



7th December 2025
2nd Sunday of Advent

St James' Church
www.stjamesexeter.org Exeter

Rector

Fr Henry Pryse 01392 431297
Off duty: 8th – 11th December

Parish Office 01392 420407
office@stjamesexeter.org
Charity register number: 1128877

Notices

Flowers for Christmas

To contribute to the cost of these, please give donations to Pat Snell or Liz Holland.

Date Changes

Friends Who Lunch is not taking place this month, and the coffee morning will be on Friday 19th December.

Nativity Coming Up

Join us in the hall after the Parish Eucharist next Sunday, 14th December.

Advent Wreath Prayer

Lord Jesus, Light of the World, the prophets said you bring peace and save your people in trouble. Give peace in our hearts at Christmastide and show all the world God's love.

Collect

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever.

Post-Communion Prayer

Father in heaven, who sent your Son to redeem the world and will send him again to be our judge: give us grace so to imitate him in the humility and purity of his first coming that, when he comes again, we may be ready to greet him with joyful love and firm faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

10.00 am Music

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| Processional hymn | 249 | Hark, the Glad Sound! |
| Offertory hymn | 513 | On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry |
| Recessional hymn | 400 | Long Ago, Prophets Knew |

This Week

Morning Prayer is said at 8.30 am

Online: Mon, Wed

In the church: Tue, Thu, Fri

Mon 8th December Luke 5: 17 – 26
7.00 pm Choir practice

Tue 9th December Matthew 18: 12 – 14

Wed 10th December Matthew 11: 28 – 30
12.00 noon Eucharist

Thu 11th December Matthew 11: 11 – 15

Fri 12th December Matthew 11: 16 – 19

Sat 13th December Matthew 17: 10 – 13
9.30 am St Mary's JSO Church service

Next Sunday: 14th December

3rd Sunday of Advent

Matthew 11: 2 – 11

8.00 am Holy Communion

10.00 am Parish Eucharist

TODAY

4.00 pm Christingle service

6.00 pm Evening Prayer & Benediction

Sharing God's love through worship, fellowship and service

First Reading: Isaiah 11: 1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Psalm 72

Give the king your judgements, O God, and your righteousness to the son of a king. Then shall he judge your people righteously and your poor with justice. May the mountains bring forth peace, and the little hills righteousness for the people. May he defend the poor among the people, deliver the children of the needy and crush the oppressor. May he live as long as the sun and moon endure, from one generation to another. May he come down like rain upon the mown grass, like the showers that water the earth. In his time shall righteousness flourish, and abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more. Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wonderful things. And blessed be his glorious name for ever. May all the earth be filled with his glory. Amen. Amen.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 3: 1-12

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."' Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptised by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume 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. 'I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

