

Next Sunday 12 November (3rd before Advent, Remembrance)

9.30am Longney: Holy Communion

10.45 Hardwicke: All-age worship

3pm Elmore War Memorial: remembrance service

4pm Elmore: Evensong (Psalm 46)

Readings Amos 5: 18-24, Matthew 25: 1-13

YOUR PRAYERS PLEASE... for PEACE in Palestine and Israel, Ukraine, Sudan, Haiti, Burkino-Faso, Niger, Mali.

..... for all refugees and asylum seekers, especially Rohingya Muslims in Bangladesh, and those who have been kidnapped or taken hostage.

...Thank God for diplomats and peace-keepers.

...for the sick and struggling: Chris and Pam, Sean, Gail, Lesley, Tina, Beryl, Mair, Marion, Philippa, Pauline, Eric

.....for the family and friends of Emily, Clare, James, Stephanie, Debbie, Patricia.

.....for Longney's re-ordering now in progress, Hardwicke's plans, Elmore's organ replacement.

..... For Headteachers staff and pupils at Longney, Hardwicke and Hunts Grove schools

.....for Jane Edwards in Mozambique. Her latest blog is

here <https://janeinmozambique.wordpress.com/2023/09/20/time-in-maputo/>

Jane will be speaking at the 11am service at Hardwicke on December 3rd.

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

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

**Benefice of
Hardwicke and Elmore with Longney**

www.hardwicke-elmore-longney.church

Priest-in-Charge Rev Richard Martin 01452 720015

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Assistant Priest Revd George Parfitt

Licenced Readers Pat Buckland, Judy Cheshire and Mike Williams

Authorised Leaders of Worship: Neil Hollis and Doff Stone.

Today Sunday 5 November (4th before Advent)

9.30am Elmore: Holy Communion

11.00 Hardwicke: Simply worship Holy Communion

Readings Micah 3: 5-end. Matthew 24: 1-14

4pm Elmore: Service of thanksgiving and remembrance

Diary for Week beginning 5 November

Mon 6th, 7.30pm Church House: Ministry and Wardens' meeting

Tues 7th, 7.30pm: Elmore PCC

Wed 8th 9.30am Hardwicke: Holy Communion

1030 Toddlers' play and praise

Thursday 9 November, 1045am, the Acorn, Hunts Grove,

Remembrance ceremony

Saturday 11 November, 8.30am-11.30am, Hunts Grove school;

Community outreach breakfast and coffee morning.

Could you spare an hour to help? If so please speak to Richard!

Gloucester Historic Churches Trust Ride and Stride

Thank you to all who sponsored Justine and Richard for this! Justine raised £200 and Richard £250. Half goes to the Trust, the rest to our Churches.

From GARAS

In the last couple of months, we have seen a large number of clients receive their Refugee Status. Daily, we get to celebrate with people as they bring in their decision letters, often representing the end of a long and stressful wait. There are 2 consequences of this high level of decisions, that we would like your help with.

Firstly, as people move out of asylum accommodation, they are currently at high risk of homelessness - particularly those who live in Gloucester. There are 2 organisations - *Refugees at Home* and *NightStop* - that can help people to find temporary housing, matching those in need of somewhere to sleep with those willing to give up a spare room on a temporary basis. Hosts are part of an organisation so they are fully vetted, and those seeking housing go through a referral process - so there is a safety net on both sides. We have worked with both of these organisations for many years, and it's been hugely helpful to be able to refer clients to them on an ad hoc basis. The number of hosts for both organisations has reduced in recent years, partly due to covid and partly due to some hosts moving to the Ukrainian scheme (which is also obviously hugely helpful!), and yet currently the need for hosts for both organisations is currently higher than ever before. If you have a spare room and would like more information about either of these organisations, please look at the following 2

websites: <https://refugeesathome.org/> and <https://www.gloucestershirenightstop.org.uk/>

The second way that we would appreciate your help, is in donating any kitchen equipment that you no longer have a use for. As clients move into their own homes, they have to find saucepans, kettles, microwaves, cutlery, crockery, etc. If you have anything like this, not being used, in your home - or if you are aware of any house clearances where these items may be looking for a home, then please do consider giving them to GARAS. They will be well-used, and will help someone in their transition into their new life in the UK.

Collect for the 4th Sunday before Advent

Almighty and eternal God,
you have kindled the flame of love in the hearts of the saints:
grant to us the same faith and power of love,
that, as we rejoice in their triumphs,
we may be sustained by their example and fellowship;
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.

Micah 3: 5-end

This is what the LORD says: 'As for the prophets who lead my people astray, they proclaim "peace" if they have something to eat, but prepare to wage war against anyone who refuses to feed them.

⁶Therefore night will come over you, without visions, and darkness, without divination. The sun will set for the prophets, and the day will go dark for them.

⁷The seers will be ashamed and the diviners disgraced. They will all cover their faces because there is no answer from God.'

⁸But as for me, I am filled with power, with the Spirit of the LORD, and with justice and might, to declare to Jacob his transgression, to Israel his sin.

⁹Hear this, you leaders of Jacob, you rulers of Israel, who despise justice and distort all that is right; who build Zion with bloodshed, and Jerusalem with wickedness.

Her leaders judge for a bribe, her priests teach for a price, and her prophets tell fortunes for money. Yet they look for the LORD's support and say, 'Is not the LORD among us? No disaster will come upon us.' ¹²Therefore because of you, Zion will be ploughed like a field, Jerusalem will become a heap of rubble, the temple hill a mound overgrown with thickets.

Matthew 24: 1-14

Jesus left the temple and was walking away when his disciples came up to him to call his attention to its buildings. ²'Do you see all these things?' he asked. 'Truly I tell you, not one stone here will be left on another; every one will be thrown down.'³ As Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately. 'Tell us,' they said, 'when will this happen, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?' ⁴Jesus answered: 'Watch out that no one deceives you. ⁵For many will come in my name, claiming, "I am the Messiah," and will deceive many. ⁶You will hear of wars and rumours of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come. ⁷Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places. ⁸All these are the beginning of birth-pains. ⁹'Then you will be handed over to be persecuted and put to death, and you will be hated by all nations because of me. ¹⁰At that time many will turn away from the faith and will betray and hate each other, ¹¹and many false prophets will appear and deceive many people. ¹²Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold, ¹³but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved. ¹⁴And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.