

Norton Parish pew sheet

Today - Nine Lessons and Carols

5:30 pm at St George's

This important service of contemplation on the Christmas readings will be this afternoon in St George's at 5:30pm. Come and join us for hearty singing and the true story of Christmas.

Today - Christmas Cheers:

10.30 am to 12.30 pm

After our morning service, Christmas Cheers will be happening in the Clulow Room and Hall. Tea, coffee, mulled wine & squash with cookies, cakes and mince pies. All welcome.

Next Week (22nd) - Dragonflies & Little Dragons

In the Lady Chapel during the 9.30am service at St George's next week Dragonflies and Little Dragons will be making paper chains, singing Christmas songs and watching an animated Christmas story. Older Dragons are very welcome too! Come and join the fun!

Christmas Eve at St George's

4pm - Crib service. A family friendly celebration of the Christmas story. Children are welcome to come in nativity costumes.

11:30pm we celebrate seeing in the Christmas season with our Midnight mass.

Christmas Day

8am Holy Communion at St Nicholas

9:30am Combined Family Communion Service as St George's.

Next week's readings for Advent 4: Hebrews 10:5-10, Psalm 80:1-8 and Luke 1:39-45. We welcome Helen Giles as our preacher.

Parish contacts:

Office: Email: office@parishofnorton.org.uk Telephone: 01462 678133

Vicar: Email: rev.eugene@outlook.com Telephone: 07735 714774

Rev Eugene Hanshaw's day off is Monday.

Please submit notices by **Wednesday** for inclusion in the next pew sheet .



Advent 3

Sunday 15th December 2024 9:30am

Today we welcome Karen Williams as preacher



HYMNS (NEH)

Entrance	5	Hark a herald voice
Offertory	6	Hark the glad sound
Communion	170	Lo, in the wilderness a voice
Final	12	On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry

Reading

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel!
 Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem!
 The Lord has taken away the judgements against you, he has turned away your enemies.
 The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more.
 On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak.
 The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love;
 he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it.
 I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth.
 At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth,
 when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord.

Gospel

Luke 3:7-18

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.'

And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?' In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.'

Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, 'Teacher, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.' Soldiers also asked him, 'And we, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.'

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

Norton Coffee Shop & Charity Giving

Up to April 2024 Norton Coffee Shop and Friday Lunches raised £1,576.82 for charitable causes. Of this £788.41 was donated to the PCC. After discussions with the Pastoral Committee we divided the remaining money between The Food Bank (a local charity) and The Christian Blind Mission (an overseas charity). The PCC approved these donations in November 2024. Thank you for all your support for Norton Coffee Shop and Friday Lunches until it ceased in February 2024.

Helen Giles, Chair of The Pastoral Committee

Foodbank

Thank you to those who give to the foodbank. This month they have a special need for the following:

Christmas puddings (for 1 person)

Pringles

UHT fruit juice (orange or apple)

Tinned fruit

Large Christmas cake

Tea bags (40 / 80)

Packets of festive biscuits (small, medium, large)



Christmas Tree and flower donations

If you would like to donate to the cost of our church Christmas tree and flowers please speak to the Churchwardens, Neil & Ros.



Messy Church

Thank you, we now have enough cardboard and jar donations. We still need kitchen roll centres so please put any you have in the box at the back of the church. Thanks. Messy Church is on Monday 23rd December at St George's Parish Hall 10 - 12:30. Children under 11 please bring your parents/guardians. Register on messychurchnorton@btinternet.com

?? Annual Quiz Night: Saturday 11th January ??

6.30 for 7.00 start in the Church Hall.

Make your own team of up to 8 or join a team on the night. Tickets (£6 adults, £3 <18s) from Pauline Ferraro or any Social Committee member. Bring own drinks; table snacks provided.

Aspire group (For 10s-14s)

Our Aspire Group will be presenting a Christmas play at Trembaths Care Home at 3pm this afternoon. For more info' contact Angie or Liz (amcaldwe@yahoo.com, lizbeardmore53@gmail.com)

Wednesday Mornings:

10.00 am

Holy Communion in the Lady Chapel

10.00—11.30 am

Norton Coffee Shop in the Clulow Room

Please note there is no coffee shop on Christmas Day

BUT it is open on New Year's Day.