

A reminder that on all the Sundays of Advent, during the introduction to the service, 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

God our redeemer,
who 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.**

Old Testament Reading: Micah 5.2-5a

The LORD says to his people:
But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,
who are one of the little clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to rule in Israel,
whose origin is from of old, from ancient days.
Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labour has brought forth;
then the rest of his kindred shall return
to the people of Israel.
And he shall stand and feed his flock
in the strength of the LORD,
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.
And they shall live secure,
for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth;
and he shall be the one of peace.

Gospel: Luke 1.39-45

Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.'



All weekday services this week will be at their regular times, **except** of course on **Friday** when the special services for Christmas replace the usual ones. Additionally the 9:00 am service on Saturday at Attlebridge will be the **Eucharist for St Stephen's Day**.

This week we pray particularly for all who live in **Lake View Close** and **Lenwade House Drive** in Great Witchingham.

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

Shelagh Ashe; Albert Bedford; Marjorie Crayston; Anne Dunn; Osvaldo Ferreiro; Sharon; Neita Harvey; Digby Horner; Jo, James & baby Daniel; John & Linda; John Parnon; Annette; Val; Alex Williams; Freda.

RIP Jeanne Savage Paul Broadhead Hereward Cooke

Saint this week

Sat Stephen, first martyr (first century)

Events this week:

TODAY	10:00 am	Children's carol service at Swannington
	6:00 pm	Benefice service of Nine traditional Readings and Carols at Great Witchingham
Christmas Eve	5:00 pm	Crib Service for the very young at Weston Longville (Pamela Garrett)
	6:30 pm	Family Carol Service with the Taverham Band at Ringland

Christmas Eve 11:30 pm Attlebridge *Midnight Mass of Christmas*

Friday 25 December Christmas Day:

8:00 am St Margaret, Swannington
The Eucharist with carols

9:00 am St Peter, Ringland
Family Eucharist with carols
(Canon Peter Halls)

10:15 am All Saints, Weston Longville
The Eucharist with carols

Sunday 27th: 10:00 am Great Witchingham *Holy Communion (1662) (no other services anywhere today)*

Sunday 3 January 2010

9:00 am St Peter, Ringland
The Eucharist (Common Worship)

10:00 am St Margaret, Swannington
A service for the New Year
(Eric Rowland)

10:15 am All Saints, Weston Longville
The Eucharist

A huge thank you to all those who came and enjoyed the Flanders & Swann concert at Weston Longville last Saturday night. As a result, something over £90 profit has been passed to each of our five parishes.