

If you have managed to read all the way through the Benefice News to this point, give the office a ring. I have a surprise for the first to call!

I was fortunate to be in Wells Cathedral on Tuesday for a Pre-Advent retreat day hosted by Bishop Michael with Archbishop Rowan speaking on John 1:1-14. The day opened with The Very Reverend Toby Wright, Dean of Wells talking briefly about some engaging ways in which the Diocese and Cathedral can work together. He handed out some postcards with QR code on the back with further details – a few of which are in church today. Please use the code and see what is available. If you would like to pursue any of the opportunities, please let me know. Rev'd Eleanor

### Ministry Team

*The Ministry Team is here for everyone. If you would like prayer for yourself, or someone else, please do contact anyone on the list. Any of these people will be happy to talk to you, pray for you, add a name to the list in the Benefice News or send a prayer request round the prayer chain.*

**Rector: Revd. Eleanor King 01278 734777**

**Email: [Eleanor.king@hotmail.com](mailto:Eleanor.king@hotmail.com)**

**(Usual day off Thursday)**

**Associate Priest: Revd. Kate Sax 01278 671168**

**Email: [Kate.kinkiizi@gmail.com](mailto:Kate.kinkiizi@gmail.com)**

**(Working days – Sunday, Tuesday and Wednesday)**

### Hon. Associate Priests:

**Revd. Dawn Brimson 01278 741413**

**Revd. Stephen Campbell 01278 741329**

**Revd. Preb. Pam Cuff 01278 741229**

### Readers:

**Sarah Upfield 01278 671539**

**Viv Chesterton 01278 733568**

**Alison Hoare 01278 732350**

### Benefice Administrator: Alison

**Usual office hours Mon-Fri from 9-11am**

**Telephone: 732855**

**Email: [qv.benefice@gmail.com](mailto:qv.benefice@gmail.com)**

**Website: [www.quantockvillagesbenefice.org.uk](http://www.quantockvillagesbenefice.org.uk)**



### **Quantock Villages Benefice**

*This Benefice takes Safeguarding seriously and follows the Diocesan Safeguarding policy, which includes the Church of England Policy on Safeguarding. If you have any concerns, please check the church notice boards for the full policy and a list of parish safeguarding officers, or the benefice website*

**[www.quantockvillagesbenefice.org.uk/safeguarding](http://www.quantockvillagesbenefice.org.uk/safeguarding)**

**Find Quantock Villages Benefice on Facebook** for more information and updates as well as to see photos from past events **<https://www.facebook.com/qv.benefice>**

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# Benefice News



## **Quantock Villages Benefice**

***“Not just going to church,  
but being the church”***

Parishes of Aisholt, Enmore, Goathurst, Holford with Dodington, Kilve with Kilton & Lilstock, Nether Stowey, Over Stowey, Spaxton with Charlynch, and Strington



### **Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December – Advent Sunday**

9.30am Holy Communion at Spaxton

11.00am Matins at Aisholt

11.00am Holy Communion at Enmore

11.00am Family Service at Kilve

11.00am Advent Service at Nether Stowey Church Centre

11.00am Family Service at Strington

4.00pm Christingle at Goathurst

4.00pm Evensong at Over Stowey

6.30pm Evensong at Holford

### **Readings for Advent Sunday**

**Jeremiah 33. 14-16** *The days are surely coming when the righteous branch will spring up for David*

**Luke 21. 25-36** *The coming of the Son of Man in a cloud with great glory*

### **Collect for Advent Sunday**

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever  
*or*

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.

