December 2024			
Date & Month	Time	Type of Service	Church
Sunday 15 December 3rd Sunday of Advent	9:30 am 11:00 am	Parish Communion Family Service	Ponsbourne Brickendon
Wednesday 18 December	9:30 am	Holy Communion Service	Essendon
Sunday 22 December	9:30 am 3:00 pm 6:30 pm 6:30 pm	Parish Communion Nine Lessons & Carols Nine Lessons & Carols Nine lessons & Carols	Bayford Little Berkhamsted Essendon Ponsbourne
Tuesday 24 December Christmas Eve	4:30 pm 11:15 pm 11:15 pm	Crib & Christingle Service Midnight Parish Communion Midnight Parish Communion	Bayford Ponsbourne Essendon
Wednesday 25 December Christmas Day	9:30 am 10:15 am 11:00 am 11:00 am	Parish Communion Family Service Family Service Family Service	Little Berkhamsted Ponsbourne Brickendon Essendon
Sunday 29 December	10:15 am	Group Parish Communion	Brickendon
Wednesday 1 January 2025	No Services		

#### Notices

Advent Sessions. Every Wednesday up to 18 December at 7pm at the Rectory. All Welcome.

14 December 2024 at 7:30 pm Candlelit Supper at Essendon Church

**St Mary's Church Ponsbourne** is open Wednesdays for private prayers or silent time 9:30am -12:30pm

Registration on 3rd Saturday of January 10am to 11:30am at Little Berkhamsted Church.

# HARTFORD HUNDRED WEST GROUP



St Mary - Bayford Holy Cross & St Alban - Brickendon St Mary the Virgin - Essendon St Andrew - Little Berkhamsted St Mary - Ponsbourne

#### Sunday 15 December 2024

9:30 am Parish Communion at Ponsbourne 11:00 am Family Service at Brickendon

#### **Events mid-week**

Wed 18 December at 9:30 am Holy Communion at Essendon

#### Sunday 8 December 2024

9:30 am Parish Communion at Bayford3:00 pm Nine Lessons and Carols at Little Berkhamsted6:30 pm Nine Lessons and Carols at Essendon6:30 pm Nine Lessons and Carols at Ponsbourne

Rector: Rev'd Theresa Musiwacho. Telephone number: 01707 875940

Parish Administrator: Sandra Maniez

E-mail:<u>hartfordhundred@outlook.com</u> Website: <u>www.hartfordhundred.org.uk</u>

"The LORD is near to those who have a broken heart, and saves such as have a contrite spirit". Psalm 34:18

#### PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK IN OUR GROUP:

Little Berkhamsted: Bronwyn, Millie

**Brickendon:** Margaret & Des Hills, Margaret Lambe, Hugh Dunlop, Christine & Bruno Rabouin-Plummer.

**Essendon:** Joan & Beresford Thomson, Keith Venables, Sue Rees, Jo Cotter, Sara, Annabelle.

**Ponsbourne:** Rose Venus, Jacqueline Denise Aziz.

In our Diocese: Hatfield Hyde (St Mary Magdalene)World and Mission: For Christian Unions and other groups in schools.ACP: The Anglican Church of Tanzania.

## Week 3 Advent Prayer – John the Baptist

God our Father, you gave to Zechariah and Elizabeth in their old age a son called John. He grew up strong in spirit, prepared the people for the coming of the Lord, and baptized them in the Jordan to wash away their sins. Help us, who have been baptized into Christ, to be ready to welcome him into our hearts, and to grow strong in faith by the power of the Spirit. We ask this through Jesus Christ, the light who is coming into the world.

Blessed be God for ever.

## Collect

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen** 

### **Post Communion**

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts; kindle in us the fire of your Spirit that when your Christ comes again we may shine as lights before his face; who is alive and reigns now and for ever. **Amen** 

### Philippians 4:4-7

<sup>4</sup> Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. <sup>5</sup> Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. <sup>6</sup> Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup> And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

## Luke 3:7-18

<sup>7</sup> John said to the crowds coming out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? <sup>8</sup> Therefore, bear fruits worthy of repentance, and do not begin 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>9</sup> Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire." <sup>10</sup> And the crowds asked him, "What, then, should we do?" <sup>11</sup> In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none, and whoever has food must do likewise." <sup>12</sup> Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" <sup>13</sup> He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." <sup>14</sup> Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages." <sup>15</sup> As the people were filled with expectation and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, <sup>16</sup> John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water, but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the strap of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>17</sup> His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." <sup>18</sup> So with many other exhortations he proclaimed the good news to the people.