

Next Sunday 6 November 3rd before Advent

9.30am Elmore: Holy Communion

11am Hardwicke: Holy Communion

Readings: 2 Thessalonian 2:1-5 and 13-end, Luke 20:27-38

PRAYERS PLEASE... for PEACE in Ukraine, South Sudan, West Bank, Haiti, Brazil, Burkino-Faso

...Thank God for grain shipments resuming from Ukraine

...for the sick and struggling: Lesley, Chris, Sean, Tim, Michelle K, Hilarie, Louie, Karen and Keith, Les, Sharon, Mair, Sue.

....for the family and friends of Bob Gale, John, Liz Osborn, Sandra

Kemp, Nan Campbell, Brian Strange, John Colson

.....for Longney and Hardwicke PCCs' re-ordering plans, Elmore's organ and Hardwicke's bells.

.....for Jane Edwards in Mozambique. Her latest prayer letter is at [1022-Edwards.pdf \(bmsworldmission.org\)](https://www.bmsworldmission.org/1022-Edwards.pdf)

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

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

- *Doff Stone leads Evening Prayer each weekday at 6pm on her Facebook page [\(1\) Dorothy Annabel Stone | Facebook](#)*

Advance Notices

The 11am Hardwicke service will take place at Hardwicke Parochial Primary Academy, Poplar Way, on the 2nd Sunday each month BUT NOT IN NOVEMBER!

Sunday 13 November (Remembrance)

Services are: 9.30am (Longney) 1045 Hardwicke, 3.30pm at Elmore war memorial, followed by 4pm in Church

Government heating grant. Please would you consider tithing your £400?

If everyone could give £40 to their Church that would make a huge difference. Thank you!

Benefice of Hardwicke with Elmore and Longney

www.hardwicke-elmore-longney.church

Priest-in-Charge Rev Richard Martin 01452 720015

vicar@hardwicke-elmore-longney.church

Assistant Priest Revd George Parfitt

Licensed Readers Pat Buckland, Judy Cheshire and Mike Williams

Authorised Leaders of Worship: Neil Hollis and Doff Stone.

Today Sunday 30 October 4th before Advent

11am Hardwicke: Christingle Light party. You are invited to come dressed as your favourite saint, superhero, or as an angel

Reading: Luke 19: 1-10

4pm Hardwicke: Service of Thanksgiving and Remembrance, especially for those bereaved in the last year.

This week

Tues 1 Nov: 7.15 Deanery Synod

7.30pm Elmore PCC

Wed 2nd 9.30am Hardwicke Holy Communion

7.30pm Longney PCC, Perrywood House

Sat 5th, 10am-12noon Hardwicke Working party and bonfire

Christmas is coming!

The ministry team would like to encourage Church members not to give each other Christmas cards this year. Instead, we hope you would consider buying one card and putting it in Church for everyone to see, and making a donation to Christian Aid. One way to do this is to buy a charity gift from them and bring that card to Church – details at charity-gifts.christianaid.org.uk.

This weekend many people will be celebrating Hallowe'en. It's a lot of fun and good news for children who like dressing up and sweets. It's also good news for farmers who grow pumpkins!

It originates in the linking of 3 days in the Church's calendar.

31 October is the evening of All Saints' Day (1 November) – saints being the hallowed ones. So the evening before is All Hallows evening – Hallowe'en. It was thought in superstition that those who weren't saints were somehow in touch with us that night – hence the attempts at scary costumes (mostly very camp and silly).

On 1 November we celebrate All the Saints and then on 2 November All Souls – people who loved God and are loved by him for eternity but didn't make it to the dizzy height of being known as saints! People like you and me, in other words!

Our service today is a service of light. Jesus, the light of the World, comes anew to dispel darkness and fear. We are called to be God's superheroes, struggling with him, as our baptism promises remind us, against sin, the world and the devil until our lives end. In fact, to be saints – God's holy people.

Collect

God of holiness,
your glory is proclaimed in every age:
as we rejoice in the faith of your saints,
inspire us to follow their example
with boldness and joy;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Reading for the Fourth Sunday before Advent

Luke 19: 1-10

Then Jesus entered and walked through Jericho. There was a man there, his name Zacchaeus, the head tax man and quite rich. He wanted desperately to see Jesus, but the crowd was in his way—he was a short man and couldn't see over the crowd. So he ran on ahead and climbed up in a sycamore tree so he could see Jesus when he came by.

⁵⁻⁷ When Jesus got to the tree, he looked up and said, "Zacchaeus, hurry down. Today is my day to be a guest in your home." Zacchaeus scrambled out of the tree, hardly believing his good luck, delighted to take Jesus home with him. Everyone who saw the incident was indignant and grumped, "What business does he have getting cosy with this crook?"

⁸ Zacchaeus just stood there, a little stunned. He stammered apologetically, "Master, I give away half my income to the poor—and if I'm caught cheating, I pay four times the damages."

⁹⁻¹⁰ Jesus said, "Today is salvation day in this home! Here he is: Zacchaeus, son of Abraham! For the Son of Man came to find and restore the lost."

