



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

May God bless us with peace, patience, hope, resilience, wisdom, love and joy this Advent as we negotiate preparations for Christmas 2021 drawing on the abundant resources available to the children of God as we trust the Father. Be gentle and kind to yourself and others. You might like to use this prayer:

Prayer for the nation

Loving God, your Son Jesus Christ came
that we might have life and have it abundantly;
pour out your blessing upon our nation;
where there is illness, bring your healing touch;
where there is fear, strengthen us with the knowledge of your presence;
where there is uncertainty, build us up in faith;
where there is dishonesty, lead us into truth;
where there is discord, may we know the harmony of your love;
this we ask in Jesus' name. Amen

We are using material called **Worship in the Waiting** to lead us through Advent to Christmas. The weekly themes will focus our Sunday worship, and you can go deeper using daily Personal Devotions booklets on weekdays, and at 8pm on Thursday evenings in a Zoom chat and pray meeting. Do join us as you are able on this Advent journey.

You can download the **Personal Devotions booklet** as a pdf here: <http://engageworship.org/3CB13656>

We have printed copies too – please order from Administrator Judith McLelland.

The cost of either the pdf download or paper copy is about £4 (we have bought a licence for the downloads) – please contribute whatever you can afford – pay Studley Church using one of the payment options explained at the end of the news sheet.

Saturday 28th – Sunday 29th November 24 hour continuous chain of prayer to mark the start of Advent

It's not too late to sign up to pray for one hour (or more) at home (or as you walk in your locality) for our churches and communities to flourish over the coming year. To sign up just let Kate or Dan know what hour you will commit to pray, or visit this link: <https://www.24-7prayer.com/signup/788711/>

Visit these links for prayer guides to help you use an hour to pray 1. The Lord's Prayer 2. For others 3. Your area 4. The nation or 5. The coronavirus pandemic.

[https://www.24-7prayer.com/downloads/60 Minute Prayer Guides\(1\).pdf](https://www.24-7prayer.com/downloads/60%20Minute%20Prayer%20Guides(1).pdf)

[https://24-7prayer.com/downloads/An Hour of Prayer for the Coronavirus Pandemic.pdf](https://24-7prayer.com/downloads/An%20Hour%20of%20Prayer%20for%20the%20Coronavirus%20Pandemic.pdf)

Advent Gift Weekend 28-29 November

We have a lovely tradition of making a special thank-offering financial gift to our church over the weekend which marks the start of a new church year as we embark on the season of Advent once again. We invite you to consider making a gift this year – details of how to give are shown below. Your gift will be much valued this year as our income has been reduced by the lack of collections at services, fewer weddings and less fundraising.

Advent Sunday 29th November Holy Suspense

10.00am All-Age Zoom Service

11.30am personal prayer with members of our prayer ministry team via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6792975230> or meeting ID 679 297 5230

If you do not know the password please contact Judith, Kate or Dan.

Or you can join on your landline or mobile phone by dialling 0208 080 6591 (London number – national rate applies).

Enter the conference ID (679 297 5230) and password when requested.

Messy Christingle at Home - Sunday 6th December 3.30pm

1. Register at ardenmarches.co.uk/orange
2. Collect your Christingle-in-a-bag
3. Make your Christingle at home
4. Join us online for the Christingle service

arden marches
Bringing God's love to a hurting world.

Messy Church logo © The Bible Reading Fellowship 2019. See messychurch.org.uk

It seems that we will be able to worship in church in coming weeks. Here is a provisional list of services we **hope** to hold in churches if all goes well, in addition to our weekly 10am Zoom online Sunday worship. We will update you when we know more.

- Sunday 6th December 10am Holy Communion Studley Church – please let Judith know if you hope to come
- Sunday 13th December 8am Holy Communion Studley Church
4pm Carol Service Oldberrow Churchyard
- Sunday 20th December 10am Communion and Carols Mappleborough Church
6pm Carol Service Studley Church (limited numbers pre- booked) streamed to over the internet
- Christmas Eve 3-7pm Nativity for families Studley Church
11pm Midnight Communion Studley Church
- Christmas Day 10am Holy Communion Mappleborough Church
10am Holy Communion Morton Bagot Church
10am Family Worship Studley Church
11.30am Zoom chat and pray

Weekday Prayer: 9.30am Morning Prayer & 9.30pm Night Prayer on our public Facebook page

Breakfast Prayer Tuesday 1st December, 7-7.45 am

Informal prayer time on Zoom (bring your own breakfast!) We will be praying together for blessing over our villages during Advent and Christmas, and that God will work through us and our circumstances in this season for people to hear and respond to the good news of the coming of the King of Kings.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84915271155?pwd=N3VwU21pZlRlYlZ4dXpNdzNxWmtYQT09>

Meeting ID: 849 1527 1155

Passcode: 236002

Thursday 3rd December 8.00pm Worship in the Waiting on Zoom – an hour of conversation and prayer around this week's theme led by Kate. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83252550647> Meeting ID: 832 5255 0647 Passcode: 700426

Church Pocket Diaries these little diaries that we have each year are now available from Judith

What a surprise!

