

## Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2025 The Fourth Sunday of Advent

God our redeemer, you 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. **Amen.**

### A reading from Isaiah (7.10-16)

The Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, 'Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.' But Ahaz said, 'I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test.' Then Isaiah said: 'Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? 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. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. 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.'

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

### Psalm 80. 1-8, 18-20

- 1 Hear, O / Shepherd of / Israel: you that led / Joseph / like a / flock;
- 2 Shine forth, you that are enthroned up/on the / cherubim: before Ephraim, / Benjamin / and Ma/nasseh.**
- 3 Stir up your / mighty / strength: and / come to / our sal/vation.
- 4 Turn us a/gain, O / God: show the light of your countenance, / and we / shall be / saved.**
- 5 O Lord / God of / hosts: how long will you be angry / at your / people's / prayer?
- 6 You feed them with the / bread of / tears: you give them a/ bundance of / tears to / drink.**
- 7 You have made us the derision / of our / neighbours: and our / enemies / laugh us to / scorn.
- 8 Turn us again, O / God of / hosts: show the light of your countenance, / and we / shall be / saved.**
- 18 Let your hand be upon the man / at your / right hand: the son of man you / made so / strong • for your/self.
- 19 And so will we / not go / back from you: give us life, and we shall / call up/on your / name.**
- 20 Turn us again, O Lord / God of / hosts: show the light of your countenance, / and we / shall be / saved.

### A reading from Romans (1.1-7)

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh 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. Through Christ we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, 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.

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

Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to St Matthew 1.18-25  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

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. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly, 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. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.' All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: 'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel', which means, 'God is with us.' When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

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

Heavenly Father, you 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. **Amen.**



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



*Unto us a child is born*

**21<sup>st</sup> December 2025 - Advent 4**

**HYMNS AT OUR CHORAL EUCHARIST : 98 , 273 , 136 , 467**

**TODAY**                    **8.30 am Holy Eucharist (All Saints)**  
**10.00 am Choral Eucharist ( followed by tea / coffee )**  
**11.30 am Sung Eucharist at Norton**  
**3.00 pm CHRISTINGLE AND NATIVITY SERVICE**  
**IN ALL SAINTS - DO COME ALONG**  
6.00 pm Linden Church are holding their Carol Service  
in All Saints and all are welcome to attend.

**MONDAY**                12.00 pm Memorial service for Murray Donald in All Saints.

**WEDNESDAY**                **CHRISTMAS EVE**  
**NO 10.30 service today**  
**6.30 pm CHRISTMAS CHORAL EUCHARIST**

**THURSDAY**                **CHRISTMAS DAY**  
**10.30 am HOLY EUCHARIST**  
**- A said service with Carols**

**NEXT SUNDAY**                **28<sup>th</sup> December 2025**  
**NO 8.30 service**  
**10.00 am Holy Eucharist - a said service with Carols**

**Wishing you and your families all  
a very happy Christmas !  
Thank you for the support you  
have given throughout the year.**

**Thank you :** to all who have worked so hard throughout December. It has been a very busy month with many concerts and services and countless people coming through our doors. The support you give to ensure the smooth running of everything is greatly appreciated. There are too many to mention by name and I don't want to risk omitting any names - but can I say a special word of thanks to those who decorated the church , those who welcome visitors and keep the church open and to our Choir and organists for the wonderful job they do in leading our worship. We are so fortunate to have such a gifted and talented choir who enhance our worship so beautifully.

**Thank you :** to all who helped with the Children's Christmas craft event yesterday and especially to Liz for co-ordinating the event. Thank you also to all who helped to put the Christingles together ready for our service this afternoon. Do try and join us.

**50 Club :** 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. Thank you to all who have signed up. 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 !

**Best wishes and compliments of the season :** to all who will be going away for Christmas have a wonderful time and we look forward to seeing you on return. Please let me know of those missing from church who are in need of pastoral contact or visits.

**Thank you :** very much to Iris Williams for producing the wonderful knitted 'chocolate Orange' gifts. Thank you to all who purchased them . £200 has been sent to the Salvation Army.

**New year Fish and Chips :** following our Eucharist on Wednesday 14th January. We will be taking food orders after Christmas - but save the date !

**Gower Chorale :** concert "Love songs , Lullabies and Nocturnes: Saturday 24th January at 7 in All Saints. See posters for details tickets or telephone 404391 / 207950

**Church Car Park :** please do not block the gates or access route through the car park when parking as this would be dangerous if there were an emergency. Thank you.

