

Coffee and Tea in Church All welcome. Welcome to Bishop Mike

Today: 5.00-8.00pm Carol singing & Santa's visit to Mendlesham & Mendlesham Green in aid of St. Martin's Norwich for the homeless.
7.30 & 8.00 appx soup & drinks in church

This week: Divine Office - Psalter Week 3

Mon: St. Lucy

9.30 Mass. (Num 24 v2-7,15-17; Matt 21 v 23-27)
Int: All in prison

Tues: St John of the Cross

9.30 Mass (Zeph 3 v 1-2,9-13; Matt 21 v28-32) Int: Communicants
10.30-12.30 Coffee in church

Wed: 11.00 Requiem Mass - David Morgan Guild of All Souls
(Is 45 v 6-8,18,21-26; Like 7 v 19-23)

Thurs: 9.30 Mass (Is.54 v 1-10; Like 7 v24-30) Int: All recently ordained

Fri: 9.30 Mass (Gen 49 v 2,8-10; Matt 1 v 1-17)
Int: Our preparation for Christmas

Sat: 10.00 1st Mass of Sunday. Readings as on Sunday.
Int: All who travel
4.00 pm Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Next Sunday: ADVENT IV

9.30 Parish Mass and Address
(Micah 5 v.1-4; Hebrews 10 v.5-10; Luke 1 v.39-44)
6.30pm Candlelight Carols - URC Chapel

NOTICES

1. The School Carol service for Wednesday has been cancelled.
2. Please support our Carol singing for St. Martin's Norwich. Also the sock bank etc for clothing for the homeless.
3. We would appreciate gifts of food and drink for refreshments in church tonight at 7.30 & 8.00pm.
4. On Dec 22nd there will be teas in church 2.00-4.00pm and Santa will be visiting.
5. Please note that on Sunday 26th Dec the Parish Mass will be at 11.00am not 9.30am.

12th December 2021

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, MENDLESHAM

ADVENT III (C)

Please keep silence from 9.25 to prepare for Mass.

THEME: "Rejoice the Lord is nigh". As Christmass draws near, the Church emphasises the joy which should be in our hearts over all that the birth of our Saviour means for us. The great joy for Christians is to see the day drawing near when He will come in His glory to lead them to His kingdom.

Entrance Hymn: 216 v.1-3

PENITENTIAL RITE

Celebrant: Forgive us Lord when we fail to see you raise the dead to life in the Spirit. Lord have mercy.

People: Lord Have Mercy.

Celebrant: Forgive us Lord for not seeing you bring pardon and peace to the sinner. Christ have mercy.

People: Christ Have Mercy.

Celebrant: Forgive us Lord for failing to see you bring light to those in darkness. Lord have mercy.

People: Lord Have Mercy.

Bishop proclaims God's forgiveness

No Gloria during Advent.

OPENING PRAYER: *Let us pray that God will fill us with joy at the coming of Christ.* Lord God, may we, your people, who look forward to the birthday of Christ experience the joy of salvation and celebrate that feast with love and thanksgiving.

LITURGY OF THE WORD OF GOD

1st Reading: Zephaniah 3 v. 14 - 18. The faithful are called to rejoice as the Lord has taken away all judgements against them, and turned their enemies away.

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion, Israel, shout aloud! Rejoice, exult with all your heart, daughter of Jerusalem! The Lord has repealed your sentence; he has driven your enemies away. The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst; you have no more evil to fear. When that day comes, word will come to Jerusalem: Zion, have no fear, do not let your hands fall limp.

The Lord your God is in your midst, a victorious warrior. He will exult with joy over you, he will renew you by his love; he will dance with shouts of joy for you as on a day of festival.

Responsorial Psalm Isaiah 12 v. 2 - 6

®Sing and shout for joy for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

Truly, God is my salvation, I trust, I shall not fear.

For the Lord is my strength, my song,

He became my saviour.

With joy you will draw water

from the wells of salvation. ®

Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to his name!

Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples!

Declare the greatness of his name. ®

® **Sing and shout for joy for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.**

Sing a psalm to the Lord for he has done glorious deeds,
make them known to all the earth!

