



**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 30th November 2025
Advent Sunday**

Warm Welcome to All our Services

SUNDAY 30th NOVEMBER

ST GEORGE'S, Radford Avenue, Kidderminster, DY10 2ES

10:30am

UNITED PARISH SERVICE

A Celebration of Wholeness and Healing

6:30pm

Advent Carols & Hymns

There are no other services in the parish today (see notice below)

COLLECT

Almighty God, as your kingdom dawns,
turn us from the darkness of sin to the light
of holiness, that we may be ready to meet
you in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

READINGS (Advent Sunday)

Isaiah 2:1 - 5
Romans 13:11 - end
Matthew 24:36 - 44



United Parish Service on Sunday 30th November

Today we gather as a whole parish for a **Celebration of Wholeness and Healing** on this fifth Sunday of the month at **St George's at 10:30am**. It will include the opportunity for various ministries offering ways to connect with the **Wholeness and Healing** that the Lord brings to us. During Holy Communion there will be the opportunity to be anointed with oil or to receive prayer. There is no need to explain any reason for the anointing/prayer unless you would like to. Hope to see you there.



Advent Sunday

As it is also **Advent Sunday** this week, there is an **evening service** at **St George's, at 6:30pm**, with Advent carols, hymns and reflections.



Midweek Services

Holy Communion: Every Wednesday at **10:00am** at **St George's Church, Radford Avenue, DY10 2ES**

Bible Reading Group



Our next meeting is on
Thursday 4th December,
11:00am at the Rectory.
This month we are
“*Considering Joseph*”.

Refreshments served from 10:45am. This meeting is open to all but please let me know you are coming, either directly or via the parish office, so we have some idea of numbers, thank you. *Hilary Hildred.*

Wyre Forest Chamber Choir *present*



Christmas by Candlelight
Sunday 7th December, 3:45pm
St Cassian's Church,
Chaddesley Corbett

Musical Director: Bradley Barlow

Tickets: £10 Concessions £5
(includes glass of mulled wine and mince pie). Scan QR code to buy tickets or cash on the door.

In support of KEMP hospice



Parish Prayers Online via Zoom

Morning Prayer with Daily readings at 8:00am: David will lead Morning Prayer via Zoom through the week. Please check the tables below. When you see David's initials in the Zoom column there will be **Morning Prayer** that day. The tables also give one of the daily readings. 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. Please join David and others for a great way to start the day.

Daily Readings for week beginning Monday 1st December

Date	Bible passage	Zoom
Mon 1 st	Matthew 4:18-22 <i>Andrew the Apostle</i>	DH
Tue 2 nd	Isaiah 26:1 – 13	--
Wed 3 rd	Isaiah 28:1 – 13	DH
Thu 4 th	Isaiah 28:14 – end	DH
Fri 5 th	Isaiah 29:1 – 14	--
Sat 6 th	Isaiah 29:15 - end	DH

Daily Readings for week beginning Monday 8th December

Date	Bible passage	Zoom
Mon 8 th	Isaiah 30:1 – 18	DH
Tue 9 th	Isaiah 30:19 – end	DH
Wed 10 th	Isaiah 31:1 – end	DH
Thu 11 th	Isaiah 32:1 – end	DH
Fri 12 th	Isaiah 33:1 – 22	--
Sat 13 th	Isaiah 35:1 - end	--

Daily Readings for week beginning Monday 15th December

Date	Bible passage	Zoom
Mon 15 th	Isaiah 38:1 – 8, 21 – 22	DH
Tue 16 th	Isaiah 38:9 – 20	DH
Wed 17 th	Isaiah 39:1 – end	DH
Thu 18 th	Matthew 17:22 – end	DH
Fri 19 th	Matthew 18:1 – 20	--
Sat 20 th	Matthew 18:21 - end	DH

Monthly Parish Prayer Meeting:

Please join us on **Wed 10th December** for 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. It's easy! Just request a link from the address below. All welcome.



