



**Encountering God
following Jesus
Spirit-transforming lives**

THE KIDDERMINSTER EAST PARISH NEWSLETTER

Churches of St Cassian's, St Cecilia's,
St Chad's, St George's & St Mary's Stone

**Sunday 10th December 2023
Second Sunday of Advent**

A Warm Welcome to All our Services

COLLECT

Almighty God,
purify our hearts and minds,
that when your Son Jesus Christ
comes again as
judge and saviour
we may be ready to receive him,
who is our Lord and our God.

READINGS

Isaiah 40:1 - 11
2 Peter 3:8 - 15a
Mark 1:1 - 8

SUNDAY 10th DECEMBER

ST CASSIAN'S

9:30am Worship for All

ST CECILIA'S

11:00am Café Church

ST CHAD'S

9:30am Holy Communion

ST GEORGE'S

11:00am Baptism Service

ST MARY'S, STONE

5:00pm Christingle



at **St Cecilia's Church**,
Hoo Road, DY10 1LP
**every 2nd Sunday
of the month, 11:00am**

A mix of contemporary and traditional
worship in a relaxed atmosphere.
Discussion, conversation and prayer.
All welcome.

Stone Corner Café

Wednesday 13th December

at **St Mary's Stone**

Call in any time between
2:00pm - 4:00pm

for a chat, a drink and a slice of cake.

Everyone welcome.



Kidderminster East Youth (KEY)

For children and young adults in school years **4 - 13** (ages **9 - 18 yrs**)

Our last meeting this year will be a **Special Event** at **2:00pm** on
Sunday 10th December. We will be visiting the climbing wall at the
Wyre Forest Leisure Centre, Silverwoods Way, DY11 7DT.

For further info on KEY contact Grace (07807 647279) or Richard (07843 136785)



Faithful Friday Blog Post from Revd David Hildred for Friday 8th December
Matthew 12 & 13. There were plenty who were good at following ‘the letter of the law’, combining both God’s laws and human customs, but Jesus, who came to fulfil the law, invites them to think about what the purpose of the laws were; they don’t like the challenge to their religiosity. Matthew quotes yet more Scripture. We have a series of parables that speak of fruitfulness. Are we ready to be guided by God’s laws, catching the flow from the Old Testament into the new, so that we are fruitful for Jesus and find ourselves welcomed into his re-defined family?



Young at Heart

Wednesdays 2:00pm - 4:00pm
at St Cecilia’s Church

13th Dec *Christmas Cheer* - Trevor Wood

This is the last meeting of the year. We will resume again on 10th January.

If you wish to join this group please contact Jean Bailey via the parish office.



Longest Night Service

A quiet reflective Christmas service for the whole parish, especially those that are bereaved or find Christmas a difficult time of year.

Thursday 21st December at 7:00pm
 St Cassian’s Church, Chaddesley Corbett.
 For more info contact the parish office.

Parish Prayers Online via Zoom

Morning Prayer with Daily readings at 8:00am: Join David, and others from the parish, online via Zoom for Morning Prayer. Please see the tables below for daily readings. Where you see David’s initials in the Zoom column there will be an online prayer that day. Please join us for a great start to the day.

Daily Readings for week beginning Monday 11th December		
<i>Date</i>	<i>Bible passage</i>	<i>Zoom</i>
Mon 11 th	Matthew 4:1 – 12	DH
Tue 12 th	Matthew 14:13 – end	DH
Wed 13 th	Matthew 15:1 – 20	DH
Thu 14 th	Matthew 15:21 – 28	DH
Fri 15 th	Matthew 15:29 – end	--
Sat 16 th	Matthew 16:1 - 12	DH

Daily Readings for week beginning Monday 18th December		
<i>Date</i>	<i>Bible passage</i>	<i>Zoom</i>
Mon 18 th	Matthew 16:13 – end	DH
Tue 19 th	Matthew 17:1 – 13	DH
Wed 20 th	Matthew 17:14 – 21	DH
Thu 21 st	Matthew 17:22 – end	DH
Fri 22 nd	Matthew 18:1 – 20	--
Sat 23 rd	Matthew 18:21 - end	--

If you do not automatically receive a Zoom link for Morning Prayer you can ask for one to be sent to you by emailing the address below. Anyone is welcome to attend.

Parish Prayer Meeting: Our next meeting will be **online via Zoom** on **Wednesday 13th December**, at **7:30pm** (login from 7:20pm) for 45 mins of prayer, worship and praise. Come and pray for the Team Vicar situation and other matters. Please join us, you are all very welcome.



