

Churchwardens' Chat

This Sunday the choir is having a well-earned rest. Daniel Ayers will be playing the organ for us today. He also played for two of the main Christmas services; we are very grateful for his skills and much appreciate the hard work needed to prepare for these services.

Evensong tonight at 5pm – do join us.

Readings: 1 Samuel 2:18–20,26, Luke 2: 41–end, Psalm 148,
Carols from BCS: 18, 26, 2.

Next Sunday we celebrate the **Feast of Epiphany**.

However, please note that our **Epiphany Carol Service** will be on **Sunday 12 January at 5pm**.

Advent reading: If you have borrowed books during Advent please remember to return them to Margaret Hartley.

Midweek services are now as follows:

Monday to Fridays: Morning Prayer at 10am

Midweek Eucharist on Wednesdays at 10.30am.

Quiet Day at Walsingham Sat 8 Feb 2025: There is more information about this at the welcome desk. Do sign up if you are interested.

Contact us

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Parish Giving Scheme

Thank you to all those who give regularly via this scheme. If you are not on the scheme you can offer cash or card donations at any of the contactless giving stations. You can support the Abbey at www.wymondhamabbey.org.uk/giving

The life of the Abbey depends on congregational giving, so we are very grateful for your support.

Wymondham Abbey ❖ Sunday 29 December 2024

Thomas à Becket

Today we celebrate the feast day of Thomas à Becket, one of the Abbey's patron saints, who died on this day in 1170.

Welcome to the Abbey, especially if you are newly with us or visiting. Use this sheet together with the main Eucharist booklet for the hymns and readings. Today we use the New English Hymnal.

Hymns: NEH 33 (omit vs 2, 3 & 4), 21, 230, 387, 39

Note to families with young children: the children will be invited during the Vicar's welcome to go into St Benedict's for Sunday Club. They will then come back into church at the Peace. The children are then welcome to be in the play area or with you in the main seating, as you prefer.

*After the bell rings, the servers and clergy enter and we all stand to sing **Hymn 33** (omit verses 2, 3 and 4).*

We begin on page 3.

*Page 6: we sing **Glory in the highest to the God of heaven!***

*Page 7: **First Reading** – Acts 7: 51–end*

'You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you are for ever opposing the Holy Spirit, just as your ancestors used to do. Which of the prophets did your ancestors not persecute? They killed those who foretold the coming of the Righteous One, and now you have become his betrayers and murderers.

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You are the ones that received the law as ordained by angels, and yet you have not kept it.'

When they heard these things, they became enraged and ground their teeth at Stephen. But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God.

'Look,' he said, 'I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!' But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him.

Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul.

While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.' Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, 'Lord, do not hold this sin against them.' When he had said this, he died.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*We stand to sing **Hymn 21.***

*Page 7: we remain standing for the **Gospel Reading** – Matthew 10: 17–22*

Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues; and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles. When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time; for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.

Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death; and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved.

*Page 7: **Sermon***

*Page 9: **Prayers of Intercession**, during which we pray especially for: The sick and housebound:*

Zorina Bell, Di Capocci, Vivienne Clifford-Jackson, David & Marion O'Connor, Julia Parker, Elizabeth & Roy Pulsford, Jennie Rackham.

Recently departed: Allan Pointer and Carol Ann Chapman whose funeral is tomorrow.

Years' Mind: Betty Hale, Pearl Hurn

Baptism: Madeline Newell is to be baptised this afternoon.

*Page 9: after **The Peace**, we sing **Hymn 230 (ii).***

*The **Eucharistic Prayer**, during which the bread and wine are consecrated, begins on page 10. Please join in the singing of the 'Holy, Holy' (p10) and 'Lamb of God' (p13) in the Mass of St Thomas setting.*

*Page 13: during the distribution of **Communion** we all sing **Hymn 387.***

*After the **Blessing** (p15) we sing **Hymn 39.***

Organ Voluntary: Grand Choeur in B flat by Théodore Dubois

Please join us for refreshments after the service.



Pastoral visits

If you know anyone who might welcome a pastoral visit please let Fr Andrew know: vicar@wymondhamabbey.org.uk, 07543 593903
Please note that Fr Andrew's usual day off is a Monday.