**Sunday 29th November 2015**

**First Sunday of Advent**

S GILES-IN-READING

*sgilesreading.org.uk*

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*Curate:* Fr Sam McNally-Cross: (0118) 3767583 *sgiles.curate@gmail.com*

*Churchwardens:* Sylvia Gooding & Peter Bloomfield

Hymns: ***The English Hymnal***

Mass Setting: *Plainsong*

Motet:

Entrance Hymn: *5* Offertory Hymn: *13*

Communion Hymns: *6 & 518*

Recessional Hymn: *437*

Voluntary: *Wachet auf - J.S. Bach.*

**OUR INTENTIONS TODAY.**Those in need: Tony Allen, Sarah Alderson, Jean Chapman, Pat Davis, Peter Davis, Peter George, Herbert Hinton, Phyllis Hinton, Maurice Houghton, Grace John, Kate Morl, Diana Sanni, Elizabeth Sayer, Sheena Sixsmith, Margaret Summers, Sophie Thomas, Fr Christopher Walker, Ann Westgarth and Nesta Williams.

The departed: Gareth Bennett, Kate Coggs, Ida Goodall, Margaret Harman, Albert Higgs and Ada Styles.





 **Advent Sunday**

*Now when these things begin to take place, look up and*

*raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing*

*near. Luke 21.28*

The Advent season is multi-dimensional. It looks

backward in time to the coming of the Son of God as the Infant of Bethlehem two thousand years ago; it looks forward to the end of time, to the consummation of history in the coming of the Son of God as Judge. But there is yet another dimension of the most vital importance for our spiritual life: Advent is about God’s coming now, and our Advent lessons encourage our hope and expectation of his presence in our life here and now.

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The departed: Gladys Brant, Caroline Butler, Albert Butwell, Thomas Christopher, Walter Fishlock, Ruby Howman, Alexandra Marr, Elizabeth Provins and Ruth Weaver.

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**Psalter Week 1**

**Sunday Readings: Year C. Weekday Readings: Year 2.**

**TODAY AT**

**S GILES**

Monday

30 November

Tuesday

01 December

Wednesday

02 December

Thursday

03 December

Friday

04 December

Saturday

05 December

**Sunday**

**06 December**

**First Sunday of Advent**

**10.00 Mattins**

**10.30 Parish Mass &**

 **Sunday School**

**17.30 Evensong**

**18.00 Low Mass**

**18.30 Advent Carol Service**

S Andrew, Apostle

12.00 Low Mass

Tuesday of the first week of Advent

09.00 Mattins

17.30 Evensong

18.00 Low Mass

Wednesday of the first week of Advent

10.00 Mattins

10.30 Low Mass

16.30 Evensong

S Francis Xavier, Priest

09.00 Mattins

18.30 Evensong

19.00 Low Mass

Friday of the first week of Advent

11.00 Mattins

11.30 Bible Study

12.30 Low Mass

16.30 Evensong

Saturday of the first week of Advent

09.30 Mattins

10.00 Low Mass

16.30 Evensong

**Second Sunday of Advent**

**10.00 Mattins**

**10.30 Parish Mass &**

 **Sunday School**

**17.30 Evensong**

**18.00 Low Mass**

**NOTICES & EVENTS**

*We welcome any visitors here this morning and hope that you will stay for refreshments after the service.*

**Bed for a Night volunteers needed!**Once again this year we will be helping with sheltering the homeless in Reading during the coldest period of winter.   If you are able to help one night a week with food and other assistance, please talk to the clergy.

**Advent Lessons and Carols** will be held **TONIGHT** at 6.30pm.  A beautiful way of marking the beginning of this most solemn season. All Welcome!

Our annual **Christmas luncheon** will be on **Sunday 20 December**, following the Sunday mass.  Once again we will be going to Great Expectations (appropriate given the season!), the menus will be available this Sunday.  Two courses £20, three courses £24.

*If you have any notices that require adding to the sheet, please contact Anne or Geoff Canterbury at canterbury@ntlworld.com or 0118 961 0525 by Wednesday of the previous week.*

**Sunday 29th November 2015**

**First Sunday of Advent**

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

***To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.***

**COLLECT**

Grant your faithful, we pray, almighty God, the resolve to run forth to meet your Christ with righteous deeds at his coming, so that, gathered at his right hand,

they may be worthy to possess the heavenly Kingdom. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, for ever and ever.

***Amen.***

**THE FIRST READING** (Jeremiah 33: 14-16)

*A reading from the prophet Jeremiah.*

See, the days are coming - it is the Lord who speaks - when I am going to fulfil the promise I made to the House of Israel and the House of Judah: "In those days and at that time, I will make a virtuous Branch grow for David, who shall practise honesty and integrity in the land. In those days Judah shall be saved

and Israel shall dwell in confidence. And this is the name the city will be called:

The Lord-our-integrity."

*The Word of the Lord*

**THE GRADUAL PSALM** (Psalm 92)

**Response:** ***To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.***

Lord, make me know your ways. Lord, teach me your paths.

Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: for you are God my saviour.

The Lord is good and upright. He shows the path to those who stray,

he guides the humble in the right path; he teaches his way to the poor.

His ways are faithfulness and love for those who keep his covenant and will.

The Lord's friendship is for those who revere him; to them he reveals his covenant.

**THE SECOND LESSON** (1 Thessalonians 3: 12 - 4: 2)

*A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians.*

May the Lord be generous in increasing your love and make you love one another and the whole human race as much as we love you. And may he so confirm your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless in the sight of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus Christ comes with all his saints. Finally, brothers, we urge you and appeal to you in the Lord Jesus to make more and more progress in the kind of life that you are meant to live: the life that God wants, as you learnt from us, and as you are already living it. You have not forgotten the instructions we gave you on the authority of the Lord Jesus.

*The word of the Lord.*

**THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

***Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help.***

***Alleluia!***

**THE HOLY GOSPEL** (Luke 21: 25-28; 34-36)

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.*

Jesus said to his disciples: "There will be signs in the sun and moon and stars; on earth nations in agony, bewildered by the clamour of the ocean and its waves; men dying of fear as they await what menaces the world, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud

with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand. "Watch yourselves, or your hearts will be coarsened with debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life, and that day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap. For it will come down on every living man on the face of the earth. Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man."

*The Gospel of the Lord.*

**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

Accept, we pray, O Lord, these offerings we make, gathered from among your gifts to us, and may what you grant us to celebrate devoutly here below, gain for us the prize of eternal redemption. Through Christ our Lord.

***Amen.***

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

***The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.***

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**
May these mysteries, O Lord, in which we have participated, profit us, we pray,

for even now, as we walk amid passing things, you teach us by them to love the things of heaven and hold fast to what endures. Through Christ our Lord.

***Amen.***