

O Lord Jesus Christ, at your first coming you sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**A reading from Isaiah (35.1-10)**

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, 'Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you.' Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveller, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there.

And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Canticle, Magnificat - Luke 1. 46-55**

1 My soul proclaims the / greatness • of the / Lord: my spirit re/joices in / God my / Saviour;

**2 Who has looked with favour on his / lowly / servant: from this day all gener/ations • will / call me / blessed;**

3 The Almighty has done / great things / for me: and / holy / is his / name.

**4 God has mercy on / those who / fear him: from gener/ation to / gener/ation.**

5 The Lord has shown / strength with • his / arm: and scattered the / proud in / their con/ceit,

**6 Casting down the mighty / from their / thrones: and / lifting / up the / lowly.**

7 God has filled the hungry with / good / things: and has / sent the / rich • away / empty.

**8 He has come to the aid of his / servant / Israel: to re/member his / promise • of / mercy,**

9 The promise / made • to our / forebears: to Abraham / and his / children for / ever.

**A reading from James (5.7-10)**

Be patient, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to St Matthew 11.2-11

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to Jesus, 'Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?' Jesus answered them, 'Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me.'

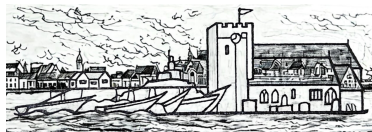
As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. 'What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you." 'Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

God of mercy and power, your Son rules over all, grant us so to live in obedience to your holy will, that at his appearing we may be raised to eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



**ALL SAINTS CHURCH , OYSTERMOUTH  
AND NORTON MISSION CHURCH  
WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP TODAY.**



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**14<sup>th</sup> December 2025 - Advent 3**

**HYMNS AT OUR CHORAL EUCHARIST : 332 , 471 , 197 , 568**

<b>TODAY</b>	<b>8.30 am</b>	<b>Holy Eucharist (All Saints)</b>
	<b>10.00 am</b>	<b>Choral Eucharist ( followed by tea / coffee )</b>
	<b>4.00 pm</b>	<b>Community Carol Service in All Saints in aid of the RNLI</b>
<b>TUESDAY</b>	10.30 am	Sgwrs a Choffi ( Chat and coffee ) - in All Saints - Croeso i bawb - all very welcome
	2.00 pm	Coffee and craft in Norton Church - all welcome
	<b>2.00 pm</b>	<b>Oystermouth School Carol Concert in Church</b>
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Holy Eucharist</b> followed by refreshments
	2.00pm	Bible study/prayer group (church rooms)
	<b>6.00 pm</b>	<b>Norton Carols - an evening of festive music old and new , readings , fun and fellowship in Norton Church - do come along.</b>
<b>THURSDAY</b>	10.30 am	Coffee and Chat in Norton Church - all welcome
	1.30 pm	Church grounds and cleaning group - all help welcome as we prepare the church for Christmas,
<b>FRIDAY</b>	6.00 pm	Carols at the Woodman - led by Rev. Hywel - all welcome. Dress up warm.
<b>SATURDAY</b>	10.00 am	<b>FREE</b> Children's Christmas Craft event in the lower church room ( until midday ). See notes.
	10.00 am	<b>Volunteers needed</b> in the upper church room to help put Christingles together.
<b>NEXT SUNDAY</b>		<b>21st December 2025 - Advent 4</b>
	<b>8.30 am</b>	<b>Holy Eucharist (All Saints)</b>
	<b>10.00 am</b>	<b>Choral Eucharist ( followed by tea / coffee )</b>
	<b>11.30 am</b>	<b>Sung Eucharist at Norton</b>
	<b>3.00 pm</b>	<b>CHRISTINGLE AND NATIVITY SERVICE IN ALL SAINTS - do come along - wear your Christmas jumpers !</b>

**50 Club** : as mentioned in the recent church meeting we are relaunching the Church fundraising group called the *50 club*. Members pay £5 a month ( direct debit) and we are hoping to have 3 prizes each month if enough join. Please speak to Stuart for details or for a sign up form. Family and friends are also welcome to join so do take spare sign up forms !

**RNLI Community Carol Service** : this afternoon at 4 p.m. - one not to miss.

**Christmas Craft worship for children : NEXT Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> December - 10 a.m. to midday. PLEASE LET CHILDREN KNOW** - it was a lovely event last year with lots attending. ***We will be putting the Christingles together at the same time next Saturday ( 10 a.m ) in the UCR if you can spare some time to give a hand !***

**Christingle and Nativity Service : NEXT SUNDAY - Sunday 21st December - at 3 p.m.** in All Saints. **We need help** from youngsters ( or not so young ! ) dressed in nativity costumes to help us share the Christmas story. Please share with any families you know - let's make this a really special service again.

**Christmas Services : Christmas Eve Wednesday (24<sup>th</sup> December) : 6.30 p.m. Choral Eucharist** ( *please note there will be no Wednesday morning service on Christmas Eve* )

**Christmas Day 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist with Carols.**

**Please note : Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> December** : there will be only be one service : **10 a.m. Holy Eucharist** - a said service with Carols .

**Double Thanks** from Mumbles Rotary for your generous donations of unwanted jewellery helping to raise £15,000+ for 5 medical gaming carts for Noah's Ark Children's Hospital for Wales. And also for your generous donation of winter coats for the Wrap Up appeal. An amazing 500+ coats were collected for the needy.

**Memorial service** : to give thanks for the life of Murray Donald will be taking place in All Saints on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> December at 12 midday

**Thank you** : to Chris is *Cash Hardware* for once again this year very kindly donating the Christmas tree in All Saints.

**Best wishes and compliments of the season** : to all who will be going away for Christmas in the coming weeks. Please let me know of those missing from church who are in need of pastoral contact or visits.

**Church Car Park** : in the coming weeks there are many activities taking place in the church through the week. **Can I please ask that the church car park is ONLY used for those actually attending something taking place** - please do not block the gates or access route through the car park when parking as this would be extremely dangerous if there were an emergency. Thank you.