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## This Sunday in the Benefice – 22nd November

- 9 AM – BCP Morning Prayer at St Peter's Bourton-on-Dunsmore
- 9 AM – Celtic Breakfast Service at St Marks Flecknoe
- 11 AM - Communion Service at All Saints Stretton-on-Dunsmore
- 11AM - Morning Worship Service at St Nicholas Willoughby

More details about our services




## Diary 19th -18th November

**Thursday 19th November**

10-12.00 - Coffee Stop Stretton

**Friday 20th November**

NO BIBLE BOOK CLUB

**Saturday 21st November**

9.30am - Morning Prayer Stretton

**Sunday 22nd November**

SUNDAY SERVICES (SEE ABOVE)

**Tuesday 24th November:**

9am - Zoom Morning Prayer

12-1pm Stretton Soup Stop

**Wednesday 25th November**

9.30am - Morning Prayer Birdingbury

10.30am Advent Course Birdingbury (SEE BELOW)

7pm - Youth Group St Cuthbert's Room

N.B. This weekly diary is compiled by Rev Phil, who does his best to include everything happening across the benefice. However, with so much going on, it is not always possible to guarantee every event will be included unless details are sent in directly. If you would like an activity or event included, please email details by 9pm on the Wednesday evening before that week's e-news is sent out.




## 2026 Advent Course

As Christmas approaches, our thoughts naturally turn toward gift-giving, busy preparations, and the rush of the season. This Advent, take a step back from the commercial noise to explore the true heart of the Christmas story: God's gift of grace, freely given to each of us.

Over this four-week series, we will reflect on what grace really means and how God meets us in our everyday lives through the stories of the Nativity. The above video introduces the format.

**Course Outline**

- **Week 1: Mary** – A grace that calls us in unexpected moments
- **Week 2: Elizabeth** – A grace that brings hope when we least expect it
- **Week 3: Joseph** – A grace that reassures us in times of uncertainty
- **Week 4: The Shepherds** – A grace that is freely given to everyone

