

# THE PARISH OF ABBOTS LANGLEY

St Lawrence the Martyr, Abbots Langley  
with the Church of the Ascension, Bedmond

8th December 2024

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



## TODAY

**8.00am** Eucharist at  
St Lawrence Church

**President & Preacher:** Revd Peter Waddell

**Reader:** David Staines

**9.30am** Second Sunday Christingle  
Service at St Lawrence  
Church

**President & Preacher:** Revd Peter Waddell

**11.30am:** Eucharist at The Church of  
the Ascension

**President & Preacher:** Revd Peter Waddell

**Reader:** Anne Goldsmith

**Readings:**  
(Baruch 5: 1 - 9) (P. 129)  
Malachi 3: 1 - 4 (P. 904)  
(Philippians 1: 3 - 11) (P. 193)  
Luke 3: 1 - 6 (P. 57)

**Hymns:**  
58: Long ago, prophets knew  
474: Immortal Invisible  
34: On Jordan's Bank  
538: O Jesus I have promised

**5.00pm** BCP Evening Prayer

**Helen will be taking the service at  
St Mary's, Watford at 10.30am**

## WELCOME

Welcome to our worship today, especially to visitors and newcomers! Do please make yourself known, and stay for refreshments in the church hall afterwards.

All baptised Christians are welcome to receive communion here. If for any reason you'd rather not, do come for a blessing instead, bringing the service booklet with you as a sign that's what you'd prefer.

Please tell a welcomer before the service if you would like a gluten-free wafer at communion. There is no obligation to receive the wine if this causes anxiety.



**Our main Sunday morning service is filmed for live video streaming as well as other special services and can be viewed at [www.churchmedia.tv/abbotslangley](http://www.churchmedia.tv/abbotslangley) or via our website [www.abbotslangley.org.uk](http://www.abbotslangley.org.uk).** Recordings may also be retained and made available through other sites (e.g. Facebook and YouTube). The objective of this is to provide accessibility to those who are unable to attend.

For those unable to attend church due to medical reasons, we will be delighted to bring communion to you at home: please do ask!



**Refreshments will  
be served in the  
Church Hall after  
the 9.30am  
service.**



[www.abbotslangley.org.uk](http://www.abbotslangley.org.uk)

### COLLECT:

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever.

### POST COMMUNION:

Father in heaven, who sent your Son to redeem the world and will send him again to be our judge: give us grace so to imitate him in the humility and purity of his first coming that, when he comes again, we may be ready to greet him with joyful love and firm faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

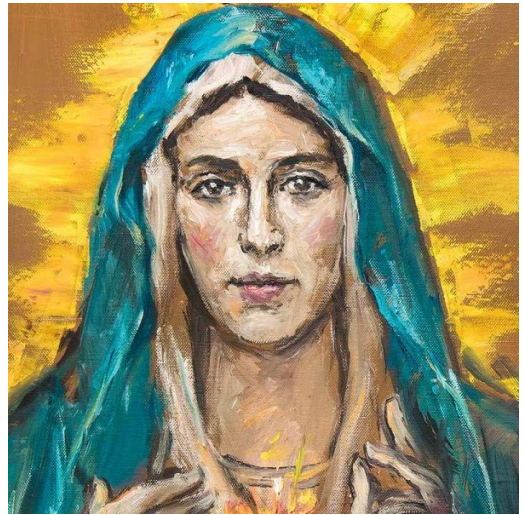
### FOOD FOR THOUGHT:

'If our developed societies are marked by the tendency to ignore the uniqueness of individuals, to load ever more demands for work and measurable production on to them, to glamorise success and despise failure, and to turn sex into a recreation instead of lasting creative partnership, the Christian disciple will say "all this is a predictable result of abandoning the belief that each person is the work of God."' (Rowan Williams, *Being Disciples*, pp.66-67)

## The Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

### 8 December

This festival in honour of the conception of the mother of our Lord is celebrated on this day in both the eastern and the western Church. This feast, which dates from the seventh century, acknowledges the preparation by God of his people to receive their Saviour and Lord, putting 'heaven in ordinary' and showing that mortal flesh can indeed bring Christ to the world.



## FOR OUR PRAYERS

- For the parish of St. Mary's Watford
- For the peace of the Middle East
- For all in hospital
- For all who are grieving

### FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL OR IN NEED

Chris Ballard; Liz Brooker; Christopher Seabrook; Bernie Eamer; Stephen Murray; Erica

### FOR THE DEPARTED

Dorothy McKenzie; Walter Haythorpe; Frank Tilley; Doris Haskell

## NEXT SUNDAY

15th December 2024

### The Third Sunday of Advent

- 8.00am Eucharist at St Lawrence Church
- 9.30am Eucharist at St Lawrence Church
- 11.30am Eucharist at The Church of the Ascension
- 5.00pm Taizé Service
- 6.30pm Nameless Youth Group in the Breakspear Room

## READINGS NEXT SUNDAY

Zephaniah 3: 14 - end (P. 891)  
Philippians 4: 4 - 7 (P. 196)  
Luke 3: 7 - 8 (P. 57)

## AVAILABILITY

Peter is off on Monday.  
Helen is off on Friday.

