Diary for week commencing Sunday 14th December Third Sunday of Advent

8.00am Said Communion10.00am. Sung Communion12.00noon Baptism of Jaxton-Ja

Monday

Tuesday 9.30am St Martin's School visit to Church

2.00pm House Group in Church – Session 4 6.30pm Mendip Green School Crib Service

Wednesday 6.30pm Mendip Green School Crib Service

Thursday 10.00am Holy Communion

10.45am Community Cake and Coffee

6.15pm Choir Practice

7.30pm Bell Ringing Practice

Friday

Saturday

Sunday 8.00am Said Communion

10.00am. Sung Communion

Refreshment Rota: Ann Butt and Carol Savill

6.00pm Traditional Community Carol Service of

Nine Lessons and Carols



CHURCH OFFICE

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Sunday 14th December 2025 Third Sunday of Advent

8.00am Said Communion

Readings: Isaiah 35.1-10

The Magnificat Matthew 11.2-11

10.00am Sung Communion

This service will be streamed live on Facebook

Readings: Isaiah 35.1-10

Read by: Lesley Faulkner

James 5.7-10

Read by: Barbara Perkins

Matthew 11.2-11

Hymns: The Hope that Hides in

Bethlehem Advent Candles Tell out my soul

Hark a herald voice is calling

Like a Candle Flame

When the Lord in glory comes

Refreshment Rota: Margaret Smith & Jan Watkins

12.00noon Baptism of Jaxton-Ja

Collect for the Third Sunday of Advent

God for whom we watch and wait, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son: give us courage to speak the truth, to hunger for justice, and to suffer for the cause of right, with Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Post Communion Prayer

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts; kindle in us the fire of your Spirit that when your Christ comes again we may shine as lights before his face; who is alive and reigns now and forever. Amen

Please pray for...

Those who are caught up in conflict, war, acts of terrorism, agencies that are providing food and medical resources to the regions and those seeking peace. Those who are affected by Climate Change.

For the work of Hope Christian Trust and Weston Foodbank, and for the communities in Zambia linked to the Diocese and for Sergio

For the work of Weston Hospice, Somehere to Go and the Children's Society For the Rt Rev Dame Sarah Mullally as she prepares to become the next Archbishop of Canterbury and for the Archdeacon of Ludlow, Fiona Gibson, as she prepares to become the next Bishop of Taunton.

We pray for all that are ill, who mourn and who are concerned about their futures and those who find the Christmas Season a struggle.

Readings

Isaiah 35.1-10

This chapter is full of hope: when we read of flowers blooming in the desert and dry land being filled with streams. Isaiah promises that God's chosen people will be brought to safety on the 'Road to Holiness', that God will heal and rescue his people and 'bring them home'.

James 5.7-10

James encourages people to wait patiently for the Lord's coming, as a farmer waits for his crops to grow. He urges them not to argue or complain among one another so that God will not judge them. Instead they should look to the prophets as examples of patient endurance.

Matthew 11.2-11

John the Baptist, in prison, is puzzled by reports of Jesus' ministry and sends his disciples to find out if Jesus is the Messiah. In his response Jesus reminds John of the words of the prophet Isaiah (35.5,6 and 61.1) which he is now fulfilling. Despite John having questioned Jesus through his disciples, Jesus speaks highly of his cousin.

Church Sunday Lunch – 28th December

The next Sunday Lunch will be on Sunday 28th December at the Woolpack Inn. Please see the Communications Table for more details and sign up by Thursday 18th December.

House Group in Church – 2pm 16th December

The final session of the Advent Course – *What are you Waiting For?* – will be on Tuesday 16th December at 2pm. All Welcome

Thank you to everyone who gives regularly to St Martin's Church Blue Envelopes

Your Blue planned giving envelopes are now available at the back of the Church. Please collect your set before the New Year!

If you would like to join the scheme, a weekly planned offering, then please have a word with either John Bangham or Diane Swatton.

Thank you

To everyone who came and who contributed to the Tree Festival last weekend, who has provided and decorated trees, who took part in the concerts and services, who helped set up and tidy and clean the church, who provided raffle prizes, who rang the bells, who sang in the choirs and to those who provided all the refreshments and hospitality over the weekend. Together we raised £1,050 which will be divided equally between Weston Hospicecare and the Church. Thank you also to everyone who has supported all our special services and events throughout 2025 to celebrate our 900th Anniversary. It has been a special year.

Special Service for Christmas 2025

Sunday 21st December

6.00pm Community Traditional Nine Lessons and Carol Service

Wednesday 24th December

4.00pm Crib Service – come along dressed as an angel or shepherd and be part of our giant Nativity Play – Tinsel Crowns and Tea Towels can be provided 11.30pm Midnight Communion with Carols



Thursday 25th December

10.00am Christmas Morning Communion with Carols – bring along your Christmas toys – and jumpers! – to join in the Festivities at church

Sunday 28th December

10.00am Carol Service with Communion

