

SUNDAY READING SHEET 1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT

A Reading from Paul's first letter to the Thessalonians ..

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

1 Thessalonians 3: 9 - end

GOSPEL

'There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in a cloud" with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.'

Then he told them a parable: 'Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.'

'Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.'

Luke 21: 25 - 36

Royston Parish Church

Sunday 1st December – First Sunday of Advent

The diocese's *Living God's Love Prayer*

**Living God, draw us deeper into your love;
Jesus our Lord, send us to care and serve;
Holy Spirit, make us heralds of good news.
Stir us, strengthen us, teach and inspire us
To live your love with generosity and joy,
Imagination and courage; for the sake of
your world and in the name of Jesus, Amen.**

Please note: The Parish Office email has changed to admin@roystonparishchurch.org.uk. If you would like regular copies of the Notice Sheet emailed to you please email this account.

If you wish to make a donation to the church, then please hold your phone's camera over this image then touch the link that appears:



Sunday 1st December

9 am Said Communion Service
10.30 am Sung Communion Service with the Baptism of Vimukthika Welisara,
Church Choir, Children's Church followed by refreshments
5 pm **Advent Carol Service**

Monday 2nd

6 pm **Tots in Church Parent Christmas Craft evening in Church**

Tuesday 3rd

9 am Morning Prayer in the Chapel

Wednesday 4th

11 am Said Communion service followed by refreshments
1 pm – 2.30 pm Knit and Natter in Church (last meeting until January 8th 2025)
3.30 pm **The funeral of the late Gordon Baldwin**
7 pm Choir practice
7.30 pm Men's Group meeting in Wetherspoons

Thursday 5th

9 am – 11 am Tots in Church
1 pm **Ladies Group Christmas lunch in Church**

Friday 6th

9 am Flower arrangers in church

Saturday 7th

10 – 11.30 am Church Café
5.30 pm **Carols with the Mayor in aid of Homestart. Ticketed event, information on the poster at back of church.**

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Thursday December 19th, 7.30pm Julian Prayer Meeting at 11 Middle Drift

We pray for all Christians worldwide:

For all Christians in **Myanmar, Thailand**

For all who are worship at Barely, Barkway and Reed Churches: Revd. Mark Bridgen

For the work of our mission partners: The Church Army

We pray for the community of Royston:

For our local health centres

For visit and volunteer at Royston Community Transport

We pray for our world and ECO projects:

Pray for action to reduce plastic waste as delegates meet in Busan, South Korea to participate in INC-5 (the 5th Plastics Treaty Session)

We pray for the sick and suffering:

1st December	8th December	15th December	22nd/29th December
Eden	Paul & Pat Tidey	Forest Pike	Ron Monksfield
Richard Moss	Phoebe Strom	Peter Coates	Neal
Jamie Covington	Lynn Fricker	Jan McElney	John Hutchins
Jackson Herbert	Lee Cockerill	Betty Gladstone	Kathy George
Jean Coslett	Helen Yerrill	Val Brown	Cyrine and family
	Margaret & John Coates	Angi and Ken Rushall	Mike

We pray for those who have died in the faith of Christ:

Deceased

Ann Milton

Kathryn Anthony

Janet Nevitt

Kate Nankivell

Gordon Baldwin

Bereaved

Steve, Helen, Brendan, family and friends

Family and friends

Chris, family and friends

Family and friends

Family and friends

We pray for those whose anniversaries fall at this time:

No anniversaires this week

NOTICES

CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR THE CHURCH FAMILY: If you would like to give a card for the church family, please place on the board in the coffee area, and then make a donation to your chosen charity. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS TREE STEWARDS: We are planning to have Stewards to be in Church from 2nd December to 24th December whilst the Christmas Tree is in Church. If you would like to offer your services please see Linda Gibling or call 07879 818487 to arrange. Thank you.

WANTED: Egg boxes (6 egg size only) for Food Bank. Please give or ring Brenda. Thank you. Brenda Watkins 244310

HELP NEEDED: Young lady, a care worker, looking for a granny annexe or studio flat to rent until social housing becomes available. Contact Jenny and Phil Burchell"

HOME GROUPS Our home groups offer an opportunity for people to meet in a relaxed and friendly environment in order to study the Bible and exchange views and support one another in the journey of faith. Whether you're just beginning your exploration of faith or have walked this path for a long time, our home groups are intended to help you grow in your connection with God and with one another. There are currently five groups meeting on a variety of days/evenings and times throughout the week. Each one has its own style and we will try to find the right group for you. You will be able to try and see without making any long-term commitment. If you are interested in finding out more, please contact Val Neather or Jim Dalglish at valjneather@gmail.com and james.dalglish.t21@btinternet.com

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE: Thank you for all the wonderful contributions to the Christmas Raffle, the hampers are now full. We have made a great start in selling tickets, but please do get some at either Saturday, Sunday or Wednesday mornings. The raffle will be drawn during Church Cafe on Saturday 14th December!

ALSO: There are various events coming up over the Christmas period where we would like to offer mince pies as refreshments.....If you are able to donate a box or two to help with this that would be wonderful! Please ensure a long use by date, and pop into kitchen. THANK YOU!