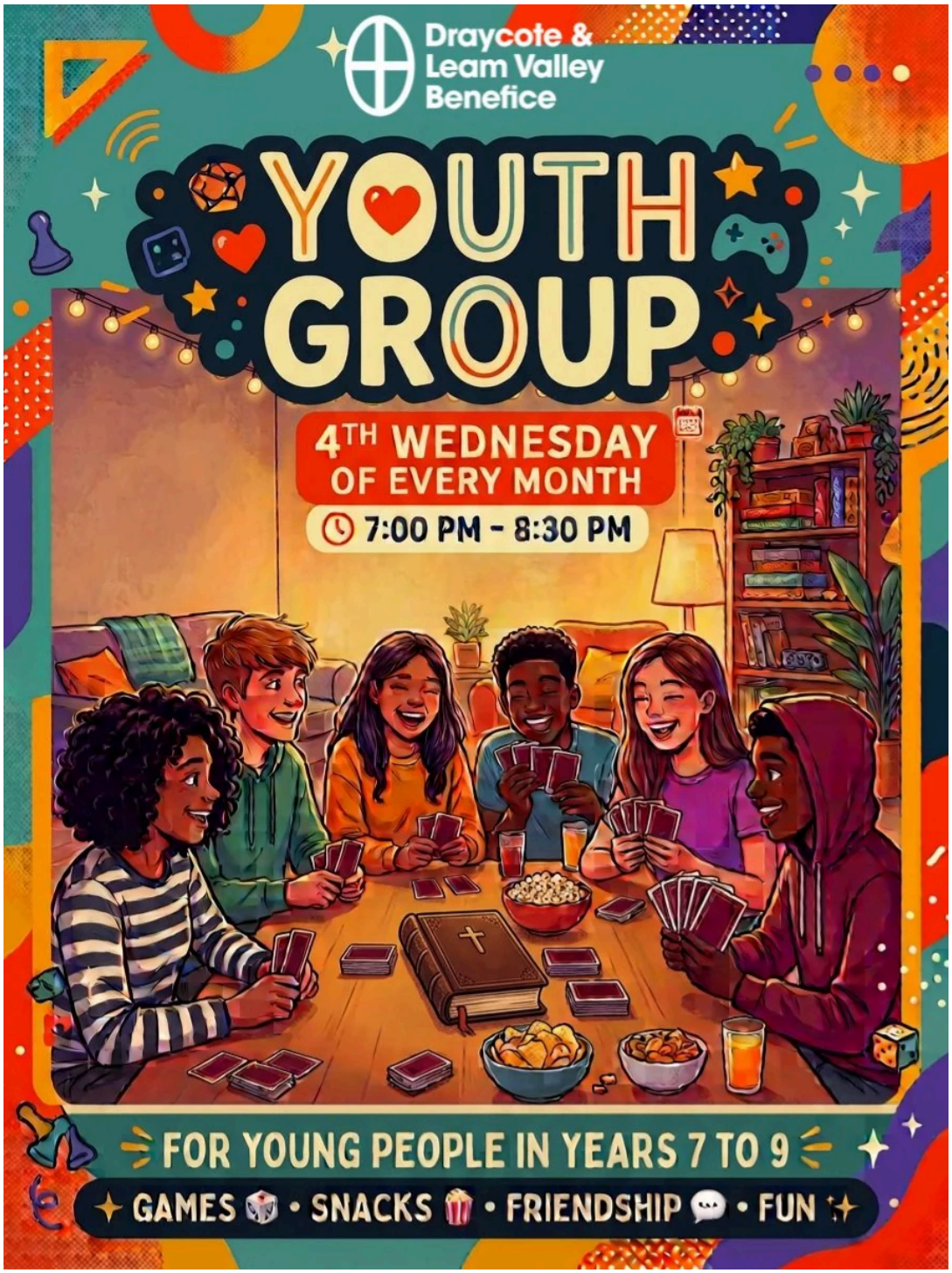
**How to Join Us**

- **Online:** New video sessions will be released on our YouTube channel every **Tuesday at 6:00 pm** throughout Advent. (for you to watch at your leisure)

- **In Person:** Join Cathy and Karen to hear the reflections in person and take part in optional creative crafting every **Wednesday morning from 10:30 am** in the Birdingbury Club in Birdingbury.

  *"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God."* —
  Ephesians 2:8

Everyone is warmly welcome to join for one session or the whole journey. We look forward to sharing this season with you!




## Youth Group

Looking for a relaxed, welcoming space for young people in Years 7 to 9 to hang out, play games, and explore the Bible together? Come and join us **this Wednesday, 25th November**!

**When & Where**

- **When:** This Wednesday, 25th November, **7:00 pm – 8:30 pm** *(we meet on the fourth Wednesday of every month)*

- **Where:** St Cuthbert's Room, Knightlow Primary School
- **Cost:** Completely free!

**What to Expect**

- **Games & Snacks:** We spend most of the evening playing social deduction board games (like *Mafia* and *The Traitors*) alongside plenty of snacks.
- **Bible Time:** At the halfway point, we pause for a short, relaxed 10-minute chat around the Bible.

**Getting Involved** Whether you've been coming for ages or want to try it out for the first time, we'd love to see you there—and feel free to bring friends along!

- **Planning to come?** Please ask a parent or guardian to fill out our online contact and medical form




## Celebrate the Season: Advent & Christmas Services 2026

You are warmly invited to join us across our churches as we prepare for and celebrate the birth of Christ. Whether you are looking for quiet reflection, traditional festive carols by candlelight, or fun family services, there is a warm welcome waiting for you at every service listed below.

### Sunday 29th November – Advent Sunday

- **9:00am – Blue Christmas** | *St Peter's, Grandborough*

*(A gentle, reflective service for those finding the season difficult)*

- **4:00pm – Advent & Christingle Service** | *St Nicholas, Willoughby*

### Sunday 6th December

- **3:00pm – St Nicholas Day Evensong** | *St Nicholas, Frankton*

### Sunday 13th December – 3rd Sunday of Advent

- **11:00am – Advent Songs of Praise** | *St Peter's, Grandborough*
- **4:00pm – Family Carols by Candlelight** | *St Nicholas, Willoughby*
- **6:00pm – Carols by Candlelight** | *St Mark's, Flecknoe*

