

The Two Comings of Advent

Paul Murray reflects on Isaiah 9:6-7

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given and the government will be upon His shoulders. He will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and of peace there will be no end. He will reign on the throne of David and over His kingdom, to establish and sustain it with justice and righteousness from now on and forever.

It's that time of year again, where we all become so absorbed in the frenetic activity associated with Christmas. These two verses demonstrate a common feature of prophetic Scripture. Two parts of a prophecy separated by a long period of time. Isaiah tells us about the Christ-child being born and bringing peace, and that message is what we see on Christmas cards.

The same cards miss out on the oft-forgotten part of the story - the return of Jesus. He will run the world government from the throne of David (in Jerusalem) and His reign will be full of His peace, righteousness and justice.

There could be a niche in the market for someone to make Christmas cards depicting that scene!!

Would you be ready if Jesus was to return soon? It won't be long now. Let's remember that while we are eating the turkey!

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Church website
www.waterortonparishchurch.org

Most of our services can be attended in person or on Zoom.

Zoom meeting ID: 508 367 3910

If you have missed a Sunday or Wednesday service, the sermons (and some services) can be accessed on the website under 'Media Library'. Sermons are deleted after 4 months, while services are only available for 2 months.

Judith is on leave from
27th December – 2nd January.
Please see Paul in her absence.

*"Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come."
Matthew 24:42*



The Parish Church
of Water Orton

Sunday 30th November

Welcome to Saint Peter & Saint Paul's

Our Vision:

To prepare a community to meet the Christ

Our Mission:

To worship God, grow believers and make believers

Our Values:

Word, Worship, Welcome and Wisdom



30th November – First Sunday of Advent

Today's Readings:

Romans 13:11-14

Matthew 24:36-44

This Week's Collect Prayer

Almighty God,
as your kingdom dawns,
turn us from the darkness of sin to the
light of holiness,
that we may be ready to meet you
in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.
Amen

Welcoming Prayer

Father, lead us and guide us as we grow
together in your family. May our church
show your love to new friends and may
more hearts be full of your love.
Amen

Advent Wreath Prayer

People of God awake!
The day is coming soon when you
shall see God face to face. Remember
the ways and the works of God. God
calls you out of darkness to walk in
the light of his coming. You are God's
children.

Lord, make us one as we walk with
Christ today and for ever. Amen

Today

9.00 am Holy Communion

11.00 am Contemporary Worship
(with children's groups)

3.00 pm Advent Concert

Christmas Services and Events

Saturday 13th December at 10.00 am –
Decorating the church for Christmas.
All are welcome to come along and
help.

Tuesday 16th December at 6.30 pm -
Carol Singing in the churchyard

Wednesday 17th December at 7.30 pm
– North Warwickshire Community
Choir 9 Lessons and Carols

Sunday 21st December at 6.30 pm –
Candlelight Carol Service

Christmas Eve at 3.00 and 5.00 pm –
Christingle Services

Christmas Eve at 11.30 pm – Midnight
Communion

Christmas Day at 10.00 am – Christmas
Communion

Please pray...

For the residents of Plank Lane

For the people who provide us
with our food

For justice and healing...

Lord of mercy, where injustice
reigns, raise up voices for truth. Where
wounds run deep, bring healing and
reconciliation. Teach us to walk humbly, act
justly and love boldly, so that our world
reflects your heart for all people.

Amen



This week...

Tuesday

9.00-11.30 am Open café in the Robert Lloyd Room

9.30-11.30 am The church is open for the Food Bank

10.00 am Morning Prayer-Common Worship on Zoom & in church

Wednesday

10.00 am Holy Communion in church and on Zoom

7.30 pm Music Group meet in church

9.00 pm Compline on Zoom

Thursday

8.40-9.40 am Contemporary Prayer Meeting on Zoom only

7.30 pm Choir meet in church

Friday

12 for 12.30 pm Meet and Eat at the Link

2.00 pm Memory Café meet in the Robert Lloyd Room

Saturday

10.00 am The church is open for the Food Bank & for private prayer

10.00 am Wreath making in the Robert Lloyd Room. Please see Judith if you
are interested as places are limited

Next Sunday 7th December: Second Sunday of Advent

9.00 am Holy Communion

11.00 am Contemporary Worship (with children's groups)

4.00 pm Holy Communion

Future Events

Saturday 13th December at 10.00 am - Decorating the Church for Christmas

Saturday 14th December at 3.30 pm - Quest Family meet at The Link

Tuesday 6th January at 7.30 pm – The first of three presentations by Paul Murray
Israel: Past, Present and Future. The first one is Israel Past: **Born from One Man**