

Harbury Notices

Morning Prayer meeting in the Tom Hauley Room at 8.30am Tue-Fri. All welcome.

New rotas for readings and intercessions are now ready. Please collect from back of church.

Bible society interactive reflective spaces these have been prepared as suggestions for schools to mark Advent. Some will be in Church from Monday 3rd and you are welcome to come and use them when the children are not there.

Quiet Space Wed 13th December 10am for 10.30am THR At 10am onwards refreshments will be available for anyone who may like to meet other people coming for 'quiet space'. At 10.30am following a brief reading from a leader there will be 20minutes of quiet silence. If you prefer just to come to the 10.30 quiet space that is fine. Just turn up you be very welcome. For more detailed info see H&L News or contact Jill Winter 612585 07941872383 or Gill Guilford 07856 764814

Pleasant Pastimes 13th Dec—this will be the last meeting of the year. We will resume on 10th Jan 2024

“Dress Up Nativity” at 3pm on Christmas Eve. Come and join our short, family friendly service – dress up as your favourite character from the Nativity Story (adults are welcome to join in). Kings, Marys, Sheep, Stars, Angels – you name it, there is a role for everyone. We have some costumes available.

Ladbroke Notices

Heritage & Friendship Group, Wed 6th Dec, 10.30 - noon Ladbroke Village Hall. Come and chat over a cuppa and share Christmas memories. All welcome.

administrator@allsaintsharbury.org to include messages in the pew sheet.

REFLECTIONS FROM THE RECTORY

One of the things that always strikes me about the readings in Advent, is the way they often return to the theme of light and dark. And maybe for many people the world seems a pretty dark place at the moment, with the terrible conflicts in Ukraine and Gaza, the challenges so many are facing with the cost of living, soaring mortgages and an NHS pushed to the limit. And for all of us when the days are dark and miserable, it affects the way we feel. Seasonal Affective Disorder they call it. We become gloomy and despondent. We forget that above the clouds the sun is still shining. The light we enjoy so much is still there but it is just out of sight for a time. But Jesus is the light of the world the Bible tells us. This is the light that came to save and not to condemn. This is the light that brings healing and forgiveness. This is light that brings life. This is the Light that is Life itself. The light is always shining, even if sometimes we prefer to hide in the dark, and sometimes the light builds gradually, like the growing dawn. In Advent the light builds as we approach the day of Jesus coming, until eventually like the sunrise it bursts over the horizon driving out the darkness, illuminating everything around us, and transforming all that we can see. Other light sources are unreliable. But Jesus the light of the world is eternal and dependable. The light coming into the world can never be extinguished. Yet sometimes, when our world seems a very dark place we need someone to lead us to the light. Maybe someone has guided us in the past, and maybe now we can lead others to the light.

Prayer

Lord, we offer up to you those we know who are going through times of darkness. We think of them and ask, gracious God, that this advent you may bring them light, hope, love and peace. In Jesus' name, Amen.

HARBURY, LADBROKE & UFTON CHURCHES



Notice Sheet Sunday 3rd December 2023 Advent 1

Almighty God,
as your kingdom dawns,
turn us from the darkness of sin to the
light of holiness,
that we may be ready to meet you
in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

THIS WEEKS SERVICES:

9:00am	Holy Communion	Harbury
10:30am	Little Saints	Harbury
10:30am	Family service	Ladbroke

THIS WEEK

Monday 4th December (Vicar's day off)

7:30pm WI Carol service Harbury

Tuesday 5th December

8:30am Morning prayer Harbury

Wednesday 6th December

8:30am Morning prayer Harbury

2:00pm Mother's Union Harbury

Thursday 7th December

8:30am Morning prayer Harbury

10.00am Holy Communion THR

Friday 8th December

8:30am Morning prayer Harbury

8.00pm Bellringing Practice Harbury

Saturday 9th December

8:30am Morning prayer Harbury

10:00am Coffee morning THR

Multiple Sclerosis

Sunday 10th December

9:00am Holy Communion Ladbroke

10:30am Holy Communion Harbury

**Any safeguarding concerns please contact
safeguarding lead Amy Pedvin-Lewis or Rev Andy .
Churchwardens:**

Harbury: Elizabeth McBride
Andy Dean

Ladbroke: Peter Rigby
Sue Moore

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Kate, Margaret, Christina, Tony, Judy, Carol,
Charles, Bryan, David, Pippa, Ian, Sam, Joy,
Chris, Caroline, Lee, Karen, Nora, John,
Jacqui, Eveline.

All those who have lost a loved one.

BIBLE READINGS

Isaiah 64.1-9

64 O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence -² as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil—to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence!³ When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.⁴ From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him.⁵ You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed.⁶ We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.⁷ There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.⁸ Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand.⁹ Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity for ever. Now consider, we are all your people.

Mark 13.24-37

The Coming of the Son of Man

²⁴ 'But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not

give its light,²⁵ and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

²⁶ Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in clouds" with great power and glory.²⁷ Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

The Lesson of the Fig Tree

²⁸ 'From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near.²⁹ So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he^[a] is near, at the very gates.³⁰ Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place.³¹ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

The Necessity for Watchfulness

³² 'But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.³³ Beware, keep alert;^[b] for you do not know when the time will come.³⁴ It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch.³⁵ Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn,³⁶ or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly.³⁷ And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.'

**If you, or someone you know needs additional support, or would appreciate home communion
please contact Rev Andy: rev.andyb@gmail.com 01926 714295**