



St Michael's Church, Alnwick
Vicar: The Rev'd Paul Scott
Curate: The Rev'd Julia Myles
Parish website: www.alnwickanglican.com

14th December 2014 The Third Sunday of Advent

A very warm welcome to St Michael's. If you are a visitor, and receive Communion at your own church, you are invited to do so here.

Large print books and a loop system are available.

This leaflet gives details of readings, services and other events in the near future – please take it home with you to read and then use as a reference for the coming days.

8.00 am	HOLY COMMUNION
President	The Rev'd Paul Scott
Preacher	John Cooke
Reader	Mora Rolley

9.30 am

SUNG EUCHARIST

Setting: Mass of St Cedd

President

The Rev'd Paul Scott

HYMN

125 O for a thousand tongues to sing

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Parents with babies and children are most welcome to take them to the Children's Corner (at the back of church).

1ST READING

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

Reader: Sue Porteous

(Page 702 of the Old Testament in the Pew Bible)

All the Advent readings look towards the coming of the Lord. Here are verses Jesus applied to himself, as the one who brought liberty, justice and gladness to the world.

2ND READING

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Reader: Sue Baines-McNeill

(Page 202 of the New Testament in the Pew Bible)

The Advent season rightly has a sombre tone, reflecting our serious preparation and self-examination. But joy keeps breaking in, and Paul ends this letter in that spirit. Waiting for the Lord is a time of joy, prayer and thankfulness.

GRADUAL

27 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry

THE GOSPEL

John 1:6-8, 19-28

(Page 88 of the New Testament in the Pew Bible)

There was a man sent from God. Before Jesus there came John the Baptist, witnessing to the light of the world, pointing beyond himself to the One who stands among us as God incarnate.

SERMON

John Cooke

**Morning Prayer is usually said in church at 8.30 am and Evening Prayer at 5.00 pm
Monday to Friday except for Wednesday morning.
You will be most welcome to join us for these times of prayer and bible reading.
Please note that the Vicar's day off is Friday and the Curate's is Monday
They would be pleased to be spared all but the most urgent matters on these days.**

WORSHIP AND EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Tues 16th 9.30 am Magazine planning meeting in Parish Room
- Wed 17th **10.15 am Holy Communion**
 3.30 pm St Michael's 1st School - Candle-lit Carols in church
 7.00 pm Mayor's Carol Service in church
- Thurs 18th 9.15 am Mini Michaels Christmas Party in Parish Hall
- Fri 19th 3.30 pm Rainbow Nursery Christmas Service in church
- Sat 20th 7.30 pm Christmas Concert in Alnwick Playhouse. *See Notice board for details*

Next Sunday: 21st December 4th Sunday of Advent

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|-----------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| 8.00 am | Holy Communion, BCP | 2 Samuel 7:1-11 &16 | (CW 387) |
| | | Romans 16:25-27 | (CW 390) |
| | | Luke 1:26-38 | (CW 390) |
| 9.30 am | Parish Eucharist | | |
| 11.15 am | Late Morning Worship | | |
| 6.00 pm | Candle-lit Carols | | |

ADVENT THOUGHTS (3) is available today! Please take one home with you as the next 'signpost' for your Advent thoughts and meditations. If you didn't pick up the first two in this series, there are still a few left at the back of church.

OUR NEXT BISHOP

Thank you to all who completed the on-line questionnaire – there were over 700 responses. There is to be an important public meeting on the evening of Wednesday 14th January, at the Falcons Rugby Club, Kingston Park. Please do consider attending this meeting; it is important that there is a good attendance when the Appointments Secretaries of the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Prime Minister will be present to hear views and answer questions. We hope it will be possible to arrange transport.

If you are interested please speak to the Vicar or Richard Allsop.

Many thanks to all who came along to help with the **BIG CLEAN** yesterday. A productive time was had by all with much light-hearted banter amidst the work of getting St Michael's looking good for Christmas.

THANK LOO VERY MUCH.....

...for the wonderful response there has been to our Toilet Twinning idea. Nearly £90 has been raised so far – enough for 1½ toilets. Obviously we must get it up to 2, ½ a loo is no good to anyone! So, if you have not yet availed yourself of the bunting-bedecked facility next to the hymn books and you feel that this is a worthwhile scheme to support there are still two weeks left to do so. Thank you (www.toilet-twinning.org)

In preparation for our **CHRISTINGLE** on Christmas Eve, there will be a session in the Parish Hall from 10.00am – 12.00 noon on Tuesday 23rd December. Do come along to help prepare the oranges and get all things ready. There will also be **CHRISTMAS CRAFTS** for children so that we can all join in the fun! You may like to bring along the odd mince pie or slab of shortbread. Tea/coffee/juice will be provided.



Thanks to those who have already distributed **CHRISTIANS TOGETHER CHRISTMAS CARDS**; There are, however, still some 'street' bundles left in church. Please have a look at the table in the former Baptistry and take some if you can spare the time (so that everyone in town knows when and where Christmas worship will be).

In church today there are still some **CARDBOARD CANDLES** in which you might like you save your loose change over Christmas. All proceeds are for the **CHILDREN'S SOCIETY**. We would ask you, please, to return your candle at the First Sunday Eucharist in February when we will be celebrating Candlemas.

Our Flower Arrangers would much appreciate cash donations for St Michael's **CHRISTMAS FLOWERS**. Please give your donation to Ann Brown, Enid Brown or Pat Taylor. In addition, offers of greenery from your garden (especially holly) will be much appreciated.

FUTURE DIARY DATES – MAKE A NOTE OF THEM NOW

N.B. Details of Worship at Christmas are on page 24 of Gateway, and on the Notice Board

23 rd	10.00 am	Children's Crafts & Christingle-making in Parish Hall
27 th	1.00 pm	Wedding of Clare Moralee & Stephen Cokayne
28 th	2.00 pm	Holy Baptism
	4.00 pm	Christmas Afternoon Tea in Parish Hall
		Please see 'sign-up list' at the back of church

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