To join **any** of the online Prayers please email parishcomms@kidderminstereast.org.uk requesting a copy of the link & password **by 6:00pm on the day before the meeting.**

Faithful Friday Blog Post from Revd David Hildred for Friday 15th December
Matthew 15. The Pharisees as well as the disciples are astonished at the teaching and actions of Jesus. The difference between them is that the Pharisees (and others) resist the teaching because it makes Jesus out to be more of an authority than they are, whereas the disciples are willing to follow Jesus, to keep on listening and watching (even when he repeats a feeding miracle which they haven't fully understood), trusting that one day it will make sense. They accept he is the greater authority; and one day the penny will drop. Can we catch the sense of awe and surprise of those early disciples?

Farewell to Rev Mann-Ray

Rev Andrew Mann-Ray, whom many of you may know through his ministry at Trinity Methodist Church and Baxter United Reform Church, is leaving Kidderminster after many years. His leaving service is 3 pm on the Sunday 7th January 2024 at Trinity Methodist Church. The preacher will be Rev Nick Collison.
Tea & cake available afterwards.
All are welcome

Thank you to all who have offered prayers for me over the last few weeks. My wrist is healing amazingly well, however, there has been some nerve damage in my fingers so I should be grateful if you would continue to keep me in your prayers
Valerie Bond

Kidderminster Choral Society presents:

Christmas Gala Concert

At St George's Church
Saturday 16th December, 7:00pm
Including: Wyre Forest Young Voices
Primary Chords, Holborne Brass
Marcus Huxley - Organist
Tickets available online at
www.kidderminsterchoralsociety.co.uk
Adult £14 (£13 concessions),
Children 6-19 £5, 5 & Under – FREE
On the Door: All Tickets £16 (£15)
Subject to availability.

Friday morning coffee shop

at St George's, 10:00 -12:00noon
including **Art Table**. All ages and abilities welcome, materials provided, minimum charge. No need to book, just turn up!

Christmas Day Lunch

If you are on your own this Christmas, or know anyone who is, you are invited to a free Christmas lunch at **St Ambrose Catholic Church**, Birmingham Road, Kidderminster, in the Borromeo Hall at the rear of the church from **12:00noon**. There are invitations available in all of our churches. Just fill in the simple contact form and return to the churchwarden. Transport can be provided.



Requests for Prayer

- Please continue to pray about the ongoing Team Vicar vacancy, asking that the Holy Spirit will continue to guide us in this process.
- All those who find this time of year difficult or are in need, especially the homeless.
- For the conflicts in the Gaza Strip, Ukraine, and other parts of the world where families are displaced, frightened and bereaved. Lord, bring your healing peace.

Would you like to be included in the Parish Newsletter for prayer?

Please contact the Parish Office for more details.



Encountering God
following Jesus
Spirit-transforming lives

Third Sunday of Advent

Times of Services at the Churches of
St Cassian's, St Cecilia's, St Chad's, St George's & St Mary's Stone

Sunday 17th December 2023

COLLECT

God for whom we watch and wait,
you sent John the Baptist to
prepare the way of your Son:
give us courage to speak the
truth, to hunger for justice,
and to suffer for the cause of
right, with Jesus Christ our Lord.

READINGS

Isaiah 61:1 - 4, 8 - end
1 Thessalonians 5:16 - 24
John 1:6 - 8, 19 - 28

SUNDAY 17th DECEMBER

ST CASSIAN'S

9:30am Holy Communion

4:00pm Carol Service

ST CECILIA'S

6:30pm Carol Service (*no morning service*)

ST CHAD'S

9:30am Morning Worship

ST GEORGE'S

11:00am Nativity Service

6.30pm Carol Service

ST MARY'S, STONE

11:00am Holy Communion

Bereavement Café - *Life after Loss*

If you are grieving the loss of a loved one, our bereavement café '*Life after Loss*' is here for you to meet informally with others in a similar situation, share your experiences and talk about how *life after loss* is affecting you.

We are not a counselling service but provide a listening ear over a cup of tea/coffee & cake in a warm & friendly atmosphere. Come and go as you feel you want to. Our next meeting is on **Monday 18th December, 2:00pm - 4:00pm at St Cecilia's, Hoo Road.** For more info email Carol, Freda or Alison on lifelafterlosskep@gmail.com or call the parish office on 01562 822131.



**in Chaddesley
Corbett**

Monday 18th December

10:30am - 12:00noon

Ladies, we would love to see you for a coffee and a chat at Susie's, Hill Pool House. For more info call Beth (777136) or Susie (777419)

"Unto us a Child is Born"

Isaiah 9:6



Come and join us at
St George's Church
Sunday 17th December

11:00am

for a Worship Service
with [Scratch](#) Nativity

All welcome




Christmas in Kidderminster East




Additional Services and Events for Advent and Christmas

Including full list of services for 24th/25th December

St Cassian's Church, Chaddesley Corbett

Sunday 17 th December	Carol Service		4:00pm
Thursday 21 st December	Longest Night Service		7:00pm
Christmas Eve	Crib Service on The Green		3:00pm
Christmas Day	Holy Communion		9:30am

