



INTER-LINK



The Churnside Benefice

All Hallows South Cerney, All Saints Preston, Holy Trinity Cerney Wick and St Peter's Siddington

Today is 3rd December 2023

The First Sunday Of Advent

A warm welcome to you

Today's services

9.30am	Holy Communion	All Hallows
10.30am	Family Service – refreshments from 10.30am	St Peter's
4.00pm	Messy Advent	All Hallows

This week in the parishes

Thursday	10.00am	Holy Communion	All Hallows
Saturday	4.00pm	Carol Service	Holy Trinity

Sunday 10th December

9.30am	Holy Communion	All Saints
11.15am	Church Family Communion – refreshments from 10.30am	All Hallows
1.00pm	Baptism	St Peter's
4.00pm	Carol Service	St Peter's

Morning Prayer is said in All Hallows as follows:

Monday at 8.30am, Tuesday at 9.15am, Wednesday at 9.15am,

Friday at 9.15am, Saturday at 8.30am

Vicar: Rev'd Jennifer McKenzie, The Vicarage, Silver Street, South Cerney, GL7 5TP.
Tel: 01285 860221. Email: vicar@churnsidechurches.org.uk. Vicar's day off is Friday

Associate Priest (available Friday and Sunday): Helen Caine.
Email: associatepriest@churnsidechurches.org.uk

Church Office: Open Tuesday & Thursday mornings. c/o United Church, Clarks Hay, South Cerney, GL7 5UA. Tel: 01285 862632
Email: office@churnsidechurches.org.uk www.churnsidechurches.org.uk

ADVENT CALENDAR

In the porch of All Hallows Church is a rather large Advent Calendar. 25 doors to be opened, taking everyone on the journey to Christmas and the birth of that very special baby in a stable, in Bethlehem. Each door has a little gift bag which contains a message and either 1, 2, or 3 sweets. If you are near the church, or going into church, check if the door, for that day, has been opened. If it is still closed, open the door and open the little bag, read the message and eat the sweets, or maybe not!!

ST PETER'S ADVENT MARKET AND CRIB FESTIVAL

Sunday 3rd December 11am-4.30pm.

The Advent Market will have a variety of home-made items for sale - chutneys, preserves, Christmas ornaments and cakes. There will be a raffle with a variety of prizes, activities for children and a Name the Penguin competition! Refreshments will be available and there will also be a display of cribs, gathered from local residents, with the story of when and why this tradition of crib scenes began. Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy this event. Entry is free but donations are welcome. On Sunday 3rd December there will be a special service at 10.30am to celebrate the start of Advent, where anyone can bring the baby Jesus from their personal crib scene to be blessed.

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

Plans are going well for the 2023 Christmas Tree Festival with 30 trees being decorated and displayed. Lots of things are already coming in for the Made in South Cerney stall. We still need Stewards for 2 hour slots on Saturday, Sunday and Monday afternoon. If you can help please let me know as soon as possible
Joan Townsend 860710

CAROL SERVICES IN THE CHURNSIDE BENEFICE

The Carol Services in the benefice are:

Holy Trinity Church at Cerney Wick - 9th December at 4pm.

St Peter's Church at Siddington - 10th December at 4pm.

All Hallows Church at South Cerney - 16th December at 4pm.

All Saints Church at Preston - 17th December at 4pm.

THURSDAY COMMUNION

Please note there will be no Thursday Communion on 28th December.

CHURCH OFFICE

The Church Office will be closed for annual leave on 12th and 14th December.

CAROL SERVICES IN LOCAL CARE AND NURSING HOMES

During December, we will be leading Carol Services in our local care and nursing homes and are looking for people to come and support these events. If you are able to attend, please let Jennifer know. The details are as follows:

12th December at 2.00pm - The Lakes.

13th December at 2.30pm - Box Bush.

20th December at 10.30am - Mulberry Court.

22nd December at 2.30pm - Hunters Care Home.

DONATIONS FOR CHRISTMAS RAFFLES AT ALL HALLOWS

All Hallows Church South Cerney, will be holding a Christmas raffle with a hamper as the prize. We are currently looking for donations towards the hampers and have created a list of the kind of items that we are looking for, so we have a selection of different things. The list is available at the back of the church, for people to sign up to if they are able to make a donation. Donations need to be at All Hallows Church by 3rd December. If you would like to buy raffle tickets, then please speak to Jennifer.

ANNUAL LEAVE

Revd Jennifer McKenzie will be on leave from the 30th December to the 6th January inclusive.

BENEFICE SERVICE

There will be a benefice service on Sunday 31st December at 10am at All Hallows Church, South Cerney.

THE CHRIST-MOUSE FAMILY TRAIL

Gloucester Cathedral 9th December to 7th January 2024.

Join the Cathedral mice as they tell the story of the first Christmas. Find where they are hiding around the building and collect your prize once you've found them all! The trail is free to take part in with no booking required - we are grateful for donations to the Cathedral. gloucestercathedral.org.uk

CATHEDRAL DECORATED FOR CHRISTMAS

9th December 2023 – 6th January 2024

From 9th December, the Cathedral building will be adorned with stunning decorations. Expect giant trees in the Nave and the Quire, as well as the return of the 'Knitivity' featuring lovable figures created by local community groups. The iconic Cloisters will also be decorated from top to bottom, with each area following a new theme for 2023. Entry to the Cathedral is by voluntary donation.



Readings for First Sunday Of Advent

Isaiah 64. 1-9

1 Corinthians 1. 3 - 9

Mark 13. 24 - end



COLLECT FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Please remember the needs of the church and the world in your prayers.

Prayers are especially invited for:

All those organising the Advent Market and Crib Festival at St Peter's Church
and all who will visit.

All those organising the Christmas Tree Festival at All Hallows Church
and all who will visit.

All who live in Swift Link.

All who are seeking God's intervention, guidance or healing in their lives.

Christmas gift suggestions:

To your enemy - forgiveness. To an opponent - tolerance.

To a friend - your heart. To a customer - service.

To all - charity. To every child - a good example.

To yourself - respect.

Oren Arnold

Father God, prepare our hearts not only for the celebration to come,
but also for sharing that Good News with friends, family and work colleagues
should opportunity arise.

Grant us courage and a real willingness to talk about the love
that came down to earth and walked among us. Amen.

Faithandworship.com

Renew your promise to reveal among us the light of your presence.
May your word be a lantern to our feet and a light upon our path that we may
behold your coming among us.

Our Benefice Mission Statement

Growing in our relationship with God, caring for the whole church family,
sharing the good news of Jesus in love and action.