Second Sunday before Advent

15th November 2026

Welcome to our services today

THE PRIORY CHURCH

8.00am **Holy Communion BCP** *(Readings Page No: 195 in red prayer book)*

President: Rev'd John Staples

10.00am **Sung Eucharist**

President: Rev'd Richard Partridge
Preacher: Rev'd Tom Stuckey
Choir: Lower Voices
Hymns: 449, 239, 420, 377
Voluntary: **Antony Baldwin** *Cantilena*
Setting: **Edward Bairstow** *Communion Service in E flat*
Motet: **Andrew Parnell** *Occuli Omnium*
Voluntary: **Antony Baldwin** *Gigue de Trompette*

6.00pm **Congregational Evensong**

Officiant: Rev'd Richard Partridge
Preacher: Mrs Hannah Hoskin - LLM
Hymns: 359, 18, 360, 353
Psalm: Psalm 89: 19-29 *(Page No: 460 in red prayer book)*
Responses: **Ferial**
Canticles: **Set Chant**
Middle Voluntary: **Percy Whitlock** *Fidelis*
Readings: 1 Kings 1: 15-40 *and Revelation 1: 4-18 (Page Nos: OT 312 and NT 242 in green Bible)*
Voluntary: **George Frideric Handel** *Organ Concerto No: 2 (1st Movement)*

ST GEORGE'S CHURCH, JUMPERS

10.00am **Sung Eucharist** **President:** Rev'd James Robertson

During this service there will be an opportunity to give towards the ministry, mission, maintenance, and music of the Priory Church. We depend on the generosity of everyone who comes to Priory, to help us preserve the building for future generations as a place of welcome, worship, and mission. Alternatively, you can make a donation using the QR code here with your smart phone.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday 16th November

9.30am	Eucharist	Rev'd Richard Partridge

Tuesday 17th November

9.30am	Eucharist	Rev'd Richard Partridge
10.30am	Friends of the Priory - Speaker Meeting in the Lady Chapel	
7.00pm	St George's Church Choir practice	

Wednesday 18th November

11.00am	Eucharist with Hymns and anointing	Rev'd John Staples and Rev'd Richard Partridge

Thursday 19th November

10.00am	Holy Communion (St George's)	Rev'd Angela Newton
11.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Rev'd James Robertson

Sunday 22nd November – Christ the King

The Priory:

8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	**President:** Rev'd Richard Partridge
10.00am	Sung Eucharist	**President:** Rev'd Richard Partridge **Preacher:** Mr Will Howard - LLM

Readings: Ezekiel 34: 11-16, 20-24, Ephesians: 1-15-end, Matthew 25: 31-end

6.00pm	Solemn Evensong and Benediction **N.B. Please note the change of date**	**Officiant:** Rev'd Richard Partridge

St George's:

9.30am	Sung Eucharist	**President:** Rev'd John Staples

These services are in addition to the regular Morning Prayer at 8.30am (via Zoom) and Evening Prayer at 4pm (in The Priory) Monday to Thursday, to which all are welcome.

Christchurch Priory 10am Sung Eucharist (Readings also for the 9.30am Eucharist Service at St George's Church)

Readings

THE FIRST READING Zephaniah 1: 7, 12-end

Be silent before the Lord God! For the day of the Lord is at hand; the Lord has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests.

At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts, 'The Lord will not do good, nor will he do harm.' Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them. The great day of the Lord is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there. That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements. I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the Lord, their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung. Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the Lord's wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

THE SECOND READING 1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, 'There is peace and security', then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labour pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night.

But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

THE GOSPEL READING Matthew 25: 14-30

'For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, "Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents." His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, "Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents." His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, "Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours." But his master replied, "You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

The Collect for Today

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son was revealed to destroy the works of the devil and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life: grant that we, having this hope, may purify ourselves even as he is pure; that when he shall appear in power and great glory we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Parish Prayers

The sick or in distress: Jill, Alana, Tom, Rhoda, Tom, Cora, Brenda, Shirley, Georgina, Gill, Archie, Lisa, Peter, Jenny, Craig, Jean, Margaret, Cindy, Ivy, Kimberley, Hilary, Lyn, Myrtle.
The long-term sick: Brian, Stewart, Valerie, Merrilyn, Chrissy, Chris.
Those recently departed: Maggie Rees, Betty Mennell, Pip Marshall
Those whose anniversary of death falls at this time: Pamela Beagley (15th), John Strawbridge, Marjorie Forster (17th), Harry Beagley (18th), Barbara Green (19th) Harry Dwight (20th), Robert Moseley (21st).

Parish Notices, News and Events

Advance Notice of changes to Evening Services at the Priory
Please note that the starting time for Darkness to Light on Advent Sunday, 29th November will be 6.30pm (not 6pm). The same will apply for the two services of Nine Lessons and Carols on Sunday 20th and Thursday 24th December (6.30pm). (All other Sunday evening services in November and December will continue to begin at 6pm).

Advent Small Groups: I am very grateful to Canon Paul Harris who has written a course for our groups to follow during Advent entitled, "Advent Unwrapped." This will be a four-week course with four themes, Hope, Joy, Readiness, and Peace. Further details and sign-up sheets are available this week.

