



Encountering God  
following Jesus  
Spirit-transforming lives

# THE KIDDERMINSTER EAST PARISH NEWSLETTER

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

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2024  
Second Sunday of Advent

*A Warm Welcome to All our Services*

COLLECT	SUNDAY 8 <sup>th</sup> DECEMBER	
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.	<b>ST CHAD'S</b>	
	<b>9:30am</b>	Holy Communion
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>READINGS</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Malachi 3:1 - 4 Philippians 1.3 - 11 Luke 3.1 - 6</p>	<b>ST CECILIA'S</b>	
	<b>9:45am</b>	Café Church
	<b>ST GEORGE'S</b>	
	<b>11:00am</b>	Holy Communion
	<b>ST MARY'S, STONE</b>	
	<b>5:00pm</b>	Christingle (no 11:00am service)

## Appointment of new Team Vicar

The Acting Bishop of Worcester is pleased to announce the appointment of **The Reverend Jacqueline Shalloe** as Team Vicar in the Benefice of Kidderminster East. Jacqueline is currently serving as Vicar of the Church of Ascension (Preston) Wembley Park in the Willesden Area of the Diocese of London. She is married to John and has three children (*DH adds: adult children who won't be living here*). Please remember Jacqueline and John in your prayers as they prepare to move.

*David says:* Thank you to all those who have been praying that the Lord would bring us someone who will work with us to build further the Kingdom of God in this place and to all those who have taken on extra tasks during this period of vacancy.

Let me encourage you now to pray for the Lord's help as we transition to the next shape of the team ministry here in Kidderminster East.

## Licensing of Jacqueline Shalloe

Jacqueline will be licensed by Bishop Martin at a service at St Chad's on **Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2025, 4:00pm**. This will be the official start of her role as Team Vicar.

Please be praying for Jacqueline and John as they prepare to move.

*David*

# BLUE CHRISTMAS

## Blue Christmas

*You are warmly invited to a quieter and more reflective seasonal service.*

The parish **Blue Christmas** service will be held at **St Cecilia's Church**, 164 Hoo Road, DY10 1LP on **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December** starting with refreshments at **6:30pm**. There will be a quieter, more reflective Christmas service from **7:00pm - 7:45pm** which would be especially suitable for anyone who might still want to celebrate Christmas, but for a variety of reasons, they would prefer to do it in a quieter way this year. Come for as little or as much as you feel able. For more info you can contact the parish office on 01562 822131. All welcome.



## 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. Next meeting **Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December, 2:00pm - 4:00pm** at **St Cecilia's**, Hoo Road. For more information email Carol, Freda or Alison on [lifefterlosskep@gmail.com](mailto:lifefterlosskep@gmail.com) or call the parish office on 01562 822131.



## 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 morning. Please join us for a great way to start the day. All welcome.

Daily Readings for week beginning Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> December			Daily Readings for week beginning Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> December		
Date	Bible passage	Zoom	Date	Bible passage	Zoom
Mon 9 <sup>th</sup>	Isaiah 45:14 – end	DH	Mon 16 <sup>th</sup>	Isaiah 49:14 – 25	DH
Tue 10 <sup>th</sup>	Isaiah 46:1 – end	DH	Tue 17 <sup>th</sup>	Isaiah 50:1 – end	DH
Wed 11 <sup>th</sup>	Isaiah 47:1 – end	DH	Wed 18 <sup>th</sup>	Isaiah 51:1 – 8	DH
Thu 12 <sup>th</sup>	Isaiah 48:1 – 11	DH	Thu 19 <sup>th</sup>	Isaiah 51:9 – 16	DH
Fri 13 <sup>th</sup>	Isaiah 48:12 – end	--	Fri 20 <sup>th</sup>	Isaiah 51:17 – end	--
Sat 14 <sup>th</sup>	Isaiah 49:1 - 13	DH	Sat 21 <sup>st</sup>	Isaiah 52:1 - 12	DH

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:** Please join us on **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December** for the usual monthly 45 mins of prayer, worship and praise for the parish and the wider world **online via Zoom**. Login from 7:20pm for a **7:30pm** start. Just request a link from the address below. All welcome.



To join **any** of the online Prayers please email [parishcomms@kidderminstereast.org.uk](mailto: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 Guy Hewlett for Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December**  
*Isaiah 42*. We started the season of Advent last Sunday. The week before the winter had made its mark with snow, ice and flooding. There are wars and rumours of wars in the world. Through December as we travel towards Christmas Day, we need comfort! The first 39 chapters of Isaiah are often known as *'The Book of Judgement'*; the second part of Isaiah from chapter 40 to 66, which we are reading this month, is called *'The Book of Comfort'*. The opening lines of chapter 42 are "Here is my servant, who I behold, my chosen one in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him and he will bring justice to the nations". Take comfort this Advent - despite all the world tries to throw at us the faithfulness of Christ will bring forth justice.