### **Post Communion**

O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear, he may not find us sleeping in sin but active in his service and joyful in his praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## For our Prayers

**Baptisms and Weddings:** Please pray for those getting married and for those looking to be baptised.

*Please note some people are asking for prayer but only wish their first name to be mentioned.*

**Please remember those who are sick or in need:**

**Those whom we keep in our prayers:**

**Please pray for the friends and families of those who have died recently:**

**Worldwide:** Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan. For peace throughout the world.

**National:** Those suffering from the aftermath of Storm Bert.

**Church:** For those preparing and leading Advent services, events and activities and those who will attend them.

**Local:** For all who are grieving and for the lonely.

**With thanks:** For all who serve church and community without financial reward.

## THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup>** - 8:45am Morning Prayer Nether Stowey  
- Quantock Food Bank collection at 11:00am  
- Goathurst Fellowship Group at 2pm in church

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup>** - Journey to Bethlehem at Blackmore Farm  
- Aisholt PCC at 1:30pm

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup>** - 9:30am Celtic Morning Prayer  
Goathurst

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup>** - Choir Practise Over Stowey Church  
- 5pm-7:30pm FONSS Christmas Market

**Friday 6<sup>th</sup>** - 10am Holy Communion in Church Centre  
- 1<sup>st</sup> Friday Nether Stowey Church Centre  
- 10am-11:15am Stay and Play at Goathurst  
- Spaxton Rainbow Café 10:30-12:30  
- Spaxton Toddlers 10:30-12:30  
- 1<sup>st</sup> Friday – 2:45pm Spaxton Church

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup>** - 11am Enmore Book Exchange in Church  
- 10am Holford Coffee Morning  
- 10am Prayer Group Over Stowey

### **An appeal for candles to send to Ukraine.**

A group of wives and widows of the soldiers have teamed up to make trench candles out of ordinary candles/stubs. Temperatures in the east of Ukraine can drop as low as 20° below zero. Trench candles give the soldiers a chance to warm their hands or a cup of water. Donations may be brought to the benefice office. Thank you.

**Quantock Food Bank** Please note that the last date to leave food for the food bank is Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December. The first day of collection in 2025 is 6<sup>th</sup> January. THANK YOU very much for your continuing support which is much appreciated by many people.

## Next Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December – 2<sup>nd</sup> of Advent

9.30am Holy Communion at Goathurst  
9.30am Holy Communion at Over Stowey  
11.00am Morning Worship at Enmore  
11.00am Joint Holy Communion at Stringston with Holford & Kilve  
11.00am Holy Communion at Nether Stowey Church  
11.00am Family Worship at Spaxton  
3.30pm Christingle at Aisholt

## Readings for 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Advent

**Malachi 3.1-4** *the messenger is coming with refining fire: who can stand when he appears?*

**Luke 3.1-6** *John the Baptist is the one crying in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way of the Lord'*

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## **In and around the benefice ...**

### **Coffee Mornings -**

**Kilve:** Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> Nov 10:30am – 12noon

**Holford:** Saturday Dec 7<sup>th</sup> 10am-12noon

**Nether Stowey:** Saturday Dec 14<sup>th</sup> 10:30am – 12noon

**Over Stowey:** Saturday Dec 21<sup>st</sup> 10:30am – 12noon

**Enmore Book Exchange:** Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> Dec 11am – 12noon

**Community Christmas Lunch** Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December at 12:45 for 1:00. Call Gerry on 734584 to book your place and enjoy a full Christmas dinner. Transport can be arranged if necessary. All ages welcome. **It's Free!**

### **Friends of Nether Stowey School**

**Christmas Market** Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December 5pm – 7.30pm at Nether Stowey Church Centre. Opened by the school Choir, there will be stalls selling a variety of products and produce, delicious refreshments and fabulous raffle prizes.



### **Christmas activities with families**

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 10:30am -12noon in Nether Stowey Church Centre. Offers of help please to Eleanor.



## **Save the date ...**

**All Saints, Dodington** cordially invites you to a service of seven lessons and carols on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December at 4pm. Keep warm with mulled cider or fruit juice at the door! Collection in aid of the Churches Conservation Trust

**Alpha course** starting on Friday January 10<sup>th</sup> at Nether Stowey Church Centre. A series of group conversations that freely explore the basics of the Christian faith in an open, friendly environment. Everyone welcome. Further details to come.



*As many will know Christine Vacher sadly passed away on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November. Her funeral and Service of Thanksgiving will be on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December at 2pm in St Mary's Church, Nether Stowey followed by light refreshments in the Church Centre.*