## THE COMING WEEK

### Monday - Saturday, 9.15am

Morning Prayer  
*In the Corpus Christi Chapel*

### Monday 9th December

10.00am Coffee Morning  
*Breakspear Room*

7.45pm Malawi Team Meeting  
*Abbots Road*

7.30pm Bell Ringing Practice  
*St Lawrence Church*

### Tuesday 10th December

10.30am Tiny Tots  
*Breakspear Room*

11.30am Funeral of Walter Haythorpe  
*West Herts Crematorium*

6.30pm Castano Court AGM  
*Breakspear Room*

### Wednesday 11th December

11.00am Mothers' Union  
*Breakspear Room*

12.00pm Eucharist  
*St Lawrence Church*

2.30pm Funeral of Doris Haskell  
*West Herts Crematorium*

3.30pm Messy Church  
*Methodist Church*

6.30pm Youth Choir Practice  
*St Lawrence Church*

8.00pm Choir Practice  
*St Lawrence Church*

### Thursday 12th December

5.00pm Abbots Langley Year 5 Carol Concert  
*St Lawrence Church*

8.00pm Friends and Faith Christmas Social  
*Breakspear Room*

### Friday 13th December

10.00am Bedmond Bells Craft and Chat  
*The Church of the Ascension*

10.00am Funeral of Dorothy McKenzie  
*West Herts Crematorium*

2.00pm Craft and Conversation  
*Breakspear Room*

### Saturday 14th December

10.30am - 4.00pm Wreath Festival  
*St Lawrence Church*

10.30am CTAL Street Carol Singing  
*Outside the Hospice of St Francis Charity Shop*

CTAL Crisis for Christmas Lunch  
*Methodist Church*

There is no collection during today's service. If you would like to give this morning, please use the contactless giving point at the back of Church, or just leave your gift on the offering plates at the back. Thank you.

Many of our worshippers **support the work of the Parish financially** through regular planned giving. If you don't yet, please do—ideally using the Parish Giving Scheme. It is really easy to do: just visit [www.parishgiving.org.uk](http://www.parishgiving.org.uk) and search for 'Abbots Langley and Bedmond'. Alternatively, please call 0333 002 1260. For any queries about giving to the parish, please email: [churchwarden2@abbotslangley.org.uk](mailto:churchwarden2@abbotslangley.org.uk)

**9 Lessons Mince Pies** - if you are able to donate some mince pies for 22nd December when we have mulled wine and mince pies following the service please sign the list at the back of church.

**CTAL Street Carol Singing** - Saturday 14th December 10.30am - 12pm. All are welcome to come along and join in with the singing! Donations are for Crisis at Christmas. Meet outside the Hospice of St Francis Charity Shop, High Street, Abbots Langley.

**Lunch in aid of Crisis at Christmas - Saturday 14th December 12pm - 2pm** in the Methodist Church Hall. There will be soup and bread, cheese, mince pies and fruit. The lunch is free but donations are welcomed for Crisis at Christmas.

**Christmas Wreath Festival** - Saturday 14th 10.30am - 4pm and Sunday 15th December 12.00pm - 4.00pm. Come along and view the wonderful wreaths created by local businesses, schools and groups. The event is free but

donations are welcomed for the Friends of St Lawrence. Coffee and mince pies will be served in the Breakspear Room. We hope to see you there!

**The Christmas Sunday lunch** will be on 15th December at 1.00pm in the church hall.

**Nameless Youth Group** will be on Sunday 15th December at 6.30pm in the Breakspear Room. For more information please contact the church office.

**Bedmond Carols around the tree** is on Tuesday 17th December at 6.00pm at the Church of the Ascension (Tin Church). Mince pies and hot chocolate will be served afterwards in the Tin Church. All are warmly welcome to attend.

**Christmas Coffee Morning** - Thank you to all who supported last weekend's Christmas Coffee Morning. The Friends funds have increased by a fantastic £1,090 as a result.

**Kathy & Immy in Concert** – Kathy Bunting's & Immy Bailey's wonderful concert last Saturday evening, generously supported by Lucas and the rest of their families raised an amazing £770 that is to be shared between the Friends and the Malawi Project. Thanks to both families for their time and talents and also to all who attended and donated so appreciatively.

**Christmas Eve Candlelight services** in St Lawrence Church:

1.30pm (with Makaton signing)  
2.30pm  
3.30pm  
4.30pm  
6.00pm

All are very welcome to attend.

## CONTACT NUMBERS

**Vicar:**

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**Reader:**

Mrs Sally Sanderson - 01923 265963

**Director of Music**

Marianne Ryall  
Email: [directorofmusic@abbotslangley.org.uk](mailto:directorofmusic@abbotslangley.org.uk)

**Church Office Opening Times:**

10.00am until 12.30pm Mon-Fri - 01923 261795  
Email: [adminstlawrence@abbotslangley.org.uk](mailto:adminstlawrence@abbotslangley.org.uk)

*If anyone needs the ministry of a priest at any time, day or night,  
please contact Peter or Helen directly.*