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

Faithful Friday Blog Post from Revd David Hildred for Friday 28th November
Isaiah 22. This week we have read a series of prophecies/oracles concerning the nations that surround the People of God and who are to oppress them as deliverers of the judgement the People deserve. However, these other nations are not without guilt themselves and will also fall under God's judgement, rather than being seen as faultless vessels of the Lord's will. Then in *chapter 22* we return to the declaration that God's People still face his judgement because of their rebellion against him. As we read this let's remember those other prophecies of the Branch, the child, the Saviour, the remnant, which tell us of God's ultimate intention: reconciliation. These are hard chapters but they tell us that our salvation is necessary and available through the ultimate Branch, child and Saviour. Do we recognise our need? Do we recognise the Lord's provision?



Children's Club Christmas Special a 'Pantivity' with 4Front Theatre

Saturday 6th December, 2:00pm



St Chad's Church, Burcher Green, Kidderminster, DY10 3AY

This is **FREE** activity for children aged 6 to 12 years. There are still a few spaces left for the **Workshop**. *Please book this by 30th November via the email below.* If you just wish to attend the **Pantivity** could you please let us know by **3rd December**.

4Front's events are full of fun, original songs, are extremely lively and deliver great Christian messages for both children and adults. You can watch a preview of '*Herald of Herod*' using the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cKX8xDd1198>

Two free ticket for adult guests are available for the **Pantivity** with each child/family booking. (Those who have **already pre-booked** can attend the buffet from 1:00pm). The **Pantivity** performance begins at **2:00pm** and will last about an hour after which guests will leave so that children can participate in the **Workshop** by 4Front. Children should be collected at **4:30pm**. If you would like your child to take part in any part of the above event please email Karen on ChurchClub@kidderminstereast.org.uk.

Please note that all staff are fully safeguarding trained and have DBS clearance.

Café Chad News

Christmas Special, Wednesday 3rd December, 9:15am - 12:00noon, St Chad's Hall, with stalls including gifts, decorations, cakes and cards and, of course, hot drinks and a warm welcome! For more information contact Lyn on 07794 223476.

Supporting the International Rescue Committee, providing essential humanitarian aid to families who have lost everything.



Mattie wishes to thank all who have donated **used cards** to Café Chad. Our beautiful hand-recycled, blank inside, **Christmas and Occasional cards** are available price £1 or less at every café session, **Mon & Wed mornings**, and all St Chad's services. 100% of that price goes 50/50 to Kidderminster Hospital Paediatric Diabetes Unit and our current charity. We have given over £200 to the hospital this year. Thank you everyone.





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Second Sunday of Advent

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

Sunday 7th December 2025

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 11:1 - 10
Romans 15:4 - 13
Matthew 3:1 - 12

SUNDAY 7th DECEMBER

ST CHAD'S

9:30am | Worship for All

ST CECILIA'S

9:45am | Holy Communion

ST GEORGE'S

11:00am | Morning Worship

6:30pm | Evening Worship

ST MARY'S, STONE

11:00am | Holy Communion



Family Activity Afternoons @StCecilia's

Fun for all the family @StCecilia's Church, 164 Hoo Road, DY10 1LP

Next Meeting: Sunday 7th December, 3:30pm - 5:00pm

This Month's Theme: Celebrate Christmas

All children must be accompanied by a responsible adult.



Christmas Concert

at St George's Church, with
Hadley Orpheus Male Voice Choir

Saturday 6th December at 7:00pm.

Tickets £10:00 to include
mulled wine and mince pies
in the interval.



Tickets available from

Jan 07801 118214 or Chris 07919 178236



Carols Round The Crib at St George's

Saturday 13th December

An informal telling of the Christmas Story
aimed at children but all ages welcome.

Refreshments 3.30pm

for a 4:00pm start.

Lasting about 45 mins.



Stone Corner Café

Wednesday 10th December
at St Mary's Stone



Call in any time between **2pm - 4pm**
for a chat, a drink and a slice of cake.

Everyone welcome.

