



THE PARISH OF ABBOTS LANGLEY

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

22nd December 2024

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



TODAY

- 8.00am** Eucharist at St Lawrence Church
- President & Preacher:** Revd Peter Waddell
- Reader:** Tom Betteridge
- 9.30am** Eucharist at St Lawrence Church
- Reader:** Phill Higgs
- Intercessions:** Maureen Finerty
- President & Preacher:** Revd Helen Neville
- 11.30am:** Eucharist at The Church of the Ascension
- President & Preacher:** Revd Helen Neville
- Reader:** Wendy Ball
- Readings:**
Micah 5: 2 - 5a (P. 880)
(Hebrews 10: 5 - 10) (P. 221)
Luke 1: 39 - 55 (46 - 55) (P. 54)
- Hymns:**
64: Of the Father's love begotten
242: The Angel Gabriel from heaven came
241: Sing we of the blessed mother
25: Creator of the Starry height
362: Tell out my soul
- 3.00pm:** Christmas Carols Service at the Church of the Ascension
- 6.30pm** Nine Lessons and Carols Service in St Lawrence Church

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 or via our website 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

THE PRAYERS AND BIBLE READINGS

COLLECT:

God our redeemer, who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son: grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour, so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our judge; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

ANTHEM:

Es ist ein Ros entsprungen

Michaël Prætorius

Es ist ein Ros entsprungen,
aus einer Wurzel zart,
wie uns die Alten sungen,
von Jesse kam die Art.
Und hat ein Blümlein bracht
mitten im kalten Winter,
wohl zu der halben Nacht.

Das Röslein, das ich meine,
davon Isaias sagt,
ist Maria die reine,
die uns das Blümlein bracht.
Aus Gottes ew'gem Rat
hat sie ein Kind geboren
wohl zu der halben Nacht.

Das Blümelein, so kleine,
das duftet uns so süß,
mit seinem hellen Scheine
vertreibt's die Finsternis.
Wahr Mensch und wahrer Gott,
hilft uns aus allem Leide,
rettet von Sünd und Tod.

POST COMMUNION:

Heavenly Father, who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of the promised saviour: fill us your servants with your grace, that in all things we may embrace your holy will and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Lo, how a rose e'er blooming
From tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming,
As men of old have sung.
It came, a flow'ret bright,
Amid the cold of winter,
When half-spent was the night.*

*Isaiah 'twas foretold it,
The rose I have in mind,
With Mary we behold it.
The Virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright
She bore to them a Savior,
When half-spent was the night.*

*O Flower, whose fragrance tender
With sweetness fills the air,
Dispel with glorious splendour
The darkness everywhere;
True man, yet very God,
From Sin and death now save us,
And share our every load.*

FOR OUR PRAYERS

- For all struggling with mental health
- For all churches as they celebrate Christmas
- For new born children and expectant parents
- For peace in the Holy Land

FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL OR IN NEED

Chris Ballard; Liz Brooker; Christopher Seabrook; Bernie Eamer; Stephen Murray; Alan Alexander

FOR THE DEPARTED

Ben Dimond; Betty Harris

NEXT SUNDAY

29th December 2024

The First Sunday of Christmas

- 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 BCP Evening Prayer at St Lawrence Church

READINGS NEXT SUNDAY

1Samuel 2: 18 - 20, 26 (P. 254)
Colossians 3: 12 - 17 (P. 199)
Luke 2: 41 - end (P. 57)

AVAILABILITY

Peter is off on Thursday - Saturday.
Helen is off on Thursday - Saturday.

THE COMING WEEK

Monday - Saturday, 9.15am

Morning Prayer
In the Corpus Christi Chapel

Monday 23rd December

10.00am Coffee Morning
Breakspear Room

5.00pm Nameless Social
Hollywood Bowl

7.30pm Bell Ringing Practice
St Lawrence Church

Tuesday 24th December

1.30pm, 2.30pm, 3.30pm, 4.30pm.
6.00pm Candlelight Service
St Lawrence Church

11.00pm Midnight Mass
The Church of the Ascension

11.45pm Midnight Mass
St Lawrence Church

Wednesday 25th December

9.30am Christmas Day Eucharist
St Lawrence Church

11.30am Christmas Day Eucharist
The Church of the Ascension



*The Church Office is closed from Tuesday
24th December and re-opens on
Monday 6th January*

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.paritygiving.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

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.

Midnight Mass at the Church of the Ascension will be at 11.00pm and **Midnight Mass at St Lawrence Church** will be at 11.45pm, all are warmly welcome.

The Christmas Day service at St Lawrence Church will be at 9.30am. **The Christmas Day service** at The Church of the Ascension will be at 11.30am. All are welcome to join in the celebrations!

Temporary accommodation needed for a teacher from Australia who will be teaching at a local primary school. She will be arriving on 31st December and is from a practising Christian family in the town of Allora, Queensland, Australia. If you can offer some temporary accommodation please contact the church office.

A huge thank you to all who made wreaths for the Christmas Wreath Festival and to all who came to see the stunning displays. It was a great success and raised over £825 through donations for the Friends of St Lawrence. During the weekend, we asked people to write their favourite wreaths and here are their answers:-

Schools and children's organisations: 1st choice - Ash Class from Tannerswood, Joint second choice - Little Fawns Preschool and Rainbows.

Church Organisations: 1st choice - St Lawrence Craft and Conversation Group, 2nd choice - Friends of the Tin Church, Joint 3rd choice - St Lawrence choir & the Bell ringers

Village Organisations: 1st choice - Abbots Langley Carers, 2nd choice - The Friday Singers, 3rd choice - A/L G and S Society

Commercial Wreaths: Elvira's at the Hub.

Individual Wreaths: Moira Bunting

Overall favourite choice: St Lawrence Craft and Conversation Group.

Peter will be taking the 10.30am service at St Mary's, Watford.

CONTACT NUMBERS

Vicar:

Revd Dr Peter Waddell 07552 359046
Email: vicar@abbotslangley.org.uk

Curate:

Revd. Helen Neville 07718 172642
Email: curate@abbotslangley.org.uk

Safeguarding Officer:

Roxanne Yau
safeguarding@abbotslangley.org.uk

Reader:

Mrs Sally Sanderson - 01923 265963

Director of Music

Marianne Ryall
Email: directorofmusic@abbotslangley.org.uk

Church Office Opening Times:

10.00am until 12.30pm Mon-Fri - 01923 261795
Email: adminstlawrence@abbotslangley.org.uk

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