

Something to think about...

Extracts from the speech made by the Vice Lord-Lieutenant at the Wendlebury refurbishment celebration, about how churches welcome people:

"Of course you meet every newcomer at the door with a smile and a friendly greeting, but how powerful it is to have that backed up with a welcome you can touch and feel: A loo for someone who has travelled two hours to a funeral or a wedding; A cup of coffee and a chat after Sunday's service for someone new to the village; A speaker system (and here I declare an interest) for someone whose ears are getting a bit dodgy.

So, on behalf of the whole community - those who already come to church and those who will feel really welcomed when they do - congratulations on what you've achieved and thank you for keeping this church at the very heart of the community we serve today."

CONGRATULATIONS to Hampton Gay on being awarded the Bronze Eco Church award.

Bletchingdon is nearly there on their award, too.

That leaves just 2 of our churches before we can be a Bronze Eco Church Akeman Benefice!



The Green Corner

How about a sustainable Advent? Instead of plastic, you could bend willow round to make a frame for your Advent wreath. And what about potato-printing some wrapping paper instead of using that stuff glittery stuff that can't be recycled. With a big bow even newspaper can look festive round a present, and is great in compost afterwards.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Festival of Ringing: On Saturday 1 November from 1400-1500 there will be a Festival of Ringing at Kirtlington Church to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the resumption of ringing after a gap of many years. The tower will be open for all to visit, and there will be tea and cake in the church (donations invited).

All Souls' Services: 2nd November (see front page)

The services last c. 45 minutes and have an opportunity to light a candle in memory of your loved ones. Let Gareth know if you would like the name of someone who has died since last November to be read out.

Area Dean: Gareth is standing down as Area Dean. He will be handing over to his successor at the Deanery Synod at St Edburg's Church, Bicester on 4 November. Although this is a Deanery Synod, it is an open meeting and all are welcome. 1900 coffee, 1930 meeting and short service.

Sustainable Kirtlington will be coming to **Rise and Shine** on 12th November to give helpful hints about keeping warm and saving energy this winter. 9.15 - 10.45 in Kirtlington Church, all welcome. Cakes for all, and toys, games, singing, crafts for younger people, too.

Christmas is coming... Christmas Concert at Weston on the Green Village Hall on Saturday 6 December. Join us for an evening of festive music and cheer! Tickets: £10 per person (to be split between St. Mary's Church & the Village Hall). Licensed Bar. Doors open 1830, concert 1900. All welcome! To book please email: westonvillagehall@live.co.uk or call 350992

Contact details

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Children and Families' Co-ordinator
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Do feel free to contact a member of the Ministry team if you would like to chat over anything, or a churchwarden if you would like information

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Schools chaplain:
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November 2025

Services

Sunday 2nd November

0800 Chesterton
0930 Middleton Stoney
1100 Bletchingdon
1100 Chesterton
1100 Weston
1600 Wendlebury
1800 Chesterton
1800 Kirtlington

All Souls

Holy Communion*
All Souls Service
All Souls Service
Family Service
All Souls Service
All Souls Service
All Souls Service
All Souls Service

Sunday 9th November

0930 Middleton Stoney
1045 Bletchingdon
1045 Kirtlington
1045 Wendlebury
1045 Weston
1800 Bletchingdon

Advent - 3

Holy Communion and Remembrance
Remembrance
Remembrance
Remembrance
Remembrance
Benefice Choral Evensong*

Sunday 16th November

0930 Bletchingdon
0930 Wendlebury
1100 Chesterton
1100 Weston
1500 Bletchingdon
1600 Kirtlington

Advent - 2

Holy Communion
Morning Worship
Café Church at Community Centre
Holy Communion
3rd at 3 Family Service
Evensong *

Sunday 23rd November

1000 Middleton Stoney

Next Before Advent

Benefice Communion

Sunday 30th November

0930 Middleton Stoney
1800 Kirtlington

Advent 1

Holy Communion*
Advent Carol Service

*Indicates Prayer Book service