St George's Pop up Café

Wednesday 3rd December

12:00noon - 2:00pm


Usual Autumn Lunch menu

**available: Come along for a
warm lunch and a warm welcome.**

No charge. Donations welcome.



Faithful Friday Blog Post from Revd Jacqueline Shalloe for 5th December
Isaiah 29:1-14. As we reflect on *Isaiah 29:1-14* in this Advent season, we are reminded of the tension between judgement and hope that echoes through the prophetic tradition. The pronouncement of woe upon Ariel, the city where David settled, speaks to a people who have drifted from the heart of their faith, continuing with religious festivals yet missing the deeper call to justice and humility. Like the city besieged, we too are sometimes caught up in routine, forgetting the transformative power of God's presence among us. Advent invites us to awaken from spiritual slumber, to open our eyes and hearts to the coming of Christ. The passage warns of blindness and deafness to God's voice, yet also offers a vision of renewal: even out of mourning and lament, God is able to bring restoration. In our own preparations for Christmas, may we seek not only the outward forms of celebration, but a genuine encounter with God's love - a love that brings light, hope, and new beginnings.



Diocesan News

The Church of England's [Advent and Christmas theme for 2025](#) revolves round a single word: **Joy!** The great joy of Christmas, of course, is the good news the angel declared to the shepherds - the news of Jesus' birth as Emmanuel (God With Us). You can [read and listen](#) to **daily Advent and Christmas reflections** from 1st December through the **Everyday Faith** app, the new daily devotional app from the Church of England. The app is available to download now for free from either [Apple](#) or [Android](#) devices. There is also a new illustrated children's book [The Grumpy Owl and the Joy of Christmas](#), illustrated by the award winning Jago, telling the story of Jesus' birth through the eyes of an owl who seems determined to miss all the excitement. Available through [Amazon](#), [Eden](#) & [Church House publishing](#).



Young at Heart

Every **Wednesday**. Meetings at St Cecilia's Church, 164 Hoo Rd.
 Starting with tea/coffee from **1:00pm**.
 Meeting time **2:00pm - 4:00pm**.

3rd Dec Christmas Meal Out (contact organiser)
10th Dec Musical Entertainment with *Paul Berick*

For more information please contact the organiser, Jean Bailey, via the parish office.



Christmas Party

St George's Church
Saturday 20th December, 7:00pm

No further details available at time of going to press.


For more info please contact: Jan 07801 118214 or Chris 07919 178236



Men's Parish Breakfast

Saturday 24th January at 9:30am at **St Cecilia's Church**. Full English breakfast for which there is no charge. Come along for fellowship, fun and good food.

Roger & Ron





Ladies Coffee Morning

Ladies! Our next **get-together** will be on **Saturday 24th January** at **The Eazy Lounge Café**, Vicar Street at 10am. No booking required. Look forward to seeing you there.

Lyn and Cynthia



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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 14th December 2025

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 35:1 - 10
James 5:7 - 10
Matthew 11:2 - 11

SUNDAY 14th DECEMBER

ST CHAD'S

9:30am Holy Communion

ST CECILIA'S

9:45am Café Church

ST GEORGE'S

11:00am Holy Communion

ST MARY'S, STONE

5:00pm Christingle and Carols



Café Church at St Cecilia's

Sunday 14th December at 9:45am

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

Longest Night Service

Monday 22nd December, 7:00 pm

St Cecilia's Church, 164 Hoo Road, DY10 1LP

For many, Christmas can be a season of joy and light. But for some, it is also a time when grief, loss, or struggle feel especially challenging. On the longest night of the year, we gather in quiet reflection, prayer, and gentle music - to hold space for sorrow, to remember those we love, and to find hope in the promise that light shines in the darkness. Come as you are - bring your memories, your burdens, and your hopes.

Bereavement Café - *Life after Loss*



If you are grieving the loss of a loved one you are warmly invited to join us at the bereavement café '**Life after Loss**'. There will be refreshments and a warm welcome provided by volunteers with a listening ear.

