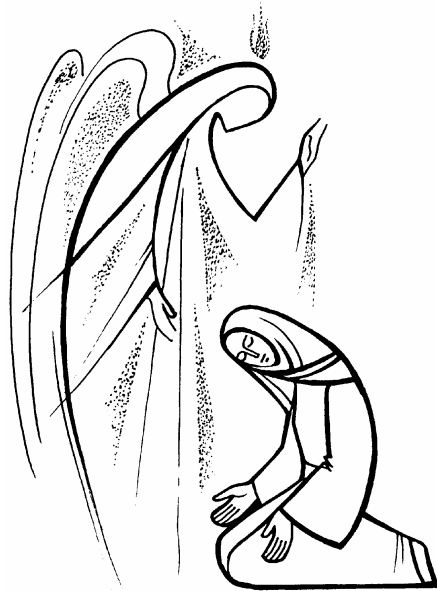


## Future Events:

- Mon 5<sup>th</sup> 7:30 pm Weston Longville PCC meets at The Rectory  
Tue 6<sup>th</sup> 7:30 pm Benefice Eucharist with hymns for **The Epiphany** at **Alderford**  
Fri 9<sup>th</sup> 7:30 pm Friday Club in Swannington church  
7:30 pm **CHAI** – a talk on tea by Roy Church, with slides and colourful anecdotes, at Weston Longville village hall. Bring your own mug to participate in the brew-ups; admission £5 per head. Proceeds shared between St Mary's church and the Great Witchingham Community Hall fund.  
Sat 10<sup>th</sup> 10:30 am Alderford with Attlebridge PCC meeting in Attlebridge church, to consider the electrics and plans for re-ordering of the building



Sunday 21 December 2008

**ADVENT 4**

9:00 am Ringland

10:00 am Great Witchingham

**A reminder** that on all the Sundays of Advent, during the introduction to the Eucharist, candles are lit on our Advent wreath. When the candles have been lit there is a prayer, to which the response is always **Blessed be God for ever**.

### Collect:

O God our redeemer,  
who didst prepare the Blessed Virgin Mary  
to be the mother of thy Son:  
grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour,  
so we may be ready to greet him  
when he shall come again to be our judge;  
who liveth and reigneth with thee  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### Old Testament Reading: 2 Samuel 7.1-11 & 16

Now when David, the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent.' Nathan said to the king, 'Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you.'

But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, 'Why have you not built me a house of cedar?' Now therefore you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from

following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the Lord declares to you, David, that the Lord will make you a house.

Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure for ever before me; your throne shall be established for ever.

### **Gospel: Luke 1.26-38**

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.' Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her.



All regular weekday services this week will be at their usual times, **except that** the service on Friday morning (Boxing Day) at 9:30 at Morton-on-the-Hill will be the **Eucharist for St Stephen's Day**.

All this week we pray particularly for those who live in **Lake View Close** and **Lenwade House Drive** in Great Witchingham.

### **Please continue to pray for the sick & those in need:**

*Alic Bowen; Sheila Crane; Lucy Procter; Vicky Skingley; George Williams*

**RIP** Lewis Smith

### **This week:**

<b>TODAY</b>	6:00 pm	Benefice service of Nine Readings and Carols at Alderford
Tues	7:00 pm	Servers' practice at Weston Longville
Christmas Eve	5:00 pm	Crib service at Weston Longville (Pamela Garrett)
	6:30 pm	Family carol service at Ringland with the Taverham Band
	<b>11:30 pm</b>	Midnight Mass at Weston Longville
<b>Christmas Day</b>	8:00 am	Holy Communion (1662) at Great Witchingham
	9:00 am	Family Eucharist at Ringland (Canon Peter Halls)
	10:00 am	Eucharist with carols at Swannington
	12 noon	Wedding at Ringland

### **Next Sunday: THE HOLY INNOCENTS**

**NB NB NB – the only service anywhere will be**

10:00 am The Eucharist at Alderford

### **Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2009: Second Sunday after Christmas**

9:00 am The Eucharist (Common Worship) at Ringland

10:00 am Lay Service for the New Year at Swannington

10:15 am The Eucharist at Weston Longville

Well done, thank-you, and congratulations to the people of **Ringland church**, whose **Christmas coffee morning** last weekend raised **£176** for church funds!