

St Neots Parish Church (St Mary) & Eynesbury St Mary

# Welcome to Worship!

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2025

The Second Sunday of Advent



## Services today

8 a.m. Eucharist (BCP)

St Neots Parish Church

9.30 a.m. Sung Eucharist  
*President & Preacher – The Rector*

St Neots Parish Church  
**Thorne**

**Hymns: 392 (t.806); 46; 42; Anthem + 50; 51**

*The 16 days to 10<sup>th</sup> December (Human Rights Day) are days of activism against gender-based violence. Intercessions this morning will include words and silence focused on this.*

11 a.m. Sung Eucharist

Eynesbury

**Hymns: 392 (t.806); 46; 42; 51**

**Thorne**

## Services & Events this week

Tuesday	18.30-19.30	<b>Carol singing in Waitrose (all hands welcome!)</b>	
Wednesday	09.30	Eucharist	SNPC
	11.00-Noon	MU Wave of Prayer	SNPC
	19.30	Eucharist with prayer for healing	Eynesbury
Thursday	09.30	Eucharist	Eynesbury
Friday	09.30	Eucharist	SNPC

## Services for next Sunday, 14<sup>th</sup> December (Advent 3):

8 a.m.	Eucharist (BCP)	St Neots Parish Church
9.30 a.m.	Sung Eucharist	St Neots Parish Church
11 a.m.	Sung Eucharist	Eynesbury
4 p.m.	Christingle (following 2.30pm workshop)	St Neots Parish Church

### Giving for the work of the Church

We do not pass a collection plate around the congregation during the service, but we always welcome donations from those who attend worship, either in cash or by using the card reader near the door at SNPC before or after the service.

Please Gift Aid that donation if you can do so (envelopes are available).

We also encourage regular givers to become members of the Parish Giving Scheme (which is how many Church members make their donations).

Please ask at the door, or via the Office, if you want more information about this.

*The Parish of St Neots with Eynesbury, Reg Charity No 1195248, in the Church of England Diocese of Ely.*

*Rector: The Revd Canon Paul Hutchinson, The Rectory, Church Street, 01480 471297*

*Office: Church Street, 01480 370312; [office@stneots.org](mailto:office@stneots.org) - [www.stneots.org](http://www.stneots.org) Weekly Sheet 20251207*

## **Collect for Advent 2**

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us,  
and with great might succour us;  
that whereas, through our sins and wickedness  
we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us,  
your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever.

## **Alternative Collect for Advent 2**

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.

## **New Testament Reading (first in service): Romans 15.4-13**

<sup>4</sup>For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. <sup>5</sup>May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup>Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. <sup>8</sup>For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, <sup>9</sup>and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, 'Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name'; <sup>10</sup>and again he says, 'Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people'; <sup>11</sup>and again, 'Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him'; <sup>12</sup>and again Isaiah says, 'The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope.' <sup>13</sup>May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

## **Gospel Reading: Matthew 3.1-12**

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, <sup>2</sup>'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' <sup>3</sup>This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."' <sup>4</sup>Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. <sup>5</sup>Then the people of Jerusalem and all

Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, <sup>6</sup>and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

<sup>7</sup> But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?

<sup>8</sup> Bear fruit worthy of repentance. <sup>9</sup> Do not presume to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. <sup>10</sup> Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. <sup>11</sup> 'I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>12</sup> His winnowing-fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

### **Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures (not used): Isaiah 11.1-10**

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. <sup>2</sup> The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. <sup>3</sup> His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; <sup>4</sup> but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. <sup>5</sup> Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. <sup>6</sup> The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. <sup>7</sup> The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. <sup>8</sup> The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. <sup>9</sup> They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. <sup>10</sup> On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

### **Post-Communion Prayer**

Father in heaven, who sent your Son to redeem the world  
and will send him again to be our judge:

give us grace so to imitate him in the humility and purity of his first coming  
that, when he comes again,

we may be ready to greet him with joyful love and firm faith;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## Further Ahead

Carols around the organ at Eynesbury Church – Thurs 18<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30 p.m.

School & Nursery Christmas Services:

Crackerjack Nursery	SNPC Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> December at 6 p.m.
St Mary's at SNPC:	Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December at 10.30 a.m.
Eynesbury:	Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> December at 2 p.m.
Diamond Learning P'ship:	SNPC, Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December at 10.30 a.m.

Service of Lessons and Carols at SNPC – Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December, 6 p.m.

### Please note

- There will be no Wednesday 9.30 a.m. Eucharist at SNPC on the morning of 24<sup>th</sup> December (Christmas Eve).
- There will be no 'Saturday Social' or connected eucharist on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> December – the next will be on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> January.
- The choir and friends are singing Evensong at Southwark Cathedral on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> January – supporters are very welcome!
- There will be no 8 a.m. BCP Eucharist on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> January, but the Feast of the Epiphany will be kept on that day.

## Christmas Eve & Morning Services in the Churches

### Christmas Eve

4 p.m.	Crib Service with Carols	St Neots Parish Church
5.30 p.m.	Crib Service with Carols	Eynesbury
11 p.m.	'Midnight' Eucharist (Carols from 10.30)	St Neots Parish Church

### Christmas Morning

8 a.m.	Quiet BCP Eucharist	St Neots Parish Church
9.30 a.m.	Family Eucharist with Carols	St Neots Parish Church
11 a.m.	Eucharist with Carols	Eynesbury

### Boxing Day (St Stephen)

9.30 a.m.	Eucharist	St Neots Parish Church
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