This week's services



Sunday 14th December

10.30am, Holy Communion, CW, **Ramsden** 6.00pm, Carol Service, **Leafield**, with pop-up choir

Wednesday 17th December

9.30am, Christingle Service, **Leafield**, with Leafield School

Friday 19th December

6.30pm, Evening Prayer, Wilcote

Sunday 14th December

10.30am, Holy Communion, CW, **Finstock**, with Carols

These Bible readings are designated for each day

MondayMatthew 16: 13-endTuesdayMatthew 17: 1-13WednesdayMatthew 17: 14-21ThursdayMatthew 17: 22-endFridayMatthew 18: 1-20SaturdayMatthew 18: 21-end

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 Chiping Norton Deanery.



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

The Rev'd Paul Mansell – 01993 868687 vicar@forestedgebenefice.co.uk

Mrs Gail Ward LLM – 01993 878835 gail.ward@forestedgebenefice.co.uk

The Rev'd Sarah Jones – 07739 313 884 sarahtandem@hotmail.com

Mrs Jane Hanson – 07503 148 377 admin@forestedgebenefice.co.uk www.forestedgebenefice.co.uk

PEWSHEET



14th December 20253rd Sunday of Advent

Please take this pew sheet with you when you leave.

Benefice website:

<u>http://www.forestedgebenefice.co.uk</u>
Also follow us on Twitter, Facebook & Instagram







The Collect

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your

way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

First Reading Isaiah 35: 1-10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, 'Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and

save you.' Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveller, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Second Reading James 5: 7-10

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Gospel Reading Matthew 11: 2-11

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?' Jesus answered them, 'Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me.' As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: 'What did you go out into the

wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you." Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.



Christmas Services in the Forest Edge Benefice

Sunday 14th December 6.00pm, Carol Service, Leafield with pop-up choir

Sunday 21st December 10.30am, Holy Communion, CW, Finstock

10.30am, Moly Communion, CW, Finstock with Carols

Christmas Eve

4.00pm, Family Carol Service, Finstock 6.00pm, Traditional Carol Service, Ramsden

Christmas Day

10.30am, Holy Communion, CW, Leafield 10.30am, Holy Communion, CW, Ramsden

