

NOTICES & DIARY DATES

Christmas Lunch: Many, many thanks to Peter and his energetic and efficient team who served us a lavish meal last week. Everything was, as usual, superb and much appreciated by us all.

Gifts for the YMCA: It took four of us to carry up Bath Street all the gifts which were generously donated by the congregation, and others, who attended services and events in St John's during the two weeks we were collecting for our young neighbours. It was all received with deep gratitude.

Advent Decorations: Thank you for the many decorations donated for one of our two Christmas trees, please continue to add a bauble as you pass by. Our second tree is in the Baptistry and people are beginning to add their messages to it. Many thanks to the Flower team for their beautiful Advent displays throughout the nave.

Advent Collection white boxes: The proceeds will be evenly split between St John's and the Good Heart cafe's 'pay a meal forward'. The Lolly Trolley will be available at every service. Thank you.

Santa's Postmen: If you know you live within the parish boundary of St John's, would you be willing to deliver flyers for Christmas services to your street? Please speak to Rev. Seamus after the service about collecting some flyers to let your neighbours know the exciting ways they can add to their Christmas celebrations.

Christmas Services: Christmas doesn't just end on Christmas day, there will be Holy Eucharist. at 12:30 on Dec 26th, Dec, 27th and Jan 1st to celebrate St Stephen, St John and The Circumcision respectively. Please do join us at any and all of these to help keep the festive spirit going.

Fair Frome Foodbank: There are collection points in most supermarkets. All help gratefully received – thank you!

THE PARISH OF FROME, ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, BA11 1PL

SUNDAY 21 DECEMBER 2025

Fourth Sunday of Advent

SUNDAY SERVICES

Saturday
5pm Vigil Eucharist
in the Lady Chapel

Sunday
8.45am Online Service
contact admin for code
10.00am Choral Eucharist
6.30pm Carol Service

WEEKDAY SERVICES

Monday
8.45am Morning Prayer
in the Ken Chapel

Wednesday - Christmas Eve
3pm Crib Service
11pm Midnight Mass

Thursday - Christmas Day
8.45am Online Service
10am Family Eucharist

Friday
12.30pm Lunchtime Eucharist
St Stephen

Confessions, Sacrament of the Sick and Pastoral Conversations are by appointment. Please contact Rev. Seamus to arrange.

Sun 21 6.30pm Carol Service
Wed 24 3pm Crib Service
11pm Midnight Mass
Thurs 25 10am Family Eucharist
Fri 26 12.30pm Eucharist: St Stephen
Sat 27 12.30pm Eucharist: St John the Evangelist
January
Thurs 1 12.30pm Eucharist: Circumcision of Christ

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Fourth Sunday of Advent (Year A)

FIRST READING: Isaiah 7.10-16

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. Then Isaiah said: 'Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.

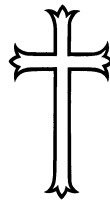
For the word of the Lord, **Thanks be to God**

SECOND READING: Romans 1.1-7

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

For the word of the Lord, **Thanks be to God**



GOSPEL READING: : Matthew 1.18-end

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord

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 with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss 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 fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear 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 borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

This is the Gospel of the LORD. **Praise to you, O Christ**