

This week's services



Sunday 29th December

10.30am, Holy Communion, BCP, **Wilcote**

Friday 3rd January

6.30pm, Evening Prayer, **Wilcote**

Sunday 5th January

10.30am, Holy Communion, CW, **Leafield**

Everyone welcome at all services!



These Bible readings are designated for each day

Monday	<i>John 1: 19-28</i>
Tuesday	<i>John 1: 29-34</i>
Wednesday	<i>Romans 2: 17-end</i>
Thursday	<i>John 1: 35-42</i>
Friday	<i>John 1: 43-end</i>
Saturday	<i>John 2: 1-12</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 King 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.



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

The Rev'd Paul Mansell – 01993 868687
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Mrs Gail Ward LLM – 01993 878835
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PEW SHEET



29th December 2024
1st Sunday of Christmas

Please take this pew sheet with you when you leave.

Benefice website:

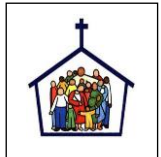
<http://www.forestedgebenefice.co.uk>

Also follow us on Twitter, Facebook & Instagram



forestedgebenefice

The Collect



Almighty God, who wonderfully created us in your own image and yet more wonderfully restored us through your Son Jesus Christ: grant that, as he came to share in our humanity, so we may share the life of his divinity; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

First Reading

1 Samuel 2: 18-20, 26

Samuel was ministering before the Lord, a boy wearing a linen ephod. His mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year, when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, 'May the Lord repay you with children by this woman for the gift that she made to the Lord'; and then they would return to their home. Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favour with the Lord and with the people.

Second Reading

Colossians 3: 12-17

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and

patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Gospel Reading
Luke 2: 41-end

Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travellers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, 'Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety.' He said to them, 'Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?' But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favour.

The magi followed a star
on a long and arduous journey
to the place where Jesus lay,
while shepherds were back in their fields,
the town's many visitors were gone
and life was almost back to normal,
but for the presence
of the long-hoped-for Messiah,
a precious child
ignored by most who passed by
within Bethlehem's narrow streets.
For all who have journeyed
and found their Saviour
we give you thanks, and pray
that those who have silently passed by
might one day return
and find the One
who has waited patiently for them.
Amen



Lord, Whether we're leaving behind a year
of joy and blessing or trials and difficulties,
we pause to give thanks.
We thank you that you are always with us,
every single day of every single year.
Please remind us of your presence
in the year ahead, even when life is busy.