CHRISTMAS SERVICES

There will be mix of feelings about whether inperson services should still be happening. While I am continuing with these, I am also strongly encouraging folk to take responsibility for their own safety and for the safety of others, too. If you feel uncomfortable coming to in-person services, please stay at home.

CORONAVIRUS—THE OMICRON VARIANT

Guidance for Coronavirus has changed in recent weeks, and it is now mandatory for masks to be worn in public places, including places of worship. This will help to keep our communities and the buildings in which we gather for worship as safe as we can. I am also going to continue to strongly encourage those who feel comfortable being together to sit toward the front of our church buildings, and those who wish to have a bit more distance to sit toward the back at social distance. I will also be expecting folk to leave their names and contact details, so they can be easily contacted should someone at one of our services test positive. I am very grateful for your continuing understanding as together we create safer spaces as an expression of our love for one another as the beloved children of God.

MINISTRY TEAM CONTACT DETAILS

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UPCOMING SERVICES

Sunday 19th December 2021The Fourth Sunday of Advent10:00 amCarol Service | Sewstern10:30 amCarol Service | Sproxton6:00 pmCarol Service | WyfordbyTuesday 21st December 20210 Oriens

9:00 pm Night Prayer | Zoom **Thursday 23rd December 2021** *O Emmanuel*

6:00 pm Carol Service | Coston Friday 24th December 2021

Christmas Eve

3:00 pmNativity with Carols | Branston3:00 pmCrib Service | Sproxton6:00 pmCarol Service | Wymondham9:00 pmChristmas Communion | Harston

11:30 pm Midnight Mass | Sewstern Saturday 25th December 2021

Christmas Day

8:00 am Christmas Communion | Coston 10:00 am Christmas Celebration | Buckminster 10:00 am Christmas Communion | Saltby 12:00 pm Christmas Celebration | Zoom Sunday 26th December 2021 The First Sunday of Christmas

> Please note that there will be no services until the New Year.

Sunday 2nd January 2022

 The Epiphany

 9:00 am
 Holy Communion | Branston

 11:00 am
 Holy Communion | Wymondham



PLEASE TAKE THIS PEW SHEET AWAY WITH YOU.

THE BENEFICE OF SOUTH FRAMLAND & THE HIGH FRAMLAND PARISH

The Parish Bulletin

SHARING GOD'S LOVE WITH THE VILLAGES OF BRANSTON, BUCKMINSTER, COSTON, CROXTON KERRIAL, EDMONDTHORPE, GARTHORPE, HARSTON, KNIPTON, SALTBY, SAXBY, SEWSTERN, SPROXTON, STAPLEFORD, WYFORDBY AND WYMONDHAM



The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sunday 19th December 2021

Gathering Sentence

cf. Isaiah 7.14; Matthew 1.23

Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel, which means, 'God is with us.'

The Collect

God our redeemer, who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son: grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour, so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our judge; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

(or)

Eternal God, as Mary waited for the birth of your Son, so we wait for his coming in glory; bring us through the birth pangs of this present age to see, with her, our great salvation in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading Micah 5.2-5a

A reading from the Prophecy of Micah.

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labour has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church. Thanks be to God.

Either: Responsorial Canticle Luke 1.46b-55

Refrain: The Almighty has done great things for me [and holy is his name].

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour; he has looked

with favour on his lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blessed; the Almighty has done great things for me and holy is his name. **R** He has mercy on those who fear him, from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm and has scattered the proud in their conceit, casting down the mighty from their thrones and lifting up the lowly. **R**

He has filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty. He has come to the aid of his servant Israel, to remember his promise of mercy, the promise made to our ancestors, to Abraham and his children for ever. \mathbf{R}

Or: Responsorial Psalm Psalm 80.1-8

Refrain: Turn us again, O God of hosts; [show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved].

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, you that led Joseph like a flock; shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim, before Ephraim, Benjamin and Manasseh. Stir up your mighty strength and come to our salvation. **R**

O Lord God of hosts, how long will you be angry at your people's prayer? You feed them with the bread of tears; you give them abundance of tears to drink. You have made us the derision of our neighbours, and our enemies laugh us to scorn. **R**



Epistle Reading

Hebrews 10.5-10

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.

Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, 'Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt-offerings and sin-offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, "See, God, I have come to do your will, O God" (in the scroll of the book it is written of me).'

When he said above, 'You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt-offerings and sin-offerings' (these are offered according to the law), then he added, 'See, I have come to do your will.' He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

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

Gospel Reading Luke 1.39-45 [46-55]

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.'

[And Mary said, 'My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.'l

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Communion Sentence

Luke 1.45

Blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.

Prayer after Communion

Heavenly Father, who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of the promised saviour: fill us your servants with your grace, that in all things we may embrace your holy will and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

(or)

Faithful God, in this sacrament we receive the promise of salvation: may we, like the Blessed Virgin Mary, be obedient to your will; we ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**