### Sunday 20th December – 4th Sunday of Advent

- **11:00am – Advent Songs of Praise** | *St Leonard's, Birdingbury*
- **4:00pm – Family Carol Service** | *Broadwell Methodist Church*
  *(A joint service with the Methodist Church)*
- **6:00pm – Carols by Candlelight** | *All Saints, Stretton-on-Dunsmore*

### Tuesday 22nd December

- **6:00pm – Carols by Candlelight** | *St Peter's, Bourton-on-Dunsmore*

### Christmas Eve – Thursday 24th December

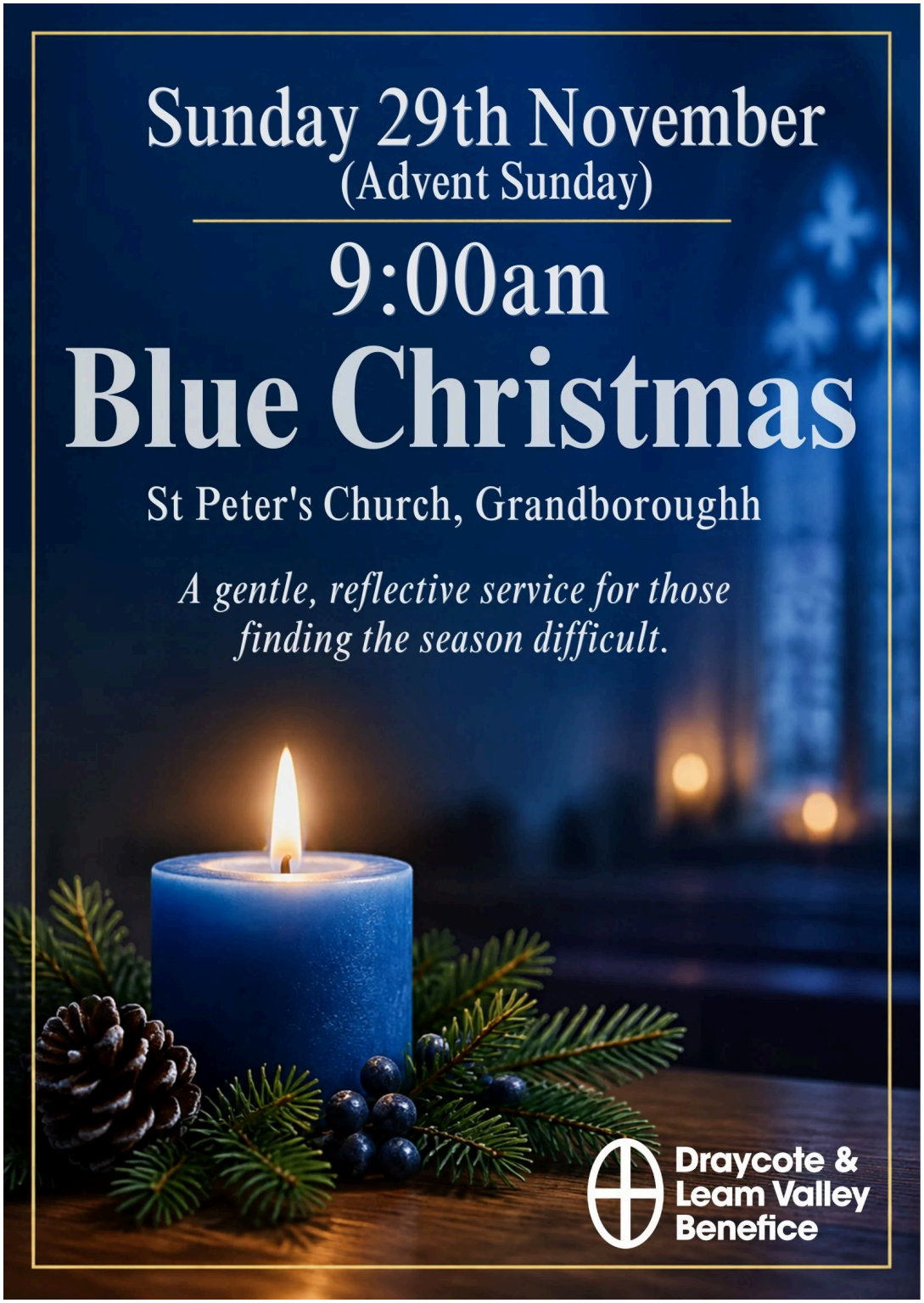
- **4:00pm – Christingle Service** | *All Saints, Stretton-on-Dunsmore*
- **6:00pm – Carols by Candlelight** | *St Peter's, Grandborough*
- **9:30pm – Bethlehem Communion** | *All Saints, Leamington Hastings*