Thank you so much for the beautiful flowers and cards our church family sent for my 90th birthday. It was a great pity we couldn't celebrate it as we would have normally and missed out on a Studley Castle break.

Maybe try again next year! Best wishes to all Dot Green

Mappleborough Green Church

There will be a **church and grounds working party** at Mappleborough Green on **Saturday 5th December from 10 am**. The church in particular needs a lot of cleaning and moving things back into the vestry. Vacuum cleaners, dusters and mops are likely to be useful! Garden tools including sweeping brushes will be handy for work on the grounds. You also need to bring your own drinks. Please let Erica know if you can help - all offers very welcome!

The **vestry project** is nearing completion. We hope to open the church for a time of personal prayer and thanksgiving, and a chance to view the new facilities between 10am and 12pm Saturday 12th December – to be confirmed.

Mappleborough DCC has **3 vacancies**: for a PCC member, a DCC member and a Deanery Synod member. If you are interested in helping our church grow and develop do consider taking up one of these places. Contact Erica or Kate to learn more.

Safeguarding training

Over the last few weeks Judith has been sending out some emails for me asking for some of you to re-do your safeguarding training which needs to be done every three years. If you haven't spotted an email please check your spam/junk emails to see if you have missed it. We would really like to take advantage of this 'furlough' time to get everyone's training up to date. Kate

Studley Walkthrough Nativity

4-7pm, Christmas Eve

This bookable, distanced, walk-through experience will replace our usual all-age nativity service and for many families will be THE one church event they will take part in this Christmas. Booking will open soon for church family and people you want to invite, but first we really need some team to help with things like: set decoration, preparing craft activities, setting up, 'acting', welcoming guests, technicals, and various other jobs. Please contact Dan to express your interest.

A thank you to Studley's heroes

Did you know nearly 60 people were part of the Studley Isolation Support Group this year, helping people with their shopping, running errands and talking to people living on their own. In many places, this pandemic response has fallen to the local church, but here we've been very blessed by these wonderful volunteers, most of whom are not a regular part of the church. We'd really like to say thank you to them all, on behalf of the church. We are arranging to have a small food gift and a Christmas card sent to each of them. If you would like to contribute a small financial gift towards the costs of this, then please talk to Dan.

Diary Date: We plan to decorate Studley Church for Christmas on Saturday 12 December 2020 at 10.00am. If you can help it would be appreciated.

For your prayers

Contact Judith McLelland to add the names of people in urgent and critical need of prayer (with their permission). People remain on the list for 4 weeks (contact Judith if they need to remain after this).

We pray for people in particular need including: **Peter Holmes, Bob Martin, Tony Drake, Linda Moffat, Jean Burbage, Melissa Lammass, Val Greathead and Sue Ludlow**

We commend to God all who have died recently and pray for their families, including: **Ann Hurford**

We remember those for whom the anniversary of their death falls at this time: **Jessie Tyler**

Prayer for the week: Advent Sunday

Almighty God, as your kingdom dawns,
turn us from the darkness of sin to the light of holiness,
that we may be ready to meet you in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Making a donation to our churches

Although we cannot give on Sundays in our usual way, we can still make a thank-offering on a Sunday or at any time.

You can make a donation using a bank card by phoning Dan Corlett, or by electronic bank transfer

(please include your name as the reference for Gift Aid purposes)

To give by cheque, use the church name as in this table, and send the cheque to The Vicarage or pass it directly to the treasurer. Cash donations may be taken to The Vicarage.

	Sort Code	Account
Studley Parish Church	40-43-54	61000861
Mappleborough Green Church Committee	40-43-54	00558532
Morton Bagot PCC	40-43-54	60600547
Oldberrow PCC	40-43-19	61173928

Contact details:

Rector: Revd Kate Mier

3 Manor Mews, Studley B80 7PR rector@ardenmarches.co.uk 01527 852830 *Rest Day: Friday*

Curate: Revd Dan Corlett

curate@ardenmarches.co.uk 07543 370637 *Rest day: Monday*

For safeguarding concerns:

Parish Safeguarding Officer, Kay Middleton 07867492938

Diocesan safeguarding Team (24hrs) 024 7652 1345

Church Administrator: Judith McLelland

Available 2.00pm-4.30pm Monday to Thursday parish@ardenmarches.co.uk 01527 850130

News sheet deadline 2pm Thursday

Our website is www.ardenmarches.co.uk

You can find us on Facebook as Arden Marches Churches or join Arden Marches Church Family