Next meeting: Monday 22nd Dec, 2:00pm - 4:00pm at St Cecilia's, Hoo Road. For more info email Carol or Alison on lifafterlosskep@gmail.com or call the parish office on 01562 822131

Faithful Friday Blog Post from Revd Jacqueline Shalloe for 12th December

Isaiah 33:1–22. These verses highlight God’s unchanging strength and authority, offering both reassurance and a call to trust. His power is exercised with wisdom and mercy, providing stability and hope even when the world is filled with betrayal and uncertainty. God’s majesty is not remote but is close to us, supporting and sustaining us through daily challenges. As Julian of Norwich famously said, “All shall be well,” reminding us that God’s unwavering love is our true anchor in times of fear and instability. During Advent, we are called to wait with hopeful anticipation, trusting in God’s promises. This season encourages us to rely on His grace, preparing our hearts for Christ’s coming and the peace He brings.

Advent and Christmas in Kidderminster East



have you got someone in mind whom you could invite to one of our services?

Perhaps you could offer, “*Would you like to come with me to the ...?*”

The details of our menu of services are shown below.

Services and Events for Advent and Christmas

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

Sat 13 th	3:30 for 4:00pm	Carols round the Crib		St George	
Sun 14 th	5:00pm	Christingle & carols		St Mary	
Fri 19 th	7:30pm	Carol Service		St Chad	
Sun 21 st	“Dress-up Nativity” – take your pick:				
	9:30am			St Chad	
	9:45am			St Cecilia	
	11:00am			St George	
Sun 21 st	6:30pm	Carol Service	in both St Cecilia & St George		
Mon 22 nd	7:00pm	Longest Night Service		St Cecilia	
Wed 24 th	4:00pm	Christingle		St Cecilia	
Wed 24 th	11:30pm	Late-night Holy Communion			
		in both St Mary & St George (the choir sings from 11:00pm)			
Thu 25 th	Christmas Day Holy Communion – take your pick:				
	9:30am			St Chad	
	9:45am			St Cecilia	
	11:00am			St George	
Sun 28 th	10:30am	“Pick a Carol” United Parish Service		St Chad	

For more information please see the parish website.

The next **parish newsletter** will be published on **Friday 19th December**, and will cover the Christmas holiday period of **Sundays 21st and 28th December 2025 and 4th January 2026**. Please send items for inclusion to news@kidderminstereast.org.uk by **Wed 17th December** at the latest. Thank you.

DIARY

Homegroups meet on 1st and 3rd 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
BYO Craft/Knitting	Mondays	10:00am - 12:00noon	St Chad's
Art Group	Mondays & Weds	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 (Not including Christmas Services: see listing page 7)

Wed 3 rd Dec	10:00am	Holy Communion	St George's
	12:00pm	Pop-up Café	St George's
Thurs 4 th Dec	11:00am	Bible Reading group	The Rectory
Sat 6 th Dec	1:00pm	Children's Club Christmas Special	St Chad's
	7:00pm	Christmas Concert	St George's
Sunday 7 th Dec	<i>Regular Sunday services are detailed elsewhere in this newsletter</i>		
	3:30pm	Family Activities afternoon	St Cecilia's
	3:45pm	Christmas by Candlelight	St Cassian's
Wed 10 th 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
Sunday 14 th Dec	<i>Regular Sunday services are detailed elsewhere in this newsletter</i>		
Wed 17 th Dec	10:00am	Holy Communion	St George's
Sat 20 th Dec	7:00pm	Christmas Party	St George's

The full parish diary is available online [Year Plan 2025](#) and [Year Plan 2026](#).

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

SUNDAY 21st DECEMBER

Readings: Isaiah 7:10 - 16 Romans 1:1 - 7 Matthew 1:18 - end

THURSDAY 25th DECEMBER Christmas Day

Readings: Isaiah 52:7 - 10 Hebrews 1:1 - 4 John 1:1 - 14

SUNDAY 28th DECEMBER

Readings: Isaiah 63:7 - 9 Hebrews 2:10 - end Matthew 2:13 - end

CONTACT US:

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