

## NEWSWIRE: 29th November 2024

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- Services on Sunday
  - Christmas Tree Festival
  - Christingle
  - Shaped by the Word recording and notes
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### *A message from Duncan*

We are just a few days from the beginning of the Advent season. For once the beginning coincides with the hallowed opening of windows and doors of brightly coloured calendars on 1st December. Back in my day (am I really beginning to say things like that!) we would reuse the same calendar year upon year. In some ways that tradition is a true reminder that, in the Church year, we are at the beginning again, back where we started.

This has often left me with a little pang of longing, for Jesus has still not returned and we are about to do the whole thing again. However, our sojourning in Daniel 7 in our 'Shaped by the Word' sessions, has reminded me that it is no bad thing to revisit old haunts. Daniel receives a strange vision in that chapter (v2-14), and then returns to the same vision once for an interpretation (v17-18), and then twice more (v21-22 & 23-27) so that he might see the things he missed at first. He didn't understand it all at first.

Surely that is true of our Christian journey. We revisit the 'old, old story'; we return to familiar scripture; we rehearse the same routines, and each time have the opportunity to gaze again into ancient truth, ever new. Added to that, each time we find ourselves in a familiar place we realise that *we* are not the same as when we were there last. We inescapably see things from a new perspective. And with a different perspective we are able to see things we never saw before. TS Elliott eloquently suggests *'the end of all our exploring will be to arrive where we started and know the place for the first time.'*

So prepare to see or hear something new this Advent in your walk with Christ. Even though you may have been here many times before. The Psalmist exclaims

in Psalm 119 “*I rejoice at your word like one who finds great treasure.*” May you find cause to rejoice at God’s word to you this Advent.

Grace, peace, and patience in the waiting, be with you all,

Duncan

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### **Collect for the First Sunday of Advent**

Almighty God,  
give us grace to cast away the works of darkness  
and to put on the armour of light,  
now in the time of this mortal life,  
in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility;  
that on the last day,  
when he shall come again in his glorious majesty  
to judge the living and the dead,  
we may rise to the life immortal;  
through him who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

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### **SERVICES ON SUNDAY**

**9.30am - Holy Communion at St Peter’s**

*Readings: Isaiah 40:30-31; Mark 1:1-4*

**10.30am - Morning Worship at St Leonard’s** and live  
streamed on [this link](#)

*Readings: Isaiah 40:30-31; 2 Peter 1.10-12*

If you have difficulties accessing the service on the livestream link above, please try accessing [our youtube channel](#) directly.

**4pm - Christingle service at St Leonard’s**



### **NEXT WEEK**

**Monday 2nd December**

**Bump to One** meet on **Mondays** from **10.30am** to **midday** in **St Leonard’s**

**Walkie Talkies** meet on **Mondays** (term time) from **10am** to **11.30am** in **St Leonard's church hall**.

The funeral of the late **Margaret Collier** will be held at **St Peter's church** in Cassington at 11.30am on **Monday 2nd December**.

### **Tuesday 3rd December**

**Mum's Bible Study** meet every **Tuesday morning** (term-time) **10 - 11.30am** at **95 Hazeldene Close**.

**Tinies and Toddlers** meet in **Cassington Village Hall** on **Tuesday** (term time) from **1.30 - 3pm**

### **Wednesday 4th November**

**Warm Welcome Wednesday** from 10.30am to midday in **St Leonard's church**

### **Thursday 5th December**

**Cassington Cafe** from **10am** in **Cassington Village Hall**

### **NEXT SUNDAY - 8th December**

9am - Holy Communion at St Leonard's

9.30am - Holy Communion at St Peter's

10.30am - Morning Worship at St Leonard's and livestreamed

4pm - Carols in the Square

7pm - Revive at St Leonard's

### **Looking further ahead**

**Christmas around the World - Saturday 14th December 5pm - 7pm** in **St Leonard's Church Hall** (see below)



#### **Carols Services**

**St Peter's - Sunday 15th December at 5pm**

**St Leonard's - Sunday 22nd December at 7pm**

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**Advent Reflections** - We will be sending out daily reflections by email during Advent. Many of you are already signed up to receive them, if you wish to join the mailing list please contact Margaret Thornton ([margaret@2cp.uk](mailto:margaret@2cp.uk)).

# SHAPED BY THE WORD

# DANIEL

*An evening exploring Daniel 7 together: PART TWO*

## SHAPED BY THE WORD: Daniel and chapter 7

Our second 'Shaped by the Word' evening enabled us to conclude our time soaking in the teaching of Daniel. It has proved to be a book which is extremely helpful in understanding our posture as Christians in the 21st Century. The recording worked this time, so as well as notes and slides continuing on from last time there is also an audio recording if that is helpful.

- [NOTES here](#)
- [SLIDES here](#)
- [RECORDING here](#)

We will continue to offer some 'Shaped by the Word' evenings which allow us to go a little deeper into the scriptures to become more familiar with the Way of Jesus giving him the opportunity to shape our lives. We will often track with our morning sermons but on some occasions look at something quite different. If you have anything you think it would be useful for us to explore together, please let me know.



## Eynsham Christmas Tree Festival 29th November - 1st December

The festival begins at 5pm this evening and will close at 8pm on Sunday evening. As before a "Pop up" cafe will be provided, alongside a Christmas activity for children, from 10am to 12am tomorrow (Saturday).

This year's festival theme is "O Holy Night". There will be a vote taken for the people's favourite tree, which will be announced at our service on Sunday. The event is free with the option to donate towards the Eynsham Larder, which provides food for village members struggling in our current times.



**Sunday 1st December at 4pm**

An informal service for the whole family.

For more information please contact our Children and Families Worker.  
email: [slpfamilies@gmail.com](mailto:slpfamilies@gmail.com)

**Eynsham Choral Society concert**, Saturday 7th December at 7.30pm in St Leonard's Church. It will be a Christmas concert with music by Respighi, Vaughan Williams, Berlioz, and carols including audience participation. Tickets at £15 available from DIY.



# Christmas around the World

Saturday 14th December, 5-7pm  
St. Leonard's Church Hall (Thames Street)



Come and experience Christmas from all over the world!  
An event for the whole family to celebrate Eynsham's cultural diversity through food, craft, music and community.  
If you are able, bring a dish from your home country and wear typical clothing.

For more information please contact Rabea:  
[slpfamilies@gmail.com](mailto:slpfamilies@gmail.com)

## "Christmas around the World" - helpers needed

This event on 14th December is an opportunity to celebrate Eynsham's cultural diversity and to share something about the true meaning of Christmas. We still need some more help (particularly from strong people to help set up / put away):

- Invite people in our village from different nationalities to come and join
- help set up or clear away on the day
- pray!

If you are able to help or would like more information, please contact Rabea (email: [slpfamilies@gmail.com](mailto:slpfamilies@gmail.com))

## **Please pray for:**

- Dave recovering from a stroke.
- Ben and healing for his mental health.
- Scarlett's recovery from long Covid.
- Katie suffering with epilepsy. Please pray that the right medication be found to control her seizures.

To add names to the prayer list, please contact the Church Office ([stleonards\\_stpeters@btconnect.com](mailto:stleonards_stpeters@btconnect.com)) Names will be added to the list by express permission, and only first names will be published.

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[www.stleonardseysham.org.uk](http://www.stleonardseysham.org.uk) | [www.stpeterschurchcassington.org](http://www.stpeterschurchcassington.org) | [Youtube channel](#) | [facebook page](#)