### Carols Round the Crib



**St George's Church**  
**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December**  
**3:30pm** Refreshments  
 and mince pies  
**4:00pm** Service starts

Come and join us for an informal telling of the Christmas Story with all your favourite carols.

This event is particularly aimed at youngsters aged 1 to 91!



### Young at Heart

**Wednesdays 2:00pm - 4:00pm**  
 at St Cecilia's Church, Hoo Road  
 Open for tea/coffee from **1:00pm**

**11<sup>th</sup> Dec** *Speaker: Bidy Goodyear*  
 Subject to be confirmed

**18<sup>th</sup> Dec** *Singer: Paul Berick*  
 All your favourite tunes

This is the last meeting of the year. New programme for 2025 yet to be confirmed. For more information or if you wish to join this group please contact Jean Bailey via the parish office.

### St George's Coffee Shop



Please note that St George's coffee shop will be **CLOSED** on **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> December**.

It will restart on **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2025** and open as normal **every Friday** at 10:00am - 12:00noon thereafter.

The parish **online year plan** for 2025 is now available: [Year Plan 2025](#)

Please use the above link to access it. Please send corrections and updates to the parish office.

### Stone Corner Café

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> 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.**

### Christmas Tree Festival

The Cathedral [Christmas Tree festival](#) is back again this year and is open to visit between **now** and **Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025** (excluding Christmas Eve and Christmas Day), during normal visiting hours - 10am-5pm Monday to Saturday and 12.30-3pm on Sundays.

**No pre-booking required.**

Or come in the evening on Thurs 12<sup>th</sup>, Mon 16<sup>th</sup> or Thurs 19<sup>th</sup> December 7:30pm-9:30pm for **All is Calm, All is Bright** - Cathedral at Night events.

**[Pre-booking essential](#)**

### Prayer Diaries

You can now pick up a Diocesan Prayer Diary from any of our 4 churches, covering the Dec - March timeframe. You can also access it on the [diocesan website](#).



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# Third Sunday of Advent

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

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2024**

<b>COLLECT</b>	<b>SUNDAY 15<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER</b>	
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.	<b>ST CHAD'S</b>	
	<b>9:30am</b>	Morning Worship
	<b>ST CECILIA'S</b>	
	<b>9:45am</b>	Holy Communion
<b>READINGS</b>	<b>ST GEORGE'S</b>	
	<b>11:00am</b>	Morning Worship
	<b>6:30pm</b>	Evening Worship
	<b>ST MARY'S, STONE</b>	
Zephaniah 3.14 - 20 Philippians 4.4 - 7 Luke 3.7 - 18	<b>11:00am</b>	Holy Communion

## Changes to Midweek Services over Christmas/New Year period

The regular **Wednesday** morning, 10:00am **Holy Communion** service at **St George's Church**, Radford Avenue, DY10 2ES will continue as normal, EXCEPT for:

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December: 10:30am start

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> December: 10:30am Holy Communion for Christmas morning

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2025: No service on New Year's day

The regular, weekly 10:00am service will restart on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January.

## Kidderminster East Youth (KEY)

A group for children and young adults in school years **5 - 13** (ages **9 - 18 yrs**).

### Fundraiser Special

The last meeting of the year will be on **Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December** at **6:00pm** at St Cecilia's Church, Hoo Road. It will be a **Fundraising Christmas Show** for next year's camp and other activities. It is **open to all** at a cost of **£2 per ticket** (under 5s FREE if booked in advance).



If there is anyone who can bake some Christmas treats for this event we would be very grateful. If you would like to join the group, please get in touch without delay so that you can go on the waiting list. Places may become available in January.

For more info about the fundraiser or KEY in general, please contact Grace (07807 647279) or Richard (07843 136785) and leave a message. Thank you.



## Faithful Friday Blog Post from Revd Guy Hewlett for Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December

*Isaiah 48.* Are you trying to maintain a spiritual discipline this Advent? Have you chosen to give up something or to do something more than usual? Chapters 43 to 48 of Isaiah tell us of the regathering and renewal of Israel, that the Lord our God is the only God, that Babylon will fall and that the Lord is superior over all of Babylon's gods. In the busyness of this season try to remember that the false gods of this world, including wealth, possessions and greed are terrible distractions for many of us, diverting us from who God is. Keep up your Advent discipline, however simple, and remember who is Lord of Lords!




