

Services and Meetings this week

St. Martin's, St. Kenelm's & Tresham Church: open weekdays 10 – 6pm
St. Mary's opens daily 9am – 4pm.

Monday 22nd December – Office Closed

10.00am Morning Prayer at Perry & Dawes

Tuesday 23rd December – Office Closed

9.30am Coffee morning & Christingle making at St. Mary's

Wednesday 24th December – Christmas Eve

9.30am Holy Communion Service at St. Mary's
10.00am Journey to Bethlehem from St. Martin's to The Chapel
10.15am Coffee and Chat after morning service
4.00pm Christingle Service at St. Mary's
5.30pm Christingle Service at St. Mary's
6.00pm Christingle Service at St. Martin's
9.30pm Bethlehem Midnight Mass at St. Mary's
11.15pm Midnight Mass at St. Martin's

Thursday 25th December – Christmas Day

Office Closed

9.30am Christmas Communion Service at St. Martin's
9.30am Christmas Communion Service at St. Mary's
11.15am Christmas Communion Service at St. Kenelm's

Friday 26th December - Boxing Day

Office Closed

Saturday 27th December

Sunday 28th December – 1st Sunday of Christmas / The Holy Innocents

9.30am Holy Communion at St. Martin's
9.30am Angels Service at St. Mary's

Principal Reading (from the Lectionary)

1st Reading: Isaiah 63: 7-9 or Jeremiah 31: 15-17

2nd Reading: Hebrews 2: 10-end or 1 Corinthians 1: 26-29

Gospel: Matthew 2: 13-end or Matthew 2: 13-18

Clergy:

Rev Lesley Hewish 07827 418188 / vicar@tyndalebenefice.co.uk
Rev Peter Marsh 01453 547521 / pcemarsh@gmail.com
Please do not call after 6pm
Rev Canon Jane Kenchington 07779 991 760 / janekechington@gmail.com
(Part Time)
Revd Peter Fewings 07795 206590 / ptfewings@gmail.com

Vicar's Secretary & Benefice Administrator:

Kate Cropper Office closed until w/c 5th January 2026
office@tyndalebenefice.co.uk 01453 842175

Wotton-under-Edge with Ozleworth Churchwardens:

Mrs Kate Tutty stmaryschurchwardenwotton@gmail.com / 01453 844371
Safeguarding – Gillian Carpenter, Shelley Ratcliffe, Rachel Tooley, Lesley Hewish
– 07827 418188 wottonsafeguarding@tyndalebenefice.co.uk

Director of Music:

Mr Jed Hughes 07761 748044 / directorofmusicstmarys@gmail.com

North Nibley Churchwarden:

Mr John Hay 07973 327881 admin@northnibleychurch.uk
Safeguarding officer – Rev Lesley Hewish 07827 418188 /
vicar@tyndalebenefice.co.uk

Alderley (including Tresham) Churchwardens:

Mrs Kay Pettifer 07850 345978
Mrs Susan Whitfield 01666 890 338 & Safeguarding officer
www.wottonparishchurch.org.uk  St Mary's Wotton
www.northnibleychurch.uk

Did you know – that St. Martin's produces an audio service which is available every week? The clergy (& others) take it in turns & you can listen to it here:
<https://northnibleychurch.uk/recorded-services/> All the services are on here, so you listen at your leisure. It's for everyone, so do spread the word.

Tyndale



Benefice

Wotton-under-Edge with Ozleworth
North Nibley
Alderley (including Tresham)

Sunday 21st December 2025
Last Sunday of Advent

Services

9.30am Holy Communion at St. Mary's
9.30am Angels Service at St. Martin's
11.15am Tresham Carol Service
3.00pm Living Crib at North Nibley Chapel
6.00pm 9 Lessons and Carols at St. Mary's

Collect

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.

or

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.

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.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.
Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight, and all flesh
shall see the salvation of God.

All: Alleluia.

Congregation response for the lighting the Advent wreath

People of God: return!
You are called to be God's own.
From the mountains announce the good news.
God comes in justice and peace,
to all who follow his ways.
You are God's children.
Lord, make us one in the peace of Christ
today and for ever. Amen.

Principal Readings - Lectionary

1st Reading: Isaiah 7: 10-16

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.

2nd Reading: Romans 1: 1-7

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh & was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace & apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel: Matthew 1:18-end

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly.

But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."

All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "Look, the virgin shall conceive & bear a son, & they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us."

When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; & he named him Jesus.

For your prayers:

For the family and friends of:

Daphne Morris whose funeral was at St. Martin's on 8th December
Russell Alway whose funeral was at Westerleigh on 4th December.
Pete Roberts (Pete the Print) whose funeral was at St. Mary's on 17th December.

Brenda Francis whose interment is on 21st December

Prayer Chain/Ministry - There is a group of people who will pray for you. To request prayer contact Joan Deveney (01453 844370) or Pat Forster (01453 842557). The Prayer Chain operates for a fortnight, unless otherwise requested.

There is also a notebook outside the Catherine Chapel for written prayer requests too.

If you miss the names of the people being prayed for on a Sunday, please contact the office for a copy.

In December, please pray for Holy Cross Church and its congregation

***** NOTICES *****

Christingle making on Monday 23rd December – can you help? Mince pies are also needed – if you are able to provide any, please let Sharon or Kate T or C know!



Christingle Making
Tuesday 23rd December
Come and have coffee and a mince pie between 10 and 12 to support the work of the Children's Society
We are making 500 Christingles from 9.15 onwards in the church
If you would like to help, make Christingles or bake mince pies, contact Kate Tutty 01453 844371

St. Mary's Christmas Greetings Tree – will be situated by the Font for you to add your best wishes to your friends and St. Mary's Family. Please can we ask that all Christmas cards are removed from the porch by Christmas Eve morning, as we will need the porch clear for the Christingle Services (space for wet brollies and buggies)

St. Mary's Christmas Flowers – if you are able to donate a bit of money towards them, that would be wonderful. Jar at the back of the church.

St. Mary's New Year's Eve Concert – lets start the celebration of New Year on Wednesday 31st December at 6pm. Justine and friends invite you to a light hearted musical start to your evening. We are delighted that Stephen Whitford is returning again this year to sing for us. Tickets from the Cotswold Bookroom or on the door.

Benefice / Parish Office is closing on Friday 19th December 2025. I will be back in w/c 5th January 2026. Please leave a message on the phone or an email. Ring Lesley if it is anything urgent.

Thank you for all your support over the last 12 months. I love this job, and it makes it a joy to be here with so many wonderful people around me.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



Christmas in Wotton-under-Edge 2025
On Your own on Boxing Day?
Come for afternoon tea or coffee and cake at the
Chipping Clubroom
In the Chipping Car Park on December 26th from 1.00pm until 4.00pm
Donations to Keepers