### Christmas Day – Friday 25th December

- **9:00am – BCP Holy Communion** | *St Nicholas, Frankton*
- **10:00am – Allsorts Christmas** | *St Leonard's, Birdingbury*
- **10:30am – Christmas Day Communion** | *All Saints, Stretton-on-Dunsmore*

*All are welcome—bring along family, friends, and neighbours as we share the light and joy of Christmas together!*

We've got a Poster with all of these details which can be downloaded and printed to be put up which can be downloaded here




## A Space for Quiet Reflection: Blue Christmas Service

Now that the Christmas adverts are filling our screens, the festive season is well and truly underway. While Christmas is a time of joy and

celebration for many, we know that for others it can be a painful, lonely, or overwhelming time of year.

If you are finding the season difficult, or if you simply need a quiet moment to catch your breath amidst the bustle, you are warmly invited to our **Blue Christmas Service**.

Designed to offer a gentler, more mellow tone, this service provides space for quiet reflection, candle lighting, and stilling ourselves in God's peace.

- **Date:** Sunday 29th November (Advent Sunday)
- **Time:** 9:00 am
- **Location:** St Peter's, Grandborough

Everyone is welcome, wherever you find yourself this season.




## St Nicholas Day Choral Evensong at Frankton

**3pm on 6th December 2026 at St Nicholas, Frankton**

As part of our wide range of festive services and events across the benefice this Christmas, **St. Nicholas Church, Frankton** is hosting a choral evensong this to celebrate their Patron Saint -  St. Nicholas.

Everyone across the benefice is warmly invited to join the Frankton community for an uplifting service featuring a visiting choir, followed

by refreshments.

### Booking & Details

To help the team manage catering numbers, **free tickets for the refreshments must be booked in advance** via Eventbrite:

- **Book online:** Eventbrite - Patronal Festival Choral Evensong and Carol Service




## Sunday Teaching On Demand

You can watch last Sunday's Sermon by clicking on the image above, a new reflection will be posted on Sunday —

We also have nearly four years of sermons, Bible teaching, reflections, and creative resources available online, helping you stay rooted in God's Word whenever and wherever suits you.

🎥 Watch on YouTube
🎧 Listen on Spotify

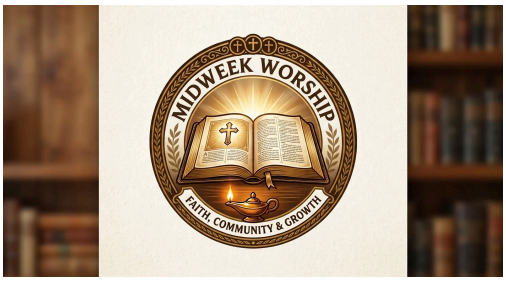
If you'd prefer, you can also browse our full sermon and video library on our website.




## Small Groups

We have many opportunities to meet together to explore faith — in person, on Zoom, during the day, and in the evening. Click the button below for details of our different groups and how to get involved.

Small Groups




## Midweek Worship

We gather regularly for worship during the week, both in person and on Zoom, through Morning Prayer, Communion, and other simple rhythms of worship. Click the button below to explore our midweek services.

Midweek Worship



## Community Activities

There are many community activities taking place across our villages — from our weekly Coffee Stop in Stretton to our occasional Sing-along-and-Slice



## Children and families

We offer a variety of activities for children and families, from monthly Building Church with Lego, crafts, and Bible fun to our monthly youth group for school years 7, 8 and 9. Click the button below to explore what's on offer.

in Willoughby. Click the button below to see what's happening.

Community Activities

Children and families

**Draycote and Leam Valley Benefice**

Clydan, Thurlaston
United Kingdom

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