### *Christmas in Kidderminster East*




#### *Additional Services and Events for Advent and Christmas*

*Including full list of services for 24<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup> December*


#### *St Chad's Church, Burcher Green, Kidderminster*

Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Carol Service		7:30pm
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December	Family-friendly Nativity		9:30am
Christmas Day	Holy Communion		9:30am


#### *St Cecilia's Church, Hoo Road, Kidderminster*

Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Blue Christmas		6:30 for 7:00pm
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December	Carol Service		6:30pm
Christmas Eve	Christingle		4:00pm
Christmas Day	Holy Communion		9:45am

#### *St George's Church, Radford Avenue, Kidderminster*

Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	Carols round the Crib		3:30 for 4:00pm
Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December	Worship Service with Scratch Nativity		11:00am
	Carol Service		6:30pm
Christmas Eve	'Midnight' Holy Communion		11:30pm
	<i>Carols from 11pm</i>		
Christmas Day	Holy Communion		10:30am

#### *St Mary's Church, Stone*

Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	Christingle		5:00pm
Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December	Carol Service		11:00am
Christmas Eve	'Midnight' Holy Communion		11:30pm

#### *Parish Services*

Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> December	United Parish Service 'Carols & Communion'		10:30am
	<i>at St Mary's, Stone - all welcome</i>		

For more information please see the parish website: [Christmas Services and Events](https://www.kidderminstereast.org.uk/Christmas-Events)

The next **parish newsletter** will be published on **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December**, covering **Sundays 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> December** and **5<sup>th</sup> January** (three weeks). Items for inclusion should be sent to [news@kidderminstereast.org.uk](mailto:news@kidderminstereast.org.uk) by **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December** at the latest. Please notify changes to regular weekly/monthly events over the Christmas/New Year period. Thank you.

## DIARY

Homegroups meet on 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> weeks of the month, usually on a Tuesday

### Regular Weekly Events *(Please check for 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
Young at Heart	Wednesdays	1:00pm - 4:00pm	St Cecilia's
Knit & Natter	Wednesdays	2:00pm - 4:00pm	St George's
Coffee Shop/Art table	Fridays	10:00am - 12:00noon	St George's
Meet and Eat	Fridays	from 12:00noon	Morrison's Café

### Other events during the next fortnight are listed below

Wed 11 <sup>th</sup> Dec	10:00am	Holy Communion	St George's
	2:00pm	Stone Corner Café	St Mary's Stone
	7:30pm	Parish Prayer Meeting	Online via Zoom
Thurs 12 <sup>th</sup> Dec	7:00pm	Christmas Party	St George's
Sat 14 <sup>th</sup> Dec	4:00pm	Carols round the Crib	St George's
Sun 15 <sup>th</sup> Dec	<i>Today's church services are listed elsewhere in this publication</i>		
	6:00pm	KE Youth Christmas Show Fundraiser	St Cecilia's
Wed 18 <sup>th</sup> Dec	10:30am	Holy Communion	St George's
Fri 20 <sup>th</sup> Dec	7:00pm	Blue Christmas	St Cecilia's
	7:30pm	Carol Service	St Chad's
Sun 22 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	9:30am	Nativity	St Chad's
	11:00am	Nativity	St George's
	11:00am	Carol Service	St Mary's Stone
	6:30pm	Carol Service	St Cecilia's
	6:30pm	Carol Service	St George's
Mon 23 <sup>rd</sup> Dec	2:00pm	Bereavement Café	St Cecilia's

The full parish diary can be accessed through the online [Year Plan for 2024](#).

Online resources: See our [YouTube channel](#), [Facebook page](#) and [parish website](#).

### SUNDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> DECEMBER

**READINGS:** Micah 5:2 - 5a      Hebrews 10.5 - 10      Luke 1.39 - 45

### WEDNESDAY 25<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER - Christmas Day

**READINGS:** Isaiah 52:7 - 10      Hebrews 1.1 - 4      John 1.1 - 14

### SUNDAY 29<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER

**READINGS:** 1 Samuel 2.18 - 20, 26      Colossians 3.12 - 17      Luke 2.41 - end

### CONTACT US

PARISH OFFICE [office@kidderminstereast.org.uk](mailto:office@kidderminstereast.org.uk)      01562 822131

NEWSLETTER [news@kidderminstereast.org.uk](mailto: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](http://www.kidderminstereast.org.uk)

FACEBOOK: Parish of Kidderminster East  
[d.hildred@kidderminstereast.org.uk](mailto:d.hildred@kidderminstereast.org.uk)

[website@kidderminstereast.org.uk](mailto:website@kidderminstereast.org.uk)