**NEWS UPDATE**—starting 21<sup>st</sup> December Dear Friends, dates for your diaries:

TUESDAY  $30^{th}$  DECEMBER -15:00 Christmas Afternoon Tea in the Church Hall.

To book a place at this free event please contact Claire Glover 01939 232682 or email: <a href="mailto:claireglover728@gmail.com">claireglover728@gmail.com</a>

SUNDAY 1st FEBRUARY - 14:30

Piano Recital by Professor Graham Scott

Tickets £12 available from: Elaine: 07969 511590 or Wendy: 07828 282996

## **ROTAS**

I will shortly be preparing the rota of people to read lessons, lead intercessions, welcome people to our 09:45 service and to serve coffee after that service. If you can help with any of these tasks please speak to me, or let me know your availability by returning a completed form (from the back of church), by Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> December. Thank you.

To view our January services please go to our website:

https://wemcofe.co.uk

To view the December/January Magazine please go to our website:

https://wemcofe.co.uk

I wish you all a Very Happy Christmas

# Services in the Benefice

Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> December—ADVENT 4		
WEM	08:00 09:45	Holy Eucharist Holy Eucharist
WESTON	11:00	Holy Eucharist
LEE	18:00	Carol Service
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> December—Carol Service		
WEM	19:30	Lessons and Carols
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> December—Christmas Eve		
WEM	15:00 23:30	Crib Service Midnight Mass
WESTON	17:00	Carol Service
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> December—Christmas Day		
WEM	09:45	Christmas Eucharist
WESTON	No Service	
LEE	11:15	Christmas Eucharist
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> December—CHRISTMAS 1		
WEM	08:00 09:45	Holy Eucharist Holy Eucharist
WESTON	11:00	Holy Eucharist
LEE	11:15	Morning Prayer
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Come and join us for coffee and biscuits in the hall after the 9:45 service.

ALL WELCOME!



Sybil Farmer, PCC Lay Chair SS Peter & Paul's Church, Wem St Peter & St Paul's, Wem 4th SUNDAY of ADVENT Sunday 21st December 2025

#### THE COLLECT

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.

## 1<sup>st</sup> READING: ISAIAH 7:10-16

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, <sup>11</sup>Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. <sup>12</sup>But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. <sup>13</sup>Then Isaiah said: 'Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? <sup>14</sup>Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. <sup>15</sup>He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. <sup>16</sup>For before the child knows how to refuse the

evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.

# 2<sup>nd</sup> READING: ROMANS 1:1-7

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, <sup>2</sup>which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, <sup>3</sup>the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh <sup>4</sup>and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, <sup>5</sup>through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, <sup>6</sup>including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

<sup>7</sup> To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

### THE GOSPEL: MATTHEW 1:18-end

<sup>18</sup> Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup>Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man

and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. <sup>20</sup>But just when he had resolved to do 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 as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup>She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.' <sup>22</sup>All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

23 'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel', which means, 'God is with us.'
 24 When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, 25 but had no marital relations with her until she had

### THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

Heavenly Father,

who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of the promised saviour: fill us your servants with your grace, that in all things we may embrace

your holy will and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## Prayer Diary For The Week Beginning Sunday 21st December 2025 4th SUNDAY of ADVENT

"Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has come to his people and redeemed them."

Zechariah's Song. Luke 1:68

#### **Today**

Let us be filled with praise and thanksgiving for the birth of Jesus, our Saviour and Redeemer, who has revealed the love of God to us.

#### Monday 22nd December

Pray for the Lord's blessing and protection on the children and young people during this holiday time. May Jesus give them revelation of himself to them.

### **Tuesday 23rd December**

Pray for the Carol Service taking place this evening, that the words from the Scriptures and the Carols may speak to the hearts of all those who attend.

### Wednesday 24th December—Christmas Eve

Pray for the Lord's blessing on the Crib Service this afternoon, that many families may attend and hear the Christmas story with understanding.

Pray also for all those attending midnight Mass, that they may be given spiritual insight and understanding of Christmas

## Thursday 25th December—Christmas Day

Pray for all dysfunctional families that this may be a time of healing and reconciliation.

Pray for all the lonely, that they may not be forgotten, but receive love and kindness.

## Friday 26th December—St Stephen - Martyr

Pray for opportunities to give an account of our faith in conversation with others. Pray for ourselves, that we may be prepared and ready to be able to speak clearly.

### Saturday 27th December — St John - Apostle

Pray for the Lord's blessing and protection on all the social activities taking place in the area.

Pray that there will be no destructive activities

taking place.