

**YOUR PRAYERS PLEASE... for PEACE in Palestine and Israel, Ukraine, Sudan, Haiti, Syria, the Sahel region.**

**..... for all refugees and asylum seekers, those kidnapped and hostages.**

**...for the sick and struggling:** Chris and Pam, Tina, Marion, Jade, Becci, Claire, Eve, Jessica, Karen and Keith, Carrie, Joyce, Katie and Lucas, Lesley, Denise, Mike, Steve, Sean, Eric, Dee, Jen

**.....for the family and friends of** Nigel, Mike, Eleanor, Phil, Max

.....Hardwicke's plans, Elmore's new organ

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

.....for Jane Edwards in Mozambique. Her latest prayer letter is here:-

[Newsletter Download](#) | [BMS World Mission](#)

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

**GIVE THANKS for Longney's re-ordering and new Church heating – NOW COMPLETED!**

*Benefice Prayer diary is on our website. Paper copies are in each Church*

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY: Christmas Services

TODAY, 4pm Hunts Grove school, community carols

(3.30pm Christingle making)

6.30pm Longney 9 Lessons and Carols

Thurs 19 Dec, 7.30pm, Hardwicke Carol service

Sun 22 Dec 9.30am Longney Crib and Christingle (not Holy Communion)

Christmas Eve

4pm Hardwicke: Crib service

11.15pm Elmore Midnight Mass

11.15pm Hardwicke Midnight Mass

Christmas Day

9.30am Longney Storyteller Holy Communion

11.00 Hardwicke Informal Holy Communion

Sunday 29 Dec, 1030 Longney: Benefice New Year service

***An invitation from Richard...***

New Year's Eve party, Church House, 7.30pm onwards. Pop in for a while or stay till after midnight. All welcome. Bring a little something to share if you can.

**THANK YOU! Longney's Advent Fair raised £1586.50.**

## **Benefice of** **Hardwicke and Elmore with Longney**

[www.hardwicke-elmore-longney.church](http://www.hardwicke-elmore-longney.church)

**Priest-in-Charge** Rev Richard Martin 01452 720015

[vicar@hardwicke-elmore-longney.church](mailto:vicar@hardwicke-elmore-longney.church)

**Assistant Priests** Revd George Parfitt (currently on Sabbatical)

Rev'd Duncan Hutchison, on secondment from Hucclecote

**Licenced Readers** Pat Buckland, Judy Cheshire and Mike Williams

**Authorised Leaders of Worship:** Neil Hollis and Doff Stone.

**Pioneer Sports Minister:** Tim Fletcher

*Please take this sheet away with you*

**Today Sunday 15 December, Advent 3**

9.30am Elmore: Holy Communion

11.00 Hardwicke School: All-age informal worship

Readings: Philippians 4: 4-7, Luke 3: 7-18

4pm Hunts Grove school: Community Carol service

6.30pm Longney: Nine Lessons and Carols

Week beginning 15 December

Monday 16<sup>th</sup>, 0930-1130, Hardwicke: Hunts Grove school RE lesson

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> NO 9.30am Hardwicke, Holy Communion,

Instead, 1030 at St Nicholas Court

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup>, 2.30pm Longney: Longney school Christingle service

**Next Sunday 22 December, Advent 4**

9.30am Longney: Christingle and Crib service (not Holy Communion)

11.00 Hardwicke: Holy Communion

4pm Elmore: Evening Worship

Readings: Hebrews 10: 5-10, Like 1: 39-45

**If you missed the announcement last week.... Richard will be retiring in 2025, his last services here will be on Sunday 27 April**

### Collect for Advent 3

God for whom we watch and wait,  
you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son:  
give us courage to speak the truth,  
to hunger for justice,  
and to suffer for the cause of right,  
with Jesus Christ our Lord.

### Readings for Advent 3

#### Philippians 4: 4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: rejoice! <sup>5</sup> Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. <sup>6</sup> Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. <sup>7</sup> And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

#### Luke 3: 7-18

John said to the crowds coming out to be baptised by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath?' <sup>8</sup> Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our father." For I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. <sup>9</sup> The axe has been laid to the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.'

<sup>10</sup> 'What should we do then?' the crowd asked.

<sup>11</sup> John answered, 'Anyone who has two shirts should share with the one who has none, and anyone who has food should do the same.'

<sup>12</sup> Even tax collectors came to be baptised. 'Teacher,' they asked, 'what should we do?'

<sup>13</sup> 'Don't collect any more than you are required to,' he told them.

<sup>14</sup> Then some soldiers asked him, 'And what should we do?'

He replied, 'Don't extort money and don't accuse people falsely – be content with your pay.'

<sup>15</sup> The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Messiah.

<sup>16</sup> John answered them all, 'I baptise you with<sup>[a]</sup> water. But one who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptise you with<sup>[b]</sup> 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 barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.' <sup>18</sup> And with many other words John exhorted the people and proclaimed the good news to them.