

Church News

SERVICES THIS WEEK

14 December 3rd Sunday of Advent	9.30am	Holy Communion (CW)	Bowerchalke	Kate Woolven
	9.30am	Family Communion (CW)	Nunton	Maggie Metcalfe
	10.30am	Worship Together	Broad Chalke Hub	Janet Roe
	11.00am	Parish Communion (CW)	Homington	Alison Waterhouse
	11.00am	All Age Service	Alvediston	Biddy Trahair
	11.00am	Carol Service	Bishopstone V Hall	Ruth H-S
	3.00pm	Advent Service	Fifield Bavant	Biddy Trahair
	3.30pm	Christingle	Charlton All Saints	Ruth H-S
19 December	6.00pm	Carol Service	Britford	Maggie Metcalfe

The Gospel reading for the 3rd Sunday of Advent

Matthew 11 v 2- 11 - Messengers from John the Baptist

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, those with a skin disease are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."



Jesus Praises John the Baptist

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What, then, did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What, then, did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written,

'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.'" Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist, yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.



CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

All Saints Church, Charlton All Saints
Sunday 14th December, 3.30pm



Readings for the Second Sunday in Advent:

Old Testament : Isaiah 35 v 1 - 10

New Testament : James 5 v 7 - 10

Gospel: Matthew 11 v 2 - 11

Psalm: 146 v 4 - 10

If you are unable to attend a service in church this Sunday, there are services on the radio ...



8.10am BBC Radio 4 Advent Authors: Jane Austen

A service marking the 250th anniversary of Jane Austen

3.00pm BBC Radio 3 Choral Evensong

Choral Evensong live from St Mary the Virgin church,
Saffron Waldon



GET READY FOR CHRISTMAS!

EVERYBODY WELCOME, ESPECIALLY CHILDREN

Come to make Christmas gifts & decorations or just enjoy a drink & some cake in Berwick St John Village Hall, SP7 0HS, from 10 to 12.30 on **Saturday 13th December**

- Christmas-themed bring & buy sale
- Make jam jar snow scenes, pom-pom tree decorations & paper snowflakes
- Decorate Christmas cards & gingerbread biscuits
- Sew gifts with Libby
- Enjoy coffee, tea & cake

Everything is free, a Christmas present from the Church to the village. All contributions of cakes or items for the bring & buy sale are welcome in advance or on the day & there will be a cash collection for Gillingham Food Bank. More details from Sally on 07939 261895 or Angela on 07770 753886.

Angels & shepherds needed

Sunday, 21st December, 4pm



Bowerchalke Church

Nativity from Scratch

no rehearsals - just turn up & be part of the Christmas story

'THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD'

A FESTIVAL OF CHRISTMAS CAROLS AND READINGS

**7PM - MONDAY 22ND DECEMBER
ALL SAINTS' CHURCH - BROAD CHALKE**

CHOIR - THE MANOR SINGERS
ORGANIST - CHRIS MAHON
CONGREGATIONAL CAROLS

Candlelit Carol Service at Alvediston

Tuesday, 23rd December at 6pm for a carol service for, and involving, all ages, to be led by the Rev. Dr. Ruth Howlett-Shipley.

If you would like to join the short procession, we will meet at the Manor, (thanks to Rodney and Sue Heath,) at 5.30pm, bearing torches, but otherwise go straight to the church and enjoy our new, effective heaters. Afterwards mulled wine and soft drinks will be provided, and if you'd like to bring a plate of mince pies or other festive food to share, that will be very welcome.

Would YOU like to dress up and take part in the Epiphany Pageant?
No lines to learn; just come!



Wear your own costume (king or peasant) or we have some, whatever your size!

All Saints, Broad Chalke
Sunday 4th January 2026
3pm, followed by tea.

**St Martin's, Fifield
Bavant**

ADVENT SERVICE

Sunday 14th December 3pm

We will hold our usual Advent service, with poems, prayers, readings, music and hymns based on Advent Antiphons.

Do join us for this special, contemplative service midway during Advent.



DOWNTON BRASS BAND CONCERT

Charlton All Saints Church

Tuesday 16th December, 7.30pm

CAROL SERVICE

Bishopstone Village Hall

Sunday 14th December, 11am

CAROL SINGING

with mulled wine

Broad Chalke War Memorial

Wednesday 24th December,

5.30pm

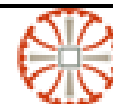
bring a torch!