St Cecilia's Church, Hoo Road, Kidderminster

Sunday 17 th December	Carol Service		6:30pm
Christmas Eve	Morning Worship		11:00am
	Christingle		4:00pm
Christmas Day	Holy Communion		11:00am


St Chad's Church, Burcher Green, Kidderminster

Friday 22 nd December	Carol Service		7:30pm
Christmas Eve	Family-friendly Nativity from Scratch		9:30am
Christmas Day	Holy Communion		9:30am

St George's Church, Radford Avenue, Kidderminster

Sunday 17 th December	Worship Service with Scratch Nativity		11:00am
	Carol Service		6:30pm
Christmas Eve	Holy Communion		11:00am
	'Midnight' Holy Communion <i>Carols from 11pm</i>		11:30pm
Christmas Day	Holy Communion		10:30am

St Mary's Church, Stone

Sunday 10 th December	Christingle		5:00pm
Christmas Eve	Morning Worship with Carols		11:00am
	'Midnight' Holy Communion		11:30pm

Parish Services

Sunday 31 st December	United Parish Service		10:30am
----------------------------------	-----------------------	--	---------

at St Cassian's, Chaddesley Corbett - all welcome

For more information please see the parish website: [Christmas Services](#) and [Events](#)



Café Chad - Christmas and New Year Opening



at St Chad's Church, Burcher Green

For people of all ages to come and feel welcome, make friends and feel valued.

- **Monday 25th December** **CLOSED**
- **Wednesday 27th December** **OPEN AS NORMAL, 9:15am - 12:30pm**
- **Monday 1st January** **CLOSED**
- **Wednesday 3rd January** **OPEN AS NORMAL, 9:15am - 12:30pm**

DIARY



Homegroups meet on 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month.

Weekly Events - (please be aware of likely Christmas Closures)

Café Chad	Mondays & Weds	9:15am - 12:15pm	St Chad's
Knit & Natter/Craft	Mondays	10:00am - 12:00noon	St Chad's
Art Group	Wednesdays	10:00am - 12:00noon	St Chad's
Knit & Natter	Wednesdays	2:00pm - 4:00pm	St George's
Young at Heart	Weds in term time	2:00pm - 4:00pm	St Cecilia's
Coffee Shop/Art table	Fridays	10:00am - 12:00noon	St George's
Meet and Eat	Fridays	12:00noon	Morrison's Café

Other events during the next two weeks are listed below

Wed 13 th Dec	10:00am	Holy Communion	St Cassian's
	2:00pm	Stone Corner Café	St Mary's Stone
	7:30pm	Parish Prayer	Online via Zoom
Sat 16 th Dec	7:00pm	Kidderminster Choral Gala Concert	St George's
Sunday 17 th Dec	<i>Church services are listed elsewhere in this newsletter</i>		
Mon 18 th Dec	10:30am	Share & Care	Hill Pool House
	2:00pm	Bereavement Café	St Cecilia's
Wed 20 th Dec	10:00am	Holy Communion	St George's
Thurs 21 st Dec	7:00pm	Longest Night Service	St Cassian's
Fri 22 nd Dec	7:30pm	Carol Service	St Chad's
Sunday 24 th Dec	<i>Church services are listed elsewhere in this newsletter</i>		
Monday 25 th Dec	<i>Church services are listed elsewhere in this newsletter</i>		



Online resources: [Children's corner](#), Messy Church [Facebook group](#), plus many videos on our [YouTube channel](#), posts on our [Facebook page](#) and [parish website](#).

Stop Press: Kidderminster Hospital/Treatment Centre carols services: Wed 13th Dec (Foyer) 2pm; Wed 20th Dec (entrance), 2pm; Thurs 21st Dec, 12:30pm (Foyer)

The next **parish newsletter** will be published on **Thursday 21st December**, covering **Sundays 24th & 31st December**. Items for publication should be sent to news@kidderminstereast.org.uk to reach the office before **Wed 20th December**.

Please note that the parish office will be closed over the Christmas/New year period.

SUNDAY 24th DECEMBER

READINGS: 2 Samuel 7:1 - 11:16 Romans 16:25 - end Luke 1:26 - 38

SUNDAY 31st DECEMBER

READINGS: Isaiah 61:10 - 62:3 Galatians 4:4 - 7 Luke 2:15 - 21

CONTACT US

PARISH OFFICE office@kidderminstereast.org.uk 01562 822131

NEWSLETTER news@kidderminstereast.org.uk

TEAM RECTOR – David Hildred 01562 743895 / 07906 156239

TEAM VICAR – VACANCY

WEBSITE Errors, omissions and updates should be reported to

WEBSITE: www.kidderminstereast.org.uk

FACEBOOK: Parish of Kidderminster East

d.hildred@kidderminstereast.org.uk

website@kidderminstereast.org.uk