

**CHURCH OF ST BENEDICT BISCOP and
THE CHURCH OF THE VENERABLE BEDE**

Our Churches are members of the Smestow Vale Team Ministry

TEAM RECTOR: Revd Preb Paul Brown (01902) 892234

Licensed Readers: Laurie Gainer, Susan Williams

Children's Worker Sarah Mullen 07702 376169

Churchwardens: Roy Wootton (01902) 279411

Derek Bryant (01902) 896991

Peter Cartwright

Director of Music: To be appointed

Parish Administrator: Maxine Banner (01902) 897700

Notice Sheet Co-ordinator: Freda Taylor wns@stbenedictbiscop.org.uk

Church website: www.stbenedictbiscop.org.uk

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The Third Sunday of Advent – 16th December 2018

WELCOME

If you have come to a communion service and you are accustomed to receive in your own church or chapel, you are very welcome at our altar. If you are not a communicant member of a church but would like an individual blessing, please bring a service booklet to the altar rail at the time of communion.

CHURCH OF ST. BENEDICT BISCOP

Hymns

8.00am Holy Communion (said)

10.30am Parish Communion

486

Sunday Club: 10.15am at the Hand-in-Hand

30

42

Lay Assistants (8) Bryan Johns (10.30) Mark Jarvis, Richard Green

319 c

Servers (10.30) Janet Lailey, Colin Prior

460 c

Sides (8) Tony & Veronica Bridgewater (10.30) David & Chris Crathorne,

27

Keith Whittaker, Olwyn

Grainger

Offertory Heather Yeates

Intercession Vicky Bratt

OT Lesson Gill Sadler

NT Lesson Maureen Boyce

Gospel Anne Freeman

Please join us for coffee after the 10.30am service

CHURCH OF THE VENERABLE BEDE

9.00am Parish Communion

Lay Assistant Peter Cartwright

Intercession Peter Cartwright

Sides Kathleen Ogden & Dorothy Brewerton

OT or NT Lesson Laurie Gainer

Gospel Clergy

Please join us for coffee after the service

In the season of colds etc. if you wish to receive the consecrated wine by intinction please make sure that you dip only the very edge of the consecrated wafer in the wine. If your hand is unsteady please receive only the host which is the complete sacrament.

Collect

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.

Old Testament Lesson Zephaniah 3:14-20 (NRSV)

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem!

The Lord has taken away the judgements against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more.

On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth.

At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord.

This is the word of the Lord. All: Thanks be to God

New Testament Lesson Philippians 4:4-7 (NRSV)

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.

Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near.

Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

This is the word of the Lord. All: Thanks be to God.

Alleluia, alleluia. Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God. All: Alleluia.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke 3:7-18 (NRSV)

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?

Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham.

Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.'

And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?'

In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.'

Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, 'Teacher, what should we do?'

He said to them, 'Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.'

Soldiers also asked him, 'And we, what should we do?'

He said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.'

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.
This is the Gospel of the Lord. All: Praise to you, O Christ.

WEEKDAY SERVICES

Morning Prayer Monday to Saturday **9.00am** at St Benedict's
(Wednesday: prayer for individuals on sick list)

Holy Communion 9.30am Tuesday at St Benedict's

11.00am Thursday at the Venerable Bede

SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY, 23RD DECEMBER 2018 – ADVENT 4

St Benedict's: 8.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Parish Communion

The Venerable Bede: 9.00am Parish Communion

Sunday Club: 10.15am - Hand-in-Hand

THANK YOU

to everyone who contributed to and supported Thursday's wonderful Christmas Lunch

to those who provided the refreshments for the Guild of Servers

to everyone who helped with the Christmas Workshop on Saturday

The funeral of Brenda Smith will be on Thursday, January 3rd, 1.00pm at St Benedict's

PLEASE TAKE THIS NOTICE SHEET HOME AND PRAY WITH US

Pray for the grace to repent

John said, "Bear fruits worthy of repentance." Luke 3: 8a (NRSV)

It is easy to join in the general confession each week without really taking it to heart. It is easy to say we are sorry for our sins without doing anything about them. Pray that for us true repentance will result in action.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Andrew & Lily Powney, Tony Jones, John, Rob, Ken Hill, Margaret Wilkes,
Brian Edwards, Marie, Rachel, Diana, June Hill, Betty Gough, Roy Wootton and
Barbara.

*Those who have died recently and their families: Margaret Sarah Haines,
Mary Ockerman Davies, Vera Reeves and Brenda Irene Smith.*

*If you, or one of your family or a friend would like visiting by the clergy or prayers to
be said in connection with any matter which is causing anxiety, such as illness,
bereavement or a moment of crisis, please contact the Rector.*

EVENTS THIS WEEK

9.00am Monday to Saturday - Morning Prayer at St Benedict's

Mon 17	9.30am St Benedict's School rehearsal 10-11am Little Fish at St Benedict's
Tue 18	9.30am Holy Communion at St Benedict's
Wed 19	9.00am Morning Prayer with special prayers for the sick – St Benedict's AM Ounsdale School rehearsals Ounsdale - 1st Carol Service
Thurs 20	11.00am Holy Communion at the Venerable Bede 2.00pm St Benedict's School Carol Service
Fri 21	No Morning Prayer 9.15 and 11.05am Ounsdale Carol Services 2 and 3 7.00pm Choir practice at St Benedict's

Home Communions

If you know of any of our housebound members who would like their Christmas Communion, please contact the Rector, Susan or Laurie.

Services after Christmas

There will be no 9.30am service of Holy Communion on Christmas or
New Year's Day and no 11.00am Thursday Communion on the
27th December at Bede.

If you haven't got a list of the **Christmas services**, they are available in
Grapevine or on 01cards at the back of Church.