

YOUR PRAYERS PLEASE

...for PEACE in the world especially where people are fighting and suffering and dying, for refugees and asylum seekers, for those kidnapped and hostages.

... *please pray for:* Libby, Tina, Jane, Karen, Mike and Marion, Eve, Sean, Sharon, Paul, Llawela, Andrew B, Paul M, Grahame, Nadia, Georgina, Autumn and parents Shauna and Pascal

....*for the family and friends* of those who have died especially over this festive season.

... for The Benefice vacancy and the appointing of a new priest.

....for Hardwicke's restructuring plans, Elmore's new organ, Longney's urgent roof repairs

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

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

Benefice Prayer Diary- Paper copies are in each Church

Dates for your diary.

December 28th – Longney Christingle at 9.30am

Hardwicke Family Communion 11.00am followed by cake

Elmore Evensong 4pm followed by a tea party

Pray for Gloucester - to join in / find out more click on

<http://www.pray4gloucester.uk>

Anything for the newsletter to vannessa_moore@yahoo.co.uk by Monday if possible

Benefice of Hardwicke and Elmore with Longney

www.hardwicke-elmore-longney.church

Priest-in-Charge vacancy, vicar@hardwicke-elmore-longney.church

and 01452 720015 are still in use

Assistant Priests Revd George Parfitt

Revd Duncan Hutchison, (on secondment from Hucclecote)

Licenced Readers Judy Cheshire

Reader in Training Richard Flower

Authorised Leaders of Worship: Neil Hollis, Doff Stone

Justine Sullivan and Linda Cook

Pioneer Sports Minister: Tim Fletcher

Please take this sheet home and use it for your prayers and Bible study

Today 21st December 4th Sunday of Advent

9.30am - Elmore Holy Communion

11.00am – Hardwicke All Age Worship

6.30am - Elmore Nine Lessons and Carols

Week beginning 21st December

December 23rd - Prayer Group at Pam's

December 24th – 4.00pm *Hardwicke Crib Service*

- 11.15pm *Longney Midnight Mass*

11.15 pm *Hardwicke Midnight Mass with Bishop Robert*

Christmas Day - 9.30am *Elmore*

11.00am *Hardwicke*

Next Sunday – 28th December the first Sunday of Christmas Year A

Duncan's last day with us

9.30am Longney Christingle

11.00am Hardwicke Holy Communion followed by cake

4.00pm Elmore Evensong with Mince Pies and Mulled Wine

Readings – 1 Corinthians 1 v 26 – 29 Matthew 2 v 13 - 18

Collect for – Sunday 21st December 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, Amen

Reading Romans 1 v 1 – 7

Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God— the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures regarding his Son, who as to his earthly life was a descendant of David, and who through the Spirit of holiness was appointed the Son of God in power by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord. Through him we received grace and apostleship to call all the Gentiles to the obedience that comes from faith for his name's sake. And you also are among those Gentiles who are called to belong to Jesus Christ. To all in Rome who are loved by God and called to be his holy people: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel Reading Matthew 1 v 18 – end

This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about; His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly. But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfil what the Lord had said through the prophet: “The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel” (which means “God with us”) When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.