

Lord, as we enter Advent, our minds and hearts, hopes and visions turn towards our journey to Christmas and all its promise, yet we feel overwhelmed and helpless as we see and hear and feel the pain of the Holy Land. We pray for families there and all who are bereaved, fearful, homeless, hungry and stateless.

Lord, we pray too for those in Ukraine and Russia who are suffering because of the ongoing war. Most want to live in peace and harmony with each other but the violence prevents them from living the life they would wish.

Lord, all around the world there seems to be pain and anguish created by political tactics and desires, while people simply seek peace and calm, home and shelter, food and water.

Lord, our national health service in the UK is under so much pressure; both staff and patients are suffering. So many people with illness and injury cannot get the help and healing they need. So many staff not able to give the help and healing they would like to.

Lord, as we live out our lives, carve out our path and step daily into the future, may we seek to make good the failures of our forefathers. Those who have gone before us have crafted our world for good and bad. Let us pray for all who are making amends for past failures.

Lord, as we unearth our Christmas treasures in our decorations box, we think of those who have nothing to unearth, no happy memories, nothing to pass on. May they find someone and something that gives this Advent a meaning and a memory worth passing on to the next generation.

Lord, as we prepare for Christmas, we think of those who will be spending their first Christmas without a treasured loved one; for those who will be stepping into Advent with sadness, loneliness and uncertainty.

Lord, bless all we have prayed for, all we have brought to mind and bless us too we pray.
Amen.

**Our Bookshop IS OPEN for
swapping books. Please feel free to borrow books
from the library or bring books in for others to share**

Weekly Notices

Rector: Rev. Jonathan Gordon 01442 871547
Associate Priest: Rev. Michael Eggleton 01442 823273
Readers: Peggy Sear and David White
www.stbartholomewschurch.org

Services for December 3rd.
Advent Sunday
8am Holy Communion BCP

10am Parish Eucharist
Hymns: 307, 219, 3, 235

Readings:
Isaiah 64: 1-9
1 Corinthians 1: 3-9
Mark 13: 24-end

6pm Advent Carol Service at
St. Mary's Northchurch

Services for December 10th
2nd Sunday of Advent
8am Holy Communion BCP

10 00am Parish Eucharist
Hymns: 98, 209, 133, 473

Readings:
Isaiah 40: 1-11
2 Peter 3: 8-15
Mark 1: 1-8

6pm. Evening Prayer
Psalm 60
1 Kings 22: 1-28
Romans 15: 4-13

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Or Almighty God, as your kingdom dawns, turn us from the darkness of sin to the light of holiness, that we may be ready to meet you in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Collect Prayer for Peace

Almighty God, from whom all thoughts of truth and peace proceed: kindle, we pray, in the hearts of all, the true love of peace and guide with your pure and peaceable wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth that in tranquillity your kingdom may go forward, till the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Father Christmas is coming to Wigginton

Join us outside the shop this Sunday 3rd December from 3.30pm for carols and mulled wine(all proceeds to Rennie Grove) plus free squash for little ones.

Father Christmas will be arriving just after 4pm on the Rennie Grove Float and then travelling round as much of the village as he can.

We hope you can join us.

This is all in aid of Rennie Grove Hospice care– a brilliant local charity providing specialist care for families in Herts and Bucks.

Please donate cash into the bucket on the night or online via

[Donate - Rennie Grove Peace Hospice Care](#)

Thanks for your support

Wigginton History Society

**Tuesday Dec 5th - 8pm start
Village Hall, Wigginton**

Frogmore Paper Mill



A talk by the CEO of the Apsley Paper Trail Trust, Elena Lewendon, about the past, present and future of Frogmore Paper Mill. Learn about why the site should be a UNESCO World Heritage Site, understand the impact of paper on the world and find out about the exciting plans to re-build the museum after a devastating arson attack in 2022.

Everybody welcome to our meeting.

Cost £4.00 inc. mulled wine and homemade mince pies

Safe your used Postage stamps

This Christmas again I'm putting a red box on to the piano in Church, for the collection of used postage stamps, both U.K. and foreign. If you are donating, please leave a border of about a cm around each one. The box will stand there till Epiphany.

The collection is in aid of DENS, the Dacorum Emergency Night Shelter, based in Hemel Hempstead. Not just a night shelter these days, it runs a hostel, day centre and Bike project, plus working alongside the Trussell Trust at the Foodbank. It aims to be the first port of call in Dacorum for people facing homelessness, poverty and social exclusion. At this time of the year, the collection of used stamps helps raise funds.

Thank you, Gill Fleckney

Church website. Check out the website regularly for updates and news of services etc.

A Celebration of Christmas in Music and readings

The choir of the Hospice of St. Francis would like to invite you to "*Welcome Christmas*" with a celebration of music and words at St.

Bartholomews Church Wigginton

on Wednesday 6th. December at 5pm

All are welcome and a retiring collection will be for the Hospice of St. Francis and St. Barts