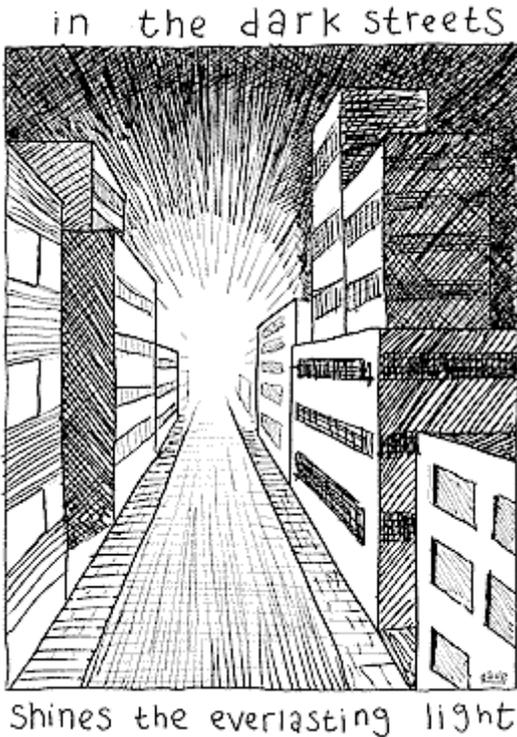


Christmas Services

- Sunday, 20th December: 6:30pm—**Carol Service** at St Nicolas Church with choir carols in church and carol singing for all outside at the end of the service.
- Wed. 23rd December: 12:30—**Midweek Eucharist** at St Nicolas Church
- Thursday, 24th December: 5:00pm—**“Meet the Nativity”** for families with young children outside in the churchyard with real sheep, a pony and a baby!
- Thursday, 24th December: **Midnight Mass: St Anne’s Church at 10:00pm** and **St Nicolas Church at 11:30pm.**
- Friday, 25th December: **10:00am—Family Communion at St Nicolas Church**
- Sunday, 27th December: 10:45am—**Parish Eucharist** at St Nicolas Church
- **No Midweek Service on Wednesday, 30th December**
- **Our online Sunday worship offerings** continue on our website including the readings, reflection and prayers plus some lovely musical offerings plus links to the Diocesan and Church of England worship offerings.



Jane and Clive, Suzanne and Mark, thank everyone for their cards and seasonal greetings and wish everyone in the congregation a peaceful and joyful Christmas and New Year.

Further information on St Nicolas Church Website: <http://st-nicolas-taplow.org>

If you need to **contact the Vicar**, you can ring her on 01628 661182 or email her: jane.cresswell523@gmail.com

Notices in the Pew Leaflet: If you have a notice or news for the Pew Leaflet, please email it to Jim Oliver (oliverjim1@sky.com) by the end of the Wednesday preceding the Sunday

St Anne’s Church, Littleworth Common

We are part of



St Nicolas’ Church, Taplow

Christmas Edition

For 20th & 27th December



Faithful to God

Caring for each other

Serving the Community

Please keep this pew leaflet as it contains the prayers and readings for the next TWO Sundays. Welcome once again to our church and Happy Christmas!

Sunday, 20th December; 4th Sunday in Advent

Collect (or Prayer for Today)

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.



First Reading: Romans 16: 25-27 *Final Doxology*

Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

The Gospel Reading: Luke 1:26-38 *The Birth of Jesus Foretold*

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. And he came to her and said, “Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.” But she was

much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this



might be. The angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of

Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.” Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?” The angel said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.” Then Mary said, “Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.” Then the angel departed from her.

Post Communion Prayer

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.



Sunday, 27th December; 1st Sunday of Christmas

Collect (or Prayer for Today)

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: Isaiah 61:10-62:3

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

For Zion’s sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem’s sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch.

The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give.

You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

The Gospel Reading: Luke 2:15-21

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.



After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

Post Communion Prayer

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son shared at Nazareth the life of an earthly home: help your Church to live as one family, united in love and obedience, and bring us all at last to our home in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord.