



ST DENYS
STANFORD IN THE VALE



Friday Fellowship News 21st November 2025

Sunday 23rd November 2025

Christ the King

10.00 am Just Praise – 2 songs will be played for you to quietly listen to or join in, whilst the congregation arrive.

10.15 am Holy Communion

Hymns

1 Crown Him with Many Crowns SF 77

2 All Hail The Power of Jesus Name (YT)

3 Meekness and Majesty YT

4 The King of Love my Shepherd Is SF 533

5 God Is Our Strength & Refuge SF 2296

4.00pm Denys@4

6.00pm Evensong at St George, Hatford.

Bible Readings for 10.15am

Psalm 46 Page 547

1 God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. ²Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, ³though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging. ⁴There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy place where the Most High dwells. ⁵God is within her, she will not fall; God will help her at break of day. ⁶Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall; he lifts his voice, the earth melts.

⁷The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. ⁸Come and see what the LORD has done, the desolations he has brought on the earth.

⁹He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth. He breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire. ¹⁰He says, "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth." ¹¹The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Colossians 1: 1-22 Page 1117

¹ Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, ²To God's holy people in Colossae, the faithful brothers and sisters^[a] in Christ: Grace and peace to you from God our Father.

Thanksgiving and Prayer

³We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, ⁴because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all God's people— ⁵the faith and love that spring from the hope stored up for you in heaven and about which you have already heard in the true message of the gospel ⁶that has come to you. In the same way, the gospel is bearing fruit and growing throughout the whole world—just as it has been doing among you since the day you heard it and truly understood God's grace. ⁷You learned it from Epaphras, our dear fellow servant,^[a] who is a faithful minister of Christ on our^[a] behalf, ⁸and who also told us of your love in the Spirit.

⁹For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you. We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives,^[a] ¹⁰so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, ¹¹being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, ¹²and giving joyful thanks to the Father, who has qualified you^[a] to share in the inheritance of his holy people in the kingdom of light. ¹³For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

The Supremacy of the Son of God

¹⁵The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. ¹⁶For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and

invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. ¹⁹For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, ²⁰and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

²¹Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of ^[a]your evil behaviour. ²²But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation—

Luke 23: 33-43 Page 1001

³³When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified him there, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left. ³⁴Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." ^[a]And they divided up his clothes by casting lots. ³⁵The people stood watching, and the rulers even sneered at him. They said, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is God's Messiah, the Chosen One." ³⁶The soldiers also came up and mocked him. They offered him wine vinegar ³⁷and said, "If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself." ³⁸There was a written notice above him, which read: THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS.

³⁹One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: "Aren't you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!"

⁴⁰But the other criminal rebuked him. "Don't you fear God," he said, "since you are under the same sentence? ⁴¹We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong."

⁴²Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom. ^[b]"

⁴³Jesus answered him, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."

SAFEGUARDING

If you have ANY concerns at all about a child, young person or a vulnerable adult which you even wonder might be a safeguarding issue, current or in the past, **please contact** Liz Ward 07808726780 our Parish Safeguarding Officer or in her absence, the Vicar or one of the Church wardens at the earliest opportunity. Together, we seek to make all our services and events the safest place possible for all.



PRAYERS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday: Give thanks that we are never alone, that wherever we go, God is with us, especially at today's Christmas Bazaar.

Sunday: Pray for and bless all who serve in ministry, from vicars to volunteers. Pray for Paul, Yvette and Mike leading today's services.

Monday: We lift up to God all those in our parish who are struggling to balance demanding jobs, financial commitments, a full home life and caring for elderly and sick relatives.

Tuesday: Pray for the 'Open the Book' group as they tell the story of Elisha and Naaman. Also pray for the first meeting of the next 'life group.'

Wednesday: God of peace, we remember the cost of war and the pain it brings. Help us to be peacemakers in our homes, communities, and nations. Guide us to build a world where love triumphs over hate, and unity over division.

Thursday: We pray for all those who are unwell in body, mind or spirit. We pray for healing and comfort for those in need and patience and compassion for those who care for them

Friday: Please pray for all the home groups as they prepare for Advent.

Those who are ill or recovering.

Paul Manning, Mavis, Paul's Mother, Valerie Alsop, John Travis. Jenny Howard Jones, Christopher Fox (Clemency's brother) and all having tests, plus anyone else you may know

Bereaved

Please pray for the family and friends of Joan Greenwood

Saturday 29th November

5pm Lighting of St Denys & Christmas Tree in St Denys Churchyard, followed by the singing of Carols & Hot Refreshments

ADVENT LIFE GROUP

There will be a 'Stand Alone'
LIFE GROUP for those who wish
to reflect more deeply on the Bible
passages in Tom Wright's **Advent
For Everyone** book together on:
**Tuesday 25 November and
Tuesdays 2, 9 & 16 December**
730-9pm PROMPT
VENUE TBA NEARER THE TIME

SIGN UP SHEETS IN CHURCH, OR EMAIL

vicar@stdenys.org by Sunday 23 Nov
at the LATEST. Thank you! Paul

Gift Month So Far

Dear friends

At Tuesday's PCC meeting I was able to announce
this so far, with Gift Aid, £3,000 out of the £4,000
budget has been gifted.

We are currently on schedule to pay only £40,000
out of our £51,000 requested Parish Share
contribution for this year, though the PCC would like
to be able to contribute at least £45,000. Each
shortfall only means a greater debt to make up in
subsequent years.

In two emails in the last 18 months re our reduced
share, the Bishop has said given we are not paying
100% share, IF I were to move on (I have no plans to
in the foreseeable future), I would not be replaced.
Our parish would be merged with either Uffington or
Gainfield benefice which already has 6 and 5
churches in them respectively. That would mean a
direct change in service patterns and the
theology/outlook of Incumbent.

When any Benefice does not pay share in full the
balance gets passed on to other deanery churches.
One can imagine how that might affect relationships.

If you have not yet had an opportunity to make a
gift, please can I ask you to prayerfully consider
doing so using either the Contactless machine in
church (do ask Maz/Sue/Michelle if unsure how to
use), or give a cheque to Sue in an envelope. Cq
payable to Stanford PCC (St Denys).

Thank you for your partnership. Paul

Kind regards

Paul Revd Paul A. Eddy Vicar