

MIDWEEK SERVICES

Tues 5th Dec		
7.00pm	Compline	All Saints, Froxfield
Wed 6th Dec		
2.15pm	Holy Communion	Aldbourn Nursing Home
Thur 7th Dec		
8.00am	Morning Prayer & Bible Study	St Michael's, Aldbourne
10.00am	Holy Communion	Holy Cross, Ramsbury

NOTICES

- ❖ **KNITTING GROUP EXHIBITION** – after the Team Service **TODAY** in Ramsbury, do take time to visit the St Helena Chapel to see an exhibition of their work.
- ❖ **SPARKLERS** – meet at 9.15am on **Monday 4th December** in St. Michael's Church, Aldbourne (TD Day notwithstanding), older siblings or other children also welcome.
- ❖ **RAMSBURY PRAYER GROUP** – meet at 9.30am on **Tuesday 5th December** from 9.30 – 10.30am at 27 High Street, Ramsbury. Coffee, Bible & prayer for Ramsbury, the Whitton Benefice and beyond. Everyone very welcome. For more details contact Ginny McGillicuddy – 521221.
- ❖ **RAMSBURY & AXFORD LCC** – meet at 7.00pm on **Wednesday 6th December** in the Church rooms.
- ❖ **WHITTONEDGE MEDITATION GROUP** – meet at 7.00pm on **Thursday 7th December** at Whittonedge.
- ❖ **DISNEY CHRISTMAS CONCERT – FROXFIELD** – **Sunday 10th December** at All Saints Church, doors open 3.30, 4pm start. Tickets £5 at the door, children under 16 free. Donations for refreshments. Prize for Best Fancy Dress. All welcome.
- ❖ **KNITTING GROUP** – will meet on **Tuesday 12th December** from 2pm at 55a High Street, Ramsbury. Enquiries Estrid Eyles (520789)
- ❖ **POSADA IN ALDBOURNE & RAMSBURY** – for the last few years we have celebrated Posada during Advent. Modern day Posada uses nativity figures of Mary and Joseph who travel from place to place. There will be opportunities for you to 'host' the Holy Family as they travel around the village. **Watch out for details of Posada in St Michael's and Holy Cross.** Get ready to become a host to Mary and Joseph for a night.
- ❖ **LIVING NATIVITY - ALDBOURNE** – **Saturday 16th December.** Come and walk with the Angel Gabriel and follow the story of the birth of Christ. The first scene begins in Aldbourne Memorial Hall. Start times 3.30, 3.50, 4.10, 4.30 and 4.50pm. For more information contact: Rev Candice Marcus (01672 540311), Nick Whelan (07713 488859), Margaret Hill (01672 540789).

Deadline for Notices: 10.00am Thursday
Contact the Team Office (teamoffice@whittonteam.org.uk/01672-520963)
about forthcoming church events, or people to be added to the prayer list.
Office hours: 9.00am-1.00pm Mon & Thurs
Website: www.whittonteam.org.uk

WHITTON BENEFICE

Aldbourn, Baydon, Chilton Foliat, Froxfield, Ramsbury with Axford

SUNDAY 3rd December 2017 – Advent 1

Ps 126/Nehemiah 2: 1-8, 8: 1-3, 5-6/Mark 13: 24-37

8.00am	Aldbourn	Team Communion (BCP)
10.00am	Ramsbury	Team Communion (CW)
4.00pm	Aldbourn	Advent Christingle

Please pray for the pupils, staff and governors of St. John's College, Marlborough.

Please pray for those who are sick or in pain, especially **Jim Cramsie** and **Ray and Vera Chapman.**

We remember those who have died in faith, those whose faith is known only to God and we remember all those, the anniversary of whose death falls this week.

Next Sunday 10th December 2017 – Advent 2

Ps 85: 1, 2, 8-13/Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11/Mark 8: 27-30

8.00am	Ramsbury	Holy Communion (BCP)
9.30am	Baydon	Patronal & Christingle
9.30am	Ramsbury	Advent Morning Worship
11.00am	Aldbourn	Holy Communion (CW)
4.00pm	Axford	Carol Service
4.00pm	Chilton Foliat	Carol Service

Please take this leaflet home with you

SUNDAY 3rd December 2017 – Advent Sunday

OLD TESTAMENT - Nehemiah 2: 1-8, 8: 1-3, 5-6

In the month of Nisan in the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes, when wine was brought for him, Nehemiah took the wine and gave it to the king. I had not been sad in his presence before, so the king asked me, “Why does your face look so sad when you are not ill? This can be nothing but sadness of heart.” I was very much afraid, but I said to the king, “May the king live forever! Why should my face not look sad when the city where my ancestors are buried lies in ruins, and its gates have been destroyed by fire?” The king said to me, “What is it you want?” Then I prayed to the God of heaven, and I answered the king, “If it pleases the king and if your servant has found favor in his sight, let him send me to the city in Judah where my ancestors are buried so that I can rebuild it.” Then the king, with the queen sitting beside him, asked me, “How long will your journey take, and when will you get back?” It pleased the king to send me; so I set a time. I also said to him, “If it pleases the king, may I have letters to the governors of Trans-Euphrates, so that they will provide me safe-conduct until I arrive in Judah? And may I have a letter to Asaph, keeper of the royal park, so he will give me timber to make beams for the gates of the citadel by the temple and for the city wall and for the residence I will occupy?” And because the gracious hand of my God was on me, the king granted my requests.

All the people came together as one in the square before the Water Gate. They told Ezra the teacher of the Law to bring out the Book of the Law of Moses, which the Lord had commanded for Israel. So on the first day of the seventh month Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, which was made up of men and women and all who were able to understand. He read it aloud from daybreak till noon as he faced the square before the Water Gate in the presence of the men, women and others who could understand. And all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law.

Ezra opened the book. All the people could see him because he was standing above them; and as he opened it, the people all stood up. Ezra praised the Lord, the great God; and all the people lifted their hands and responded, “Amen! Amen!” Then they bowed down and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground

GOSPEL - Mark 13: 24-37

When you see the coming of the Son of Man, following that distress, “‘the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from the sky, and the heavenly bodies will be shaken.’” “At that time people will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. And he will send his angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of the heavens. “Now learn this lesson from the fig tree: As soon as its twigs get tender and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that it is near, right at the door. Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away. “But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Be on guard! Be alert! You do not know when that time will come. It’s like a man going away: He leaves his house and puts his servants in charge, each with their assigned task, and tells the one at the door to keep watch. “Therefore keep watch because you do not know when the owner of the house will come back—whether in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or at dawn. If he comes suddenly, do not let him find you sleeping. What I say to you, I say to everyone: ‘Watch!’”

