

## This week's services



### Sunday 9th December

9.00am, Holy Communion, BCP, Finstock  
10.30am, Holy Communion, CW, Ramsden  
6:00pm Lessons and Carols, Leaffield

### Sunday 16th December

9.00am, Holy Communion, BCP, Leaffield  
10.30am, Holy Communion, CW, Finstock  
6:00pm Evensong, Ramsden



### Notices:

Wed 13th Dec  
7.00pm

Ramsden PCC  
meeting

St James',  
Ramsden

## Service of Lessons & Carols

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> December

6.00pm

St Michael's, Leaffield



## Calling all Carol Singers!

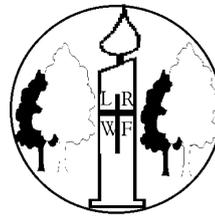
Ramsden will ring to the sounds of  
Christmas Carols on Friday 14<sup>th</sup>  
December. If you would like to join in  
please contact Brian Ford on 868343



*If we as a Church can help in any way,  
please contact:*

**The Rev'd Paul Mansell** – 01993 868687  
[vicar@forestedgebenefice.co.uk](mailto:vicar@forestedgebenefice.co.uk)

**Jane Hanson** – 01993 868264  
[admin@forestedgebenefice.co.uk](mailto:admin@forestedgebenefice.co.uk)  
[www.forestedgebenefice.co.uk](http://www.forestedgebenefice.co.uk)



## PEW SHEET

2nd Sunday of Advent

9th December 2018

**Please take this pew sheet with  
you when you leave**



A loop system for the hard of hearing is fitted  
in all our churches  
(with the exception of St Peter's, Wilcote)

Benefice website:

<http://www.forestedgebenefice.co.uk>

## The Collect



O Lord, raise up, we pray, your  
power and come among us, and  
with great might succour us; that  
whereas, through our sins and wickedness  
we are grievously hindered in running the  
race that is set before us, your bountiful  
grace and mercy may speedily help and  
deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son  
our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy  
Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for  
ever.

## First Reading Malachi 3: 1-4

See, I am sending my messenger to  
prepare the way before me, and the Lord  
whom you seek will suddenly come to his  
temple. The messenger of the covenant in  
whom you delight—indeed, he is coming,  
says the Lord of hosts. But who can  
endure the day of his coming, and who can  
stand when he appears? For he is like a  
refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit  
as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he  
will purify the descendants of Levi and  
refine them like gold and silver, until they  
present offerings to the Lord in  
righteousness. Then the offering of Judah  
and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord  
as in the days of old and as in former  
years.

## **Second Reading** **Philippians 1: 3-11**

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that on the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

## **Gospel Reading** **Luke 3: 1-6**

'In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

Our nearest star, of course, is the Sun. Stars that are relatively close to each other are said to form a "galaxy". There are about 1,000 million stars in our own galaxy which is often called "The Milky Way". There are about 100,000 million galaxies throughout the whole of the Universe. We can't begin to grasp these numbers, but the Earth is a small planet travelling around one sun amongst about 100 million million million stars!

**God our Father,  
we thank you  
that in the vastness of your creation  
there is something special  
about the beauty of this earth.  
Into our world which you love so much  
you sent Jesus, your Son - your Word  
who became a human being  
and made his home among us.  
Breathe your Holy Spirit into us once again  
that we may grow in a sense of wonder  
and proclaim to be good all that you have made.  
May we live more fully  
as brothers and sisters of one another  
and of Jesus, your Son.  
*Amen.***



**These Bible readings are designated for each day**

<b>Monday</b>	<i>1 Thessalonians 1</i>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<i>1 Thessalonians 2: 1-12</i>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<i>1 Thessalonians 2: 13-end</i>
<b>Thursday</b>	<i>1 Thessalonians 3</i>
<b>Friday</b>	<i>1 Thessalonians 4: 1-12</i>
<b>Saturday</b>	<i>1 Thessalonians 4: 13-end</i>

**Please pray for the following throughout the week**

**Monday** *Those who are sick or grieving within our community.*  
**Tuesday** *Those who are suffering in this country and around the world.*  
**Wednesday** *The Queen and other leaders in this country.*  
**Thursday** *For the troubled areas around the world, we pray for peace and justice.*  
**Friday** *For the ministry of the Forest Edge Benefice and for those who lead us.*  
**Saturday** *For an abundance of love, peace, harmony and forgiveness to reign within families and relationships.*

**Please also pray for the Chipping Norton Deanery,  
and particularly this week:**

St Andrew's, Great Rollright.  
Please pray for Wendy Cunningham, Keith Disney  
& Janet Collins  
and the Church Warden  
Sarah Durham.



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