

Benefice of Hardwicke with Elmore and Longney

www.hardwicke-elmore-longney.church

Priest-in-Charge Rev Richard Martin 01452 720015

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Assistant Priests Revds George Parfitt and James Turk

Licenced Readers Pat Buckland, Judy Cheshire and Mike Williams

Covid measures. Please sanitise on entering the church. ***Mask wearing is compulsory unless you are exempt.*** Communion: the priest will intinct the bread for you. **Singing by choir and congregation is allowed but in busy services you will need to keep your mask on.** During the Peace offer your hand or elbow to your neighbours. ***A socially-distanced seating area is available in each Church (but you still have to wear a mask there).***

Today Advent 4, 19th December

9.30am Longney, Holy Communion ***NB not at Elmore***

1100 Hardwicke, Holy Communion

6.30pm Elmore, Nine Lessons and Carols

Readings: Micah 5: 2-5a, Hebrews 10:5-10, Luke 1: 39-45

Prayer at the lighting of the Advent Wreath

Lord Jesus, light of the world, blessed is Gabriel who brought good news, blessed is Mary your mother.

Bless your Church preparing for Christmas and bless us your children, who long for your coming. Amen

Collect for Advent 4

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.

This week

Mon 20th, 10-1pm Sportily community event, Hunts Grove school

Wed 22nd, Hardwicke, 09.30am Holy Communion

Christmas Eve 4pm Hardwicke Masked Crib service – ***ticket only!***

11.15pm Midnight Mass at Hardwicke and Longney

Christmas Day 9.30am Holy Communion at Elmore

11.00 Holy Communion at Hardwicke

Prayer at the lighting of the Advent Wreath

Lord Jesus, light of light, you have come among us. Help us who live by your light to shine as lights in your world. Glory to God in the Highest.

Christmas 1 (St Stephen), 26th December

1100 Hardwicke, Holy Communion

Readings: Acts 7:51-end, Luke 2:41-end

- Doff Stone leads Evening Prayer each day at 6pm on her Facebook page [\(1\) Dorothy Annabel Stone | Facebook](#)
- Daily Hope, a free national telephone line, offers music, prayers and reflections. Available 24 hours a day **0800 804 8044**

Please pray for the sick and struggling: Jenny, Karen, Kate, John, Michelle, Lucy, Josie, Chris, Beryl, Eric, John, Lesley, Dee, Alison, Carol
Also the family and friends of Pamela Gibbs, Peter Morgan, Dan, Wendy's Dad, Shirley Smith, Stella Farrington.

Please pray for Longney and Hardwicke PCCs' re-ordering plans.

Please also pray for Jane Edwards in Mozambique 1021-Edwards.pdf
bmsworldmission.org

Also for Tim Fletcher Pioneer "Sportily" Minister, working on Hunts Grove

Please use the Benefice Prayer diary. It is on our website.

Readings

Micah 5: 2-5a,

'But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah,
though you are small among the clans^[a] of Judah,
out of you will come for me
one who will be ruler over Israel,
whose origins are from of old,
from ancient times.'

³ Therefore Israel will be abandoned
until the time when she who is in labour bears a son,
and the rest of his brothers return
to join the Israelites.

⁴ He will stand and shepherd his flock
in the strength of the LORD,
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.
And they will live securely, for then his greatness
will reach to the ends of the earth.

⁵ And he will be our peace

Hebrews 10: 5-10

Therefore, when Christ came into the world, he said:

'Sacrifice and offering you did not desire,
but a body you prepared for me;
⁶ with burnt offerings and sin offerings
you were not pleased.

⁷ Then I said, "Here I am – it is written about me in the scroll –
I have come to do your will, my God."^[a]

⁸ First he said, 'Sacrifices and offerings, burnt offerings and sin offerings you did not desire, nor were you pleased with them' – though they were offered in accordance with the law. ⁹ Then he said, 'Here I am, I have come to do your will.' He sets aside the first to establish the second. ¹⁰ And by that will, we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Luke 1: 39-45

At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, ⁴⁰ where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹ When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. ⁴²

In a loud voice she exclaimed: 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! ⁴³ But why am I so favoured, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? ⁴⁴ As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵ Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfil his promises to her!'