Advance Notice regarding the large Priory Car Park and free parking
The large Priory car park will be free for everyone to use on Saturday 28th November and Saturday 5th December. This is in keeping with the free parking offered at other car parks in town on these two days.

FRIENDS OF THE PRIORY CHURCH – Reg. Charity No. 1063246 - SPEAKER MEETING, open to all, in the Lady Chapel at the Priory Church on **Tuesday 17th November 2026**, at 10.30 am to 12.00 pm. **Speaker: PETER HELLAWELL,** who will give a lively and informative talk on **St. Michael's Loft Museum, Christchurch Priory. The talk will be followed by a private viewing of St. Michael's Loft Museum.** Tea, coffee, and biscuits will be provided. Suggested donation of £3 on the door. We would be grateful if you could let us know if you will be attending, either through the Friends' website www.friendsofchristchurchpriory.org.uk or alternatively in writing to Diane Wright, Friends of the Priory Church, c/o Vestry, 1 Quay Road, Christchurch, BH23 1BU. Thank you.

ARTS AND CRAFTS AND THE PRIORY CHRISTMAS FAIR – 28th November 2026
Cake Boxes are being given out today and next Sunday, please take one and return it on Saturday 28th November, containing a cake or biscuits etc.
We will also be needing books, jewellery, jigsaws and toys, bottles, gifts for the tombola, bric-a-brac and items to make up a Christmas Hamper, please.
Thank you, Pat Richards.

Bookstall at The Christmas Fair
The bookstall is always busy with browsers and buyers, so we need a team of helpers to cover this on Saturday 28 November 10am-6pm. If you could spare any time, please contact James Robertson at revjr51@gmail.com or 07749 227015. All help gratefully received!

Christmas Wreath Making Classes: Following the success of our Wreath Making Class last year, we are planning two afternoon sessions plus two evening sessions this year. These will be held on, **26th November 3pm and 7pm and 30th November 3pm and 7pm.** Room 8 becomes our workshop, and smaller classes will enable one-to-one professional tuition. All materials will be provided and refreshments will be served. Very positive feedback from last year showed we all had fun and some very beautiful wreaths were created!

These can be bought via our website
https://www.christchurchpriory.org/services-and-events
or by calling our Box Office on 01202 143867
(Please note that some event tickets are sold directly through the event organiser).

Please see details of all events on the next page:

Christchurch Priory
Advent and Christmas 2026

November

28th Christmas Arts and Crafts Christmas Fair 10am
29th From Darkness to Light - 6.30pm

December

3rd Christmas Boscombe Salvation Army Band - 7.30pm
5th Handel's Messiah** - 7.30pm
6th Christingle Service - 3pm
12th Christchurch Music Centre Concert ** - 7pm
19th Carols for Kids - 10.30am
19th Christchurch Community Carols - 7.30pm
20th Nine Lessons and Carols - 6.30pm
21st Carols in the Car Park - 5pm
23rd The Snowman** - 1.30pm, 3pm, 5pm & 6.30pm
24th Crib Service - 11am and 3pm
24th Nine Lessons and Carols - 6.30pm
24th Midnight Mass - 11.15pm
25th Parish Sung Eucharist for Christmas Day - 10am

**Tickets must be purchased for these events
For more details please scan the code or visit
www.christchurchpriory.org/services-and-events
Tel: 01202 143867

**Wishing everyone a very
Happy Christmas**

Father Christmas: I am delighted to let you know that for the first time in my memory, I have arranged for Father Christmas to visit the Priory with presents!! This visit is happening on the 23rd December, the same day as the Snowman performances. Please book your place through the Parish Office. Tel: 01202 143859 or Email: parishoffice@christchurchpriory.org

Social Media @ Christchurch Priory

I have recently taken on responsibility for our social media, and I'm really looking forward to helping raise the profile of Christchurch Priory.

My aim is to make us more visible, promote forthcoming events and, just as importantly, share the wonderful things happening within our Priory community. Please send to me via the Parish Office, parishoffice@christchurchpriory.org

But I need your help to make this happen!

If you haven't already, please start by following us on Facebook. Then, whenever you see one of our posts, please take a moment to **like and share it**.

It may seem like a small thing, but every like and share really does make a difference. The more engagement a post receives, the further it reaches, helping us spread the word to a much wider audience.

Together, we can help attract more visitors, encourage new people to join our congregation and ensure that all the wonderful things happening at Christchurch Priory reach as many people as possible.

Thank you so much for your support. Every like, share and follow is genuinely appreciated.

Sally

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Interim Vicar: The Reverend Richard Partridge - Tel: 01425 279043
Email: revrichard@christchurchpriory.org
Licensed Lay Ministers (LLMs): Mr Will Howard - william.howard@winchesterdiocese.org
Mrs Hannah Hoskin - hannahhoskinllm@icloud.com
Churchwardens: Hazel Baker and Pat Richards
ST GEORGE'S CHURCH, JUMPERS ROAD - Deputy Churchwardens: John Hicks and Jeff Perkins
ST JOHN'S MISSION CHURCH, PUREWELL c/o The Priory Church