



CHRISTMAS HERALD

FOR THE UNITED BENEFICE OF
HOLY TRINITY, PRESTWOOD AND
ST. MARY MAGDALENE, GREAT HAMPDEN



FOR 21ST DECEMBER 2025 TO 4TH JANUARY 2026

Sunday 21st December

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Prayer for the week

God our redeemer, who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son: grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour, so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our judge; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Worship and Events at Prestwood and Great Hampden

8.00am BCP Holy Communion (HTP)
 9.30am **Parish Eucharist & Nativity Play (HTP)**
 6.00pm **Christmas Carol Service (GH)**

Monday 22

Tuesday 23 10.00am Christingle Making Party (HTP)

Wednesday 24 11.15am **Calm Christingle (GH)**
 3.00pm Christingle Service- ticketed (HTP)
 4.30pm Christingle Service - ticketed (HTP)
 6.00pm **Christingle Service - non-ticketed (HTP)**

Thursday 25 9.30am **Family Festival Eucharist (HTP)**
 11.15am **Family Festival Communion (GH)**

Friday 26

Saturday 27

Sunday 28 8.00am Holy Communion (HTP)
 9.30am **Parish Eucharist (HTP)**
 11.15am **Morning Prayer - BCP (GH) 24, 31, 19, 36**

Readings for next Sunday

Jeremiah 31.15-17

1 Corinthians 1.26-29

Matthew 2.13-18



Joseph went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to the town of Bethlehem in Judea, the birthplace of King David.

There was no room for them to stay in the inn.

Luke 2. 4a, 7b

GREAT HAMPDEN AND HOLY TRINITY NOTICES

The Twelve Joys of Christmas | Meditations for Christmas and the New Year

This year's Church of England reflection booklet is titled Twelve Joys of Christmas.

Where do I find joy at Christmas?

"Of course, in the good news of the birth of Jesus. Of course, in the worship offered to God in the glorious setting of Salisbury Cathedral where I live and serve as Dean. Of course, in the carols and in the readings.

But also ... in the other stuff. The stuff we're probably not meant to talk about in church. You know. The Christmas tree. The presents. THE FOOD. The trips and the treats. I look forward to them. I love them. They give me joy.

At Christmas we celebrate the divine becoming visible in the earthly, don't we? Isn't it just possible that in this other stuff – this decidedly earthly stuff – we catch glimpses of the divine? I believe that it is.

So in these twelve meditations – with a prayer for each day and a question to wrestle with – I will introduce you to the Christmassy stuff that brings me joy.

This is the stuff that opens my eyes ever wider to the mystery and wonder of Christ's birth, and my hope is that, whatever brings you joy this Christmas, it might open your eyes ever wider to that mystery and wonder, too. For '... the Word became flesh and lived among us'."

Nicholas Papadopoulos - Dean of Salisbury

There are booklets and bookmarks for you to take home to follow the reflections from Christmas Day until Epiphany. If you are tech-savvy, take a bookmark - with its daily prayer and QR code to download the app and follow online. For those who prefer there are 30 booklets containing all the reflections.

Christingle Making Party!!



Join us in the Hall, Tuesday 23rd December, 10am to make Christingles for Christmas Eve. Refreshments will be provided!! No previous experience needed.

Part-Time Parish Administrator Vacancy

We are looking for an experienced and skilled administrator to come and join Holy Trinity, Prestwood on a semi-flexible, part-time basis to support our work.

Closing Date: 5pm on Sunday 18th January 2026.

Apply online: <https://www.htprestwood.org.uk/recruitment>

TWELVE JOYS OF CHRISTMAS

Meditations for Christmas
and the New Year

NICHOLAS PAPADOPULOS

Wednesday 24th December

Christmas Eve

Prayer for Christmas Eve

Almighty God, you make us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of your Son Jesus Christ: grant that, as we joyfully receive him as our redeemer, so we may with sure confidence behold him when he shall come to be our judge; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Today's Services at Prestwood and Great Hampden

11.15am	Calm Christingle (GH)
3.00pm	Christingle Service- ticketed (HTP)
4.30pm	Christingle Service - ticketed (HTP)
6.00pm	Christingle Service - non-ticketed (HTP)

Prayer for the night

Eternal God, who made this most holy night to shine with the brightness of your one true light: bring us, who have known the revelation of that light on earth, to see the radiance of your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.



For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
Isaiah 9.6

Thursday 25th December
Christmas Eve

Prayer for Christmas Eve

Almighty God, you have given us your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him and as at this time to be born of a pure virgin: grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Today's Services at Prestwood and Great Hampden

9.30am Family Festival Eucharist (HTP)

11.15am Family Festival Communion (GH)



This very day in St David's town your Saviour was born – Christ the Lord!
Luke 2. 11

Sunday 28th December
First Sunday of Christmas

Prayer for the week

Almighty God, who wonderfully created us in your own image and yet more wonderfully restored us through your Son Jesus Christ: grant that, as he came to share in our humanity, so we may share the life of his divinity; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Worship and Events at Prestwood and Great Hampden

8.00am BCP Holy Communion (HTP)

9.30am Parish Eucharist (HTP)

11.15am Morning Prayer - BCP (GH) 24, 31, 19, 36

Monday 29 11.30am The Funeral of the Late Jean Underwood (GH)

Tuesday 30

Wednesday 31

Thursday 1

Friday 2

Saturday 3 8.00am Men's Breakfast (HTP)

Sunday 4 8.00am BCP Holy Communion (HTP)

8.40am Holy Trinity Breakfast Club (HTP)

9.30am Family Eucharist for The Epiphany (HTP)

11.15am Family Service for The Epiphany (GH)

Readings for next Sunday

Isaiah 60.1-6

Ephesians 3.1-12

Matthew 2.1-12

Sunday 4th January

The Epiphany

Prayer for the week

O God, who by the leading of a star manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: mercifully grant that we, who know you now by faith, may at last behold your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Worship and Events at Prestwood and Great Hampden

8.00am BCP Holy Communion (HTP)

8.40am Holy Trinity Breakfast Club (HTP)

9.30am Family Eucharist for The Epiphany (HTP)

11.15am Family Service for The Epiphany (GH)

Monday 5 8.00am Morning Prayer (online)

9.30am Bumps & Babies (HTP)

Tuesday 6 8.00am Morning Prayer (online)

9.30am **Holy Communion (HTP)**

10.00am The Wool Gatherers (HTP)

Wednesday 7 8.00am Morning Prayer (online)

10.30am BCP Holy Communion (HTP)

Thursday 8 8.00am Morning Prayer (online)

10.00am Toddler Thursday (HTP)

Friday 9 8.00am Morning Prayer (online)

Saturday 10

Sunday 11 8.00am BCP Holy Communion (HTP)

9.30am **Parish Eucharist (HTP)**

11.15am **Holy Communion (GH)**

Readings for next Sunday

Isaiah 42.1-9

Acts 10.34-43

Matthew 3.13-end

Rector This position is Vacant

Associate Priest The Reverend Nigel Spoor MA
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Assistant Curate The Reverend Kayleigh Lucas BA
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HTP Office Parish Administrator
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