



## ST PETER & ST PAUL ECKINGTON

Service Information & Weekly News

### Welcome to our Family Service on the Second Sunday in Advent

Don Jones will be leading the service, on the theme: "Are we prepared?"

#### AFTER THIS SERVICE...

*Everyone is most welcome to join us in the Tower Room for tea or coffee and biscuits.*

#### OTHER SERVICES AND EVENTS THIS WEEK

**Tuesday 10** St Peter & St Paul's  
10 am Christmas Tree Festival begins

**Wednesday 11** St Peter & St Paul's  
9:30 am Midweek Holy Communion

**Sunday 15**  
9:30 am Holy Communion St Peter & St Paul's

10:45 am **Carol Service**  
Eckington Methodists with St Luke's

4 pm **Carol Service** after the end of the  
Christmas Tree Festival St Peter & St Paul's

6 pm **Carol Service** St John's Ridgeway

S

#### COLLECT FOR TODAY

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever.

#### OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah Ch11 v1-10

<sup>1</sup>A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

<sup>2</sup>The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. <sup>3</sup>His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; <sup>4</sup>but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

<sup>5</sup>Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. <sup>6</sup>The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them.

<sup>7</sup>The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. <sup>8</sup>The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

<sup>9</sup>They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. <sup>10</sup>On that

day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious

#### NEW TESTAMENT READING Romans Ch15 v4-13

<sup>4</sup>For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. <sup>5</sup>May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup>Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. <sup>8</sup>For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, <sup>9</sup>and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, 'Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name'; <sup>10</sup>and again he says, 'Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people'; <sup>11</sup>and again, 'Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him'; <sup>12</sup>and again Isaiah says, 'The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope.' <sup>13</sup>May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

#### GOSPEL READING Matthew Ch3 v1-12

<sup>1</sup>In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, <sup>2</sup>'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' <sup>3</sup>This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."' <sup>4</sup>Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. <sup>5</sup>Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, <sup>6</sup>and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>7</sup>But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? <sup>8</sup>Bear fruit worthy of repentance. <sup>9</sup>Do not presume 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. <sup>10</sup>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. <sup>11</sup>'I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>12</sup>His winnowing-fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

---

## PLEASE PRAY FOR...

Our community, congregation and clergy. We especially ask for prayers for Dinah, Eddie and Nora, Bernard, Mavis, Helen and Harold.

If you would like us to pray for you please write your request in the Prayer Book which can be found at the back of church.

## CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

### St Peter and St Paul's Church

Join us in this lovely 12th century church to enjoy the Christmas trees decorated by the community.

10, 11, 12 December 10 am - 3 pm  
13 December 3 pm - 6 pm; 14 December 10 am - 6 pm  
15 December 11 am - 4 pm followed by a Carol Service.

Hot soup and rolls available daily.

If you would like to provide and decorate a tree please contact Lorna for more information.

---

## HELP WANTED

### 10 - 15 December CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

Your help with stewarding during the Festival would be very much appreciated. Even if you can only do an hour it would help.

Please contact Lorna for more info or to get your name on the rota.

---

## AN EVENING WITH CHRIS LUBBE

Tuesday 10th December 6:30 pm - 9 pm  
Dronfield Civic Hall £10 All profits to Africa's Gift

Inspiring talk by Nelson Mandela's former bodyguard.  
Leaflet available at the back of church.

---

After our Christmas break we continue

## EXPLORING THE CHRISTIAN FAITH

with Rev. Dave Walker

Thursday 16 January :  
"THE HOLY SPIRIT"

17:45-19:15 in the Tower Room  
St Peter & St Pauls Parish Church, Eckington

We meet every other Thursday.

Who is this course suitable for?  
People enquiring, new Christians and established

members of the church.

Refreshments will be provided.

If you have any questions please contact  
Rev. Dave Walker.

## CONTACTS FOR OUR CHURCHES

### ALL THREE CHURCHES

Rector: Rev. Andy Walker 01246 432196

our.rector@eckingtonchurch.org.uk

Curate: Rev. Dave Walker 07802 374763

curate@staccd.org.uk

Reader: Bertie Walker 01246 432196

### ST PETER & ST PAUL

Churchwarden: Linda Sales 0114 247 8706

Church Administrator (for booking, funerals,

baptisms, etc): Lorna Rolfe 07784 056643

admin@eckingtonchurch.org.uk

### ST JOHN – RIDGEWAY

Deputy Churchwarden:

Richard Langrick 01142 489602

### METHODISTS WITH ST LUKE

Methodist Minister:

Rev. Sandra Marshall 01142 2486995

---

## WEEKLY SHEET

If you have comments or information for the next weekly sheet please contact Sue at:

[weekly.news@eckingtonchurch.org.uk](mailto:weekly.news@eckingtonchurch.org.uk)

The deadline is: 5pm on Wednesday.

*Kindly note that inclusion is not guaranteed as space is limited.*

---

## WEBSITE

You can see reports and photos of previous events and get the latest news regarding services from our website: [www.eckingtonchurch.org.uk](http://www.eckingtonchurch.org.uk)

Send comments or info to Don at

[web.articles@eckingtonchurch.org](mailto:web.articles@eckingtonchurch.org)