

Third Sunday of Advent

14th December, 2025

PURPLE



Collect

O God, who went before your people
in burning fire and blackest smoke
and led them from oppression to freedom:
guide us when we are lost in shame,
disfigured with hatred,
or emptied by despair;
and take us to the place
where your love is born anew,
in Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Amen.

Psalm 146: 4 - 10

When their breath departs, they return to the earth;
on that very day their plans perish.
Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the Lord their God,
who made heaven and earth,
the sea, and all that is in them;
who keeps faith for ever;
who executes justice for the oppressed;
who gives food to the hungry.
The Lord sets the prisoners free;
the Lord opens the eyes of the blind.
The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;
the Lord loves the righteous.
The Lord watches over the strangers;
he upholds the orphan and the widow,
but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.
The Lord will reign for ever,
your God, O Zion, for all generations.
Praise the Lord!

Isaiah 35: 1 - 10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly,
and rejoice with joy and singing.
The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.
They shall see the glory of the Lord,
the majesty of our God.
Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.
Say to those who are of a fearful heart,

'Be strong, do not fear!
Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.

He will come and save you.'

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;
the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.
A highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Holy Way;
the unclean shall not travel on it,
but it shall be for God's people;
no traveller, not even fools, shall go astray.
No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there.
And the ransomed of the Lord shall return,
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain joy and gladness,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

James 5:7 - 10

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 11:2 - 11

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?' Jesus answered them, 'Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good

news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me.'

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written,

"See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you."

Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

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. Amen.

Saturday 13th December

11:00 Carols with the Methodists at **St Botolph's, Trunch**

19:30 Sheringham and Cromer Choral Society presents a Candlelit Christmas Concert at **St Botolph's, Trunch**

(tickets £7 - £15, see <https://trunchconcerts.com> for more details and booking)

Christmas Tree Festival

10:00 – 17:00, 13th December – 14th December at All Saints, Gimingham

Why not pop along to our annual Christmas Tree Festival and admire locally decorated trees? Raffle, Tombola and Refreshments on offer too – something for everyone!

Sustainable Flowers Demonstration

With Sarah Hammond, includes coffee and lunch

St Peter and St Pauls, Knapton

10:00 on Wednesday 17th December

£25 per person, to book, please call either Allison 07769613399 or Sarah 07990582847

THE TRUNCH GROUP OF PARISHES

Bradfield, Gimingham, Knapton, Mundesley, Paston, Swafield, and Trunch

14th December | Third Sunday of Advent | PURPLE

10:00 **Holy Communion**, St Botolph's, Trunch

11:00 **Café Church**, Mundesley Community Hub

15:00 **Carol Service**, St Margarets, Paston

21st December | Fourth Sunday of Advent | PURPLE

10:00 **Holy Communion**, St Peter and St Pauls, Knapton

11:00 **Café Church**, Mundesley Community Hub

16:00 **Nativity Pageant**, All Saints, Mundesley

18:30 **Carols by Candlelight**, St Peter and St Pauls, Knapton

During the week:

15th December – 20th December | 16:30 - 18:00
Gimingham Christmas Tree Festival, All Saints, Gimingham

16th December | 11:00 Women's Institute Carol Service, All Saints, Mundesley

17th December | 10:00 Christmas Flowers Demonstration, St Peter and St Pauls, Knapton
(£25pp, lunch included)

17th December | 14:00 Carol Service, St Giles, Bradfield

Mundesley Community Hub:

Tuesday 15:00 – 17.30 **Warm Hub**

Wednesday 10:00 – 11:00 **Holy Communion**

Friday 9:00 **Community Café**

10:00 - 12:00 **Community Larder**

Everyone is warmly welcome to all of our events/services



Rector: Revd Dr Sally Myers (Sally) 07840 399185
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