Services in Chalke Valley Benefice – December 2025

BCP = Book of Common Prayer (Traditional Language), CW = Common Worship (Contemporary Language)



7 December 2nd Sunday of Advent	9.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Berwick St John	Alison Waterhouse
	9.30am	Family Communion (CW)	Broad Chalke	Kate Woolven
	9.30am	Parish Communion (CW)	Britford	Ruth H-S
	11.00am	Morning Prayer (BCP)	Ebbesbourne Wake	Biddy Trahair
	11.00am	Parish Communion (CW)	Coombe Bissett	Ruth H-S
	11.00am	Family Service	Odstock	Adrian Taylor
	6.00pm	Carol Service	Stratford Tony	Ruth H-S
14 December 3rd Sunday of Advent	9.30am	Holy Communion (CW)	Bowerchalke	Kate Woolven
	9.30am	Family Communion (CW)	Nunton	Maggie Metcalfe
	10.30am	Worship Together	Broad Chalke Hub	Janet Roe
	11.00am	Parish Communion (CW)	Homington	Alison Waterhouse
	11.00am	All Age Service	Alvediston	Biddy Trahair
	11.00am	Carol Service	Bishopstone V Hall	Ruth H-S
	3.00pm	Advent Service	Fifield Bavant	Biddy Trahair
	3.30pm	Christingle	Charlton All Saints	Ruth H-S
19 December	6.00pm	Carol Service	Britford	Maggie Metcalfe
21 December 4th Sunday of Advent	9.30am	Parish Communion (CW)	Bishopstone	Alison Waterhouse
	11.00am	Family Communion (CW)	Ebbesbourne Wake	Ruth H-S
	4.00pm	Nativity	Bowerchalke	Kate Woolven
	5.00pm	Carol Service	Odstock	Maggie Metcalfe
	6.00pm	Carol Service	Coombe Bissett	Ruth H-S
	6.00pm	Carol Service	Berwick St John	Alison Waterhouse
22 December	7.00pm	Carol Service	Broad Chalke	Alison Waterhouse
23 December	6.00pm	Carol Service	Alvediston	Ruth H-S
24 December CHRISTMAS EVE	4.00pm	Carols round the Crib	Bishopstone	Ruth H-S
	4.00pm	Scratch Nativity	Charlton All Saints	Maggie Metcalfe
	5.00pm	Carols at War Memorial	Broad Chalke	Alison Waterhouse
	6.00pm	Carol Service	Homington	Ruth H-S
	10.00pm	'Midnight' Eucharist (CW)	Fifield Bavant	Ruth H-S
25 December CHRISTMAS DAY 	8.00am	Holy Communion (Said BCP)	Fifield Bavant	Ruth H-S
	9.30am	Family Communion (CW)	Bowerchalke	Kate Woolven
	9.30am	Parish Communion (CW)	Charlton All Saints	Maggie Metcalfe
	9.30am	Parish Communion (CW)	Bishopstone	Ruth H-S
	9.30am	Family Communion (CW)	Broad Chalke	Alison Waterhouse
	11.00am	Family Communion (CW)	Ebbesbourne Wake	Kate Woolven
	11.00am	Family Communion (CW)	Coombe Bissett	Ruth H-S
	11.00am	Family Communion (CW)	Nunton	Maggie Metcalfe
	11.00am	Family Communion (CW)	Berwick St John	Alison Waterhouse
28 December 1st Sunday of Christmas	10.00am	Parish Communion (CW)	Homington	Alison Waterhouse
	10.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Alvediston	Ruth H-S
	11.00am	Morning Prayer (BCP)	Berwick St John	Lay Led

Clergy Contacts & Working Days

Please note that the clergy team is available throughout the week and a member of the team is always available in an emergency or for an immediate pastoral need.

Revd Ruth Tel: 01722 697022 - Revd Ruth's non-working day is a Monday.

Revd Alison: 01722 697404 or 07904 034221 - Revd Alison's non-working day is a Friday.

Revd Kate: 07754 582395

Revd Maggie: 01722 325825 - Revd Maggie's non-working days are Mondays and Fridays.