

Services and Meetings this week

St. Martin's, St. Kenelm's & Tresham Church: open weekdays 10 – 4pm
St. Mary's opens daily 9am – 3pm.

Christmas Day – Office Closed

9.30am Family Christmas Communion Service at St. Martin's
9.30am Family Christmas Communion Service at St. Mary's
11.15am Family 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 Angels Service at St. Mary's
9.30am Non Communion Service at St. Martin's
No Choral Evensong 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

Do not call after 6pm

Rev Canon Jane Kenchington 07779 991 760 / janekenchington@gmail.com
(Part-time)

Rev Peter Fewings 07795 206590 / ptfewings@gmail.com

Vicar's Secretary & Benefice Administrator:

Kate Cropper Closed w/c 22nd & 29th December
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 – 07827 418188

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 07827 418188 / safestmartinnn@gmail.com

Alderley (including Tresham) Churchwardens:

Mrs Kay Pettifer 07850 345978

Mrs Susan Whitfield 01666 890 338 & Safeguarding officer

www.wottonparishchurch.org.uk

www.northnibleychurch.uk



St Mary's Wotton

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



Tyndale



Benefice

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

Wednesday 24th December 2025

Christmas Eve

and

Thursday 25th December 2025

Christmas Day

Christmas Eve

Services

9.30am Holy Communion Service (BCP) with coffee and chat to follow at St. Mary's

10.00am Donkey procession in North Nibley (Church to chapel)

4.00pm Christingle at St. Mary's

5.30pm Christingle at St. Mary's

6.00pm Christingle at St. Martin's

9.30pm Bethlehem Midnight Mass at St. Mary's

11.15pm Midnight Mass at St. Martin's

Collect

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.

or

Eternal God,
in the stillness of this night
you sent your almighty Word
to pierce the world's darkness with the light of salvation:
give to the earth the peace that we long for
and fill our hearts with the joy of heaven
through our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

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 and for ever.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

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

All: Alleluia.



Principle Readings

1st Reading: Isaiah 52: 7-10

How beautiful upon the mountains
are the feet of the messenger who announces peace,
who brings good news,
who announces salvation,
who says to Zion, 'Your God reigns.'
Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices,
together they sing for joy;
for in plain sight they see
the return of the Lord to Zion.
Break forth together into singing,
you ruins of Jerusalem;
for the Lord has comforted his people,
he has redeemed Jerusalem.
The Lord has bared his holy arm
before the eyes of all the nations;
and all the ends of the earth shall see
the salvation of our God.

2nd Reading: Hebrews 1: 1-4

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

Gospel: John 1: 1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Christmas Day

Services

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

Collect

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.

or

Lord Jesus Christ,
your birth at Bethlehem
draws us to kneel in wonder at heaven touching earth:
accept our heartfelt praise
as we worship you,
our Saviour and our eternal God.

Post Communion Prayer

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.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
The word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory.

All: Alleluia.

Congregation response for the lighting the Advent wreath

People of God: shout and sing!
Tell the good news of peace on earth.
Lord, bring us today into Christ's peace.
All God's people say
Amen!

Angels dance
And the bright star shines.
All creation bows to the Lord of all.
Lord, bring us today into Christ's light.
All God's people say

Amen!

One with us,
Yet born to save,
He will show us the way to God.
Lord, bring us today into Christ's love.
All God's people say

Amen!

People of God: shout and sing.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Amen.

Principal Readings

1st Reading: Isaiah 9: 2-7

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.
You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.
For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.
For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.
For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named
Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
His authority shall grow continually,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.
He will establish and uphold it

with justice and with righteousness
from this time onwards and for evermore.
The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

2nd Reading: Titus 2: 11-14

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Gospel: Luke 2: 1-20

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

The Shepherds and the Angels

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest heaven,

and on earth peace among those whom he favours!' When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

For your prayers:

For the family and friends of:

Pete Roberts whose funeral was on 17th December at St. Mary's

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.

In December we pray for Holy Cross Church

******* NOTICES *******

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.

St. Mary's Xmas Card Tree - To save on the price of cards & postage, why not write a Christmas greeting on a card & hang it on the tree by the font for all your church friends to read? Also, write a sentence or two saying what this church community means to you & the many blessings God has given you.

Benefice Office – will be taking a break for a couple of weeks. The office will be closed w/c 22nd and 29th December, reopening week commencing 6th January 2025. Thank you to everyone across the Benefice for all the support you give me in doing this job. It is always a joy and a pleasure. Merry Christmas.

Mothers Union January Meeting – Wednesday 7th January at 2.15pm at St. Mary's. This is the AGM – all are welcome.

St. Mary's Reflection Group – Tuesday 13th January at 2.30pm. All are welcome.

Know any children between 6 and 12? Do they like to sing?

– Please tell them about "Singing Day" (at St. Mary's). Experience singing with a choir in the traditional service of Choral Evensong. Sunday 25th January from 3pm – 7pm (which includes the Choral Evensong at 6pm)
For more information contact choristersatstmarys@gmail.com

St. Mary's Church Fete – Saturday 11th July 2026 - A massive thank you to Douglas Hinton for his tireless organisation over the last few years. He is stepping down from fete organisation, so we are looking for someone to head up a team of fete organisers – plus the team. Could you be part of it? You would be an organiser, not necessarily having to DO all of it. Please talk to Lesley if you're interested or would like to find out more.

**THE CLERGY & CHURCHWARDENS
WISH YOU ALL A
VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS.**