People of Zion, sing and shout for joy

for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel. ®

2nd Reading: Philippians 4 v. 4 – 7. Paul shows that lasting happiness and joy are to be found in prayer, and through prayer, the grace of our Lord is to be found.

I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord; I repeat, what I want is your happiness. Let your tolerance be evident to everyone: the Lord is very near.

There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Hymn: 216 v. 4-5

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia! The spirit of the Lord has been given to me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor. Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 3 v. 10 - 18. In this prelude to the public ministry of Jesus, John the Baptist preaches the good news of reaching out to the poor and marginalised, giving to them whatever you have and they need. He then directs our attention to Jesus, and the inauguration of His ministry to those in need.

When all the people asked John, 'What must we do?' he answered, 'If anyone has two tunics he must share with the man who has none, and the one with something to eat must do the same.' There were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and these said to him, 'Master, what must we do?' He said to them, 'Exact no more than your rate.' Some soldiers asked him in their turn, 'What about us? What must we do?' He said to them, 'No intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your pay!'

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fan is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.' As well as this, there were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them.

Lighting of 3rd Advent Candle – Hymn 536 v 3

Address: The Rt Revd Mike Harrison, Bishop of Dunwich

CREED p. 7 of Hymn Book, Nicene Creed

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Celebrant: As we prepare to celebrate the mystery of Christ's love for us, let us acknowledge our failures, and ask the Lord for pardon and strength.

Reader: Let us pray that the Church may proclaim the beauty of the Gospel, and encourage people to rejoice in the Lord and that all who follow Christ might be happy as they prepare for the Lords coming.

Let us pray for all those who suffer hunger and want, that the well- off may share with those in need this Christmass – especially Christian Aid

Let us pray for all those who are depressed, broken hearted or desperate, that their friends and neighbours may bring them comfort and that those who trust in the Lord may not lose heart, but be renewed in faith, no matter what they suffer.

Let us pray for prisoners, refugees and homeless people, that they will know that God cares for them when people show them kindness.

Let us pray for all world leaders, that they might have integrity in leadership, mercy and justice, for rich and poor, strong and weak alike.

Let us pray for our community, our families and friends, for those we work with. May the love of Christ be shown in what we do and how we speak to one another. We pray for our carol singing this evening.

We pray for all those sick and housebound, may they be helped by people with caring hands and loving hearts, helping to ease their burdens and comfort their distress. We pray for Julie Gray, Billy Carter, Lucy Muskett, Betty Self and our parishioners in homes: Margaret Maundrell, Trevor Thorpe, Cindie Lind, Judith Heard and Hazel Lockwood.

Father, we commend to you all who have died, may they, and we in our turn, experience forever the joy of your eternity, we pray especially for Brian Jessup, recently departed (pause while a candle is lit) and Lilian Vincent, Wendy Jarvis, Douglas Goodall, Alice Wood, John Finch, Leonard Smith, Ernest Hendry, Rex potter, Una Baully, Catherine Rowland, Rene Ward, Doris Gooderham and Arthur Tree, whose anniversaries fall at this time.

Our Lady was deeply grateful to God for the gift of her Son. May we share her joy as we say - **Hail Mary full of grace the Lord is with thee, blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death. Amen.**

S I L E N C E

All: Lord, guide our consciences so we will hold firmly to your truth and love. Give us the confidence to open our lives to all men and women, so that they may know us as Christians, a free people who have chosen your path. Through Christ our Lord. Amen

Offertory Hymn: 112 v 1-2 **Offertory Prayers:** **Hymn:** 112 v 3-5

SANCTUS John Allen setting Mystery of Faith No 3 – Page 7

Blessed and Praised be Jesus Christ in the most Holy Sacrament. Hosannah! Hosannah! Hosannah in Excelsis!

Lord's Prayer – p.11 **AGNUS DEI** John Allen setting.

Hymn at Holy Communion: 99 Hymn at Ablutions: 233

Post Communion Prayer & Angelus

Recessional Hymn: 49

Procession to outside crib for blessing by Bishop Mike