


# Church News

## CHRISTMAS SERVICES

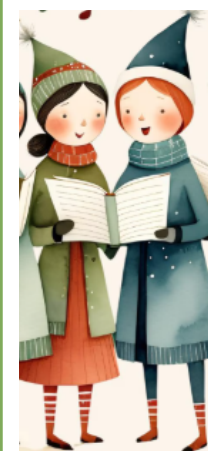
<b>19 December</b>	6.00pm	Carol Service	Britford	Maggie Metcalfe
<b>21 December 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent</b>	9.30am	Parish Communion (CW)	Bishopstone	Alison Waterhouse
	11.00am	Family Communion (CW)	Ebbesbourne Wake	Ruth H-S
	4.00pm	Nativity	Bowerchalke	Kate Woolven
	5.00pm	Carol Service	Odstock	Maggie Metcalfe
	6.00pm	Carol Service	Coombe Bissett	Ruth H-S
	6.00pm	Carol Service	Berwick St John	Alison Waterhouse
<b>22 December</b>	7.00pm	Carol Service	Broad Chalke	Alison Waterhouse
<b>23 December</b>	6.00pm	Carol Service	Alvediston	Ruth H-S
<b>24 December CHRISTMAS EVE</b>	4.00pm	Carols round the Crib	Bishopstone	Ruth H-S
	4.00pm	Scratch Nativity	Charlton All Saints	Maggie Metcalfe
	5.30pm	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
<b>25 December CHRISTMAS DAY</b> 	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
<b>28 December 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas</b>	10.00am	Parish Communion (CW)	Homington	Alison Waterhouse
	10.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Alvediston	Ruth H-S

### '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



**CAROL SINGING**  
with mulled wine  
Broad Chalke War  
Memorial  
Wednesday 24th  
December,  
5.30pm  
bring a torch!

### Readings for the Fourth Sunday in Advent:

**Old Testament :** Isaiah 7 v 10 - 16

**New Testament :** Romans 1 v 1 - 7

**Gospel:** Matthew 1 v 18 - end

**Psalm:** 80 v 1 - 8 & 18 - 20



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

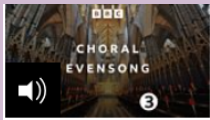


**8.10am BBC Radio 4 Advent Authors: C S Lewis**

A service reflecting on the works of CS Lewis

**3.00pm BBC Radio 3 Choral Evensong**

Choral Evensong live from Bath Abbey



**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.

**Change to the church service on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> January**

There is a mistake in the Service Rota for January that was published in December.

Please note that there is no 9.30am Communion Service in Broad Chalke on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> January.

Instead, there will be an Epiphany Pageant at 3pm followed by tea and cake.

Everyone is warmly welcomed to this short, unusual service led by Revd Kate Woolven, particularly if you dress up!



**Brenda Read-Brown**



**BUT I HAVEN'T FINISHED YET!**

Join performance poet Brenda Read-Brown in a playful celebration of growing older

A show to amuse and delight anyone who is older than they were yesterday

An Evening of Entertainment at  
Bishopstone Village Hall, SP5 4AA  
Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 7pm for 7.30pm

Tickets £12.50 to include first drink and canapés

Booking essential

Anne Stutchbury [annewheelwright@gmail.com](mailto:annewheelwright@gmail.com)  
Sarah Seal [theseal1@outlook.com](mailto:theseal1@outlook.com)

In aid of St John the Baptist Church Bishopstone Roof Appeal

**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 4<sup>th</sup> January 2026  
3pm, followed by tea.**

***Great fun has been  
had in Broad Chalke  
recently.***

***At the wild  
churchyard session,  
an outdoor nativity  
was enjoyed by all  
and the figures  
were then taken  
into church.***



***Father  
Christmas and  
elf helper  
(Revd Alison)  
arrived at  
Broad Chalke  
School on a  
steam engine!***





## Other events in the coming week....

**Monday 22nd 6pm**

Carol Singing at Bodenham

**Monday 22nd 6pm**

Festival of Carols & Readings, Broad Chalke Church

**Tuesday 23rd 6pm**

Carol Service at Alvediston Church

**Wednesday 24th 4pm**

Scratch Nativity at Charlton All Saints Church

**Wednesday 24th 4pm**

Carols round the crib at Bishopstone Church

**Wednesday 24th 5.30pm**

Carol Singing at The War Memorial, Broad Chalke

**Wednesday 24th 6pm**

Carol Service at Homington Church

**Wednesday 24th 10pm**

Midnight Service at Fifield Bavant Church



## YOUR SON

Thursday, 18 December 2025

God for whom we watch and wait,  
you sent John the Baptist  
to prepare the way of your Son:  
give us courage to speak the truth,  
to hunger for justice,  
and to suffer for the cause of right,  
with Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

PRAYER FOR THE DAY



## The Gospel reading for the Fourth Sunday in Advent

**Matthew 1 v 18 - end**

### The Birth of Jesus the Messiah

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be pregnant from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to divorce her quietly.

But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

"Look, the virgin shall become pregnant and give birth to a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,"

which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife but had no marital relations with her until she had given birth to a son, and he named him Jesus.



## 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.