



GRAPEVINE **3rd Sunday of Advent** **14th Dec 2025**

Prayer for the Day *by Revd Canon David White*

Integral to the season of Advent is John the Baptist who was a most extraordinary individual whose task was to prepare people for the imminent arrival of Jesus of Nazareth. John the Baptist's ministry indicates through his words and actions that the promised Kingdom of God is breaking in on the scene.

At a time when we're preparing for Christmas – food shopping, present buying, arranging travel or welcoming relatives, John's preparation is in a different league altogether. He is much more about an urgent call to do a top-to-bottom clearing out of our lives. People flocked to hear him, no doubt attracted by his honesty and integrity. Yet he never used comfortable words, rather he challenged the people in a way they had not been challenged before, calling them back to their core beliefs. In Advent we are called back to fundamentals.

This prayer, by Methodist Minister Rev Abe Konadu-Yiadom, praises God for the paradox that is John, for his direct and uncompromising message and his inherent humility. If you want to know how all this helps us in everyday life, read Luke 3.10-18.

God of Advent,
thank you for John the Baptist,
the greatest and the least,
for his certainty and his doubts;
for his honesty and his humility;
for his passion and his pondering;
for his single mindedness and his reflectiveness;
for his questions – and your answers,
all of which help us today in everyday life,
and for which we praise you. Amen.

SERVICES & OPEN CHURCHES FOR THIS WEEK

Sun. 14 th	10.00am	Holy Communion	Girton
	10.00am	Morning Worship	Collingham St John the Baptist
	10.15pm	Morning Worship	Winthorpe
	10.30am	Morning Worship	Clifton
	5.00pm	Carol Service	South Scarle
Tues. 16 th	10am-noon	Open Church	Collingham St John the Baptist
	10am-4pm	Open Churches	Besthorpe and Girton
	10.00am	Pause for Thought	Collingham All Saints
	1.00pm	Funeral – Brian Townsend	Collingham St John the Baptist
	2.00pm	Advent Course	Collingham Methodist Church Foyer
Thurs. 18 th	6.30pm	Carol Service	Collingham All Saints
	1.30-3.30pm	Open Church	Winthorpe
Fri. 19 th	7.00pm	Candlelit Carol Service	Clifton
Sat. 20 th	10am-4pm	Open Churches	Besthorpe and Girton

Open Churches: Holme and Langford churches are open every day, 10am to 4pm.
 Collingham All Saints is open every day, whenever the "Church Open" sign is displayed.

NOTICES

Please note (1): The Morning Worship service at Collingham All Saints on 21st Dec is cancelled.

Please note (2): St Helen's Church, Thorney will not be open on Sundays for quiet prayer for a while as work is underway to install heating!

Collingham Singers are presenting a Christmas Entertainment on Friday December 12th 7.30pm at South Scarle Community Centre. Tickets £10 from Gascoignes (High Street, Collingham), Di Smith (07467 064292) or choir members.

The Besthorpe Advent Calendar is back! This year we are collecting Christmas food treats and toiletries for the whole family for the Collingham Food Pantry. The collection box is in the Church porch until December 15th or ring Sue Butler on 01636 892068 if you want anything collecting.

Advent Course: Come and join an ecumenical preparation for Christmas on the themes of Love, Hope and Joy, in the