise the evening. The event ended with closing remarks from Councillor Susan Barker, and then a delicious curry and rice meal for everyone which itself became a symbol of what the EFC stands for: that in all our endeavours, we work towards that which unites us rather than divides us.

Ivor Moody.

