

THE PARISH OF ABBOTS LANGLEY

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

17th December 2023

THE THIRD 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

**President &
Preacher:** Revd. Peter Waddell

Reader: Gillian Furphy

Intercessions: Brenda Southorn

11.30am Eucharist at The Church of
the Ascension

**President &
Preacher:** Revd. Peter Waddell

Reader: John Noonan

Readings:
(Psalm 126) (P. 584)
Isaiah 61: 1 - 4, 8 - end (P. 702)
(1 Thessalonians 5: 16 - 24) (P. 202)
John 1: 6 - 8, 19 - 28 (P. 88)

3.30pm: Christmas Carol Service at
The Church of the
Ascension

6.30pm: Nine Lessons and Carols
Service at 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.

If you usually receive communion, you are welcome to do so here regardless of your church background. 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! A T-loop is provided for hearing-aid users.



**Refreshments
will be served in
the church hall
after the
9.30am service.**



www.abbotslangley.org.uk

THE PRAYERS AND BIBLE READINGS

COLLECT:

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER:

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts; kindle in us the fire of your Spirit that when your Christ comes again we may shine as lights before his face; who is alive and reigns now and for ever.

HYMNS:

2: Christ whose glory fills the skies
474: Immortal Invisible
490: Jesus shall reign wher'er the sun
308: Just as I am
444: God is working his purpose out

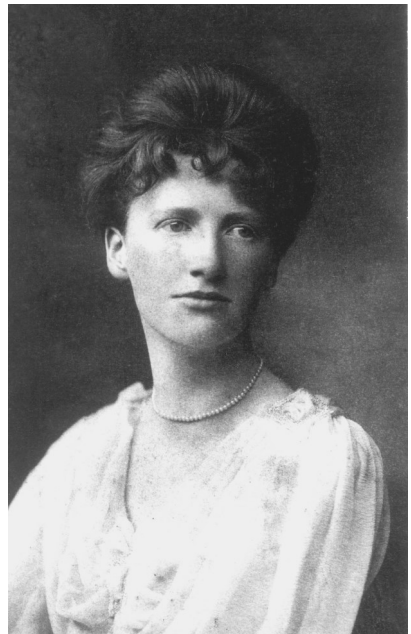
'FOOD FOR THOUGHT'

'(We believe in) a God whose almighty power is more of a steady swell of loving presence, always there at work in the centre of everything that is, opening the door to a future even when we can see no hope.' (Rowan Williams)

Eglantine Jebb, Social Reformer

17 December

Eglantine Jebb was born in 1876. After studying at Oxford, she became a teacher for a few years until ill-health led to her resignation. She then devoted her energies to charitable works and in 1913 went to Macedonia to help refugees in the Balkan wars. After the First World War, she and her sister Dorothy Buxton founded the Save the Children Fund, which aimed to help children who were suffering in the post-war famine in Europe, a charity which is now global in its scope. Eglantine fought for the rights of children to be recognised, the League of Nations passing her 'Children's Charter' in 1924. She inspired many by her personal spirituality and was greatly mourned on her death in Geneva on this day in 1928.



FOR OUR PRAYERS

- For the peace of the Holy Land
- For all those waiting to give birth
- For refugees and migrants and all who are far from home
- For the parish of All Saints South Oxhey with Carpenders Park.

FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL OR IN NEED

Chris Ballard; David Southorn;
Martin Greeves; Ray Wicks; Jo; Holly;
Jan Sanders; Brian Andrews; Greta Mowat;
Christopher Seabrook;

FOR THE DEPARTED

John Swallow

NEXT SUNDAY

24th December 2023

The Fourth Sunday of Advent Christmas Eve

8.00am Eucharist St. Lawrence Church

9.30am Eucharist St Lawrence Church

11.30am Eucharist The Church of the
Ascension

1.30pm, 2.30pm, 3.30pm, 4.30pm, 6pm
Candlelit Service (Donkey
Service!) St Lawrence Church

11.45pm Midnight Mass at
St Lawrence Church
(NB. No Midnight Mass at
The Church of the Ascension).

READINGS NEXT SUNDAY

2 Samuel 7: 1 - 11, 16 (P. 290)
Romans 16: 25 - end (P. 161)
Luke 1: 26 - 38 (P. 54)

AVAILABILITY

Peter is off on Tuesday.
Helen is off on Friday.

THE COMING WEEK

Monday - Saturday, 9.15am
Morning Prayer
In the Corpus Christi Chapel

Monday 18th December

10.00am Coffee Morning
Breakspear Room

1.45pm Tiny Tots
Breakspear Room

7.30pm Bell Ringing Practice
St Lawrence Church

Wednesday 20th December

11.15am Contemplative Prayer
In the Corpus Christi Chapel

12.00pm Eucharist
St Lawrence Church

6.30pm Youth Choir
St Lawrence Church

7.45pm Choir Rehearsal
St Lawrence Church

Thursday 21st December

8.00pm Reflective Service
'There's something about Mary'
St Lawrence Church

Friday 22nd December

2.00pm Craft and Conversation
Breakspear Room

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 and search for 'Abbots Langley and Bedmond'. Alternatively, please call 0333 002 1260. For any queries about giving to the parish, please email: giving@abbotslangley.org.uk. Parish Giving Packs can be collected from St Lawrence Church or from the Church Office.

There will be no refreshments served after the 9.30am services on both Christmas Day and New Years Day.

Nine Lessons and Carols service this evening at 6.30pm in St Lawrence Church. Come along and enjoy this wonderful service. All are very welcome.

The bells will be rung on Christmas Eve from 23:15 – 23:45 and on New Years Eve from 23:30 – 00:10.

Christmas Eve Donkey Services: 1.30pm (with Makaton signing), 2.30pm, 3.30pm, 4.30pm, 6.00pm. We hope to see you at one of these very special and wonderful services.

Bedmond Christmas Carols at the Church of the Ascension (Tin Church) is today at 3.30pm! Come along and enjoy this wonderful event. Hot chocolate and mince pies will be served after the service. All are welcome.

Reflective Service - 'There's something about Mary' Thursday 21st December 8.00pm. Thinking about the woman at the heart of Christmas. Put the date in your diary!

Don't forget the Foodbank this Christmas... if you are able to donate food then here is a list of the items most needed:

- Long-life milk
- Long-life fruit juice
- Tinned meat + fish
- Jars of jam/ honey/ peanut butter/ chocolate spread
- Tinned fruit
- Instant mashed potato
- Tinned tomatoes
- Bags of sugar (especially 500g bags)
- Tinned rice pudding/custard
- Packets of jelly or sponge puddings
- Tinned vegetables
- Jars of pasta sauce
- Little chocolate bars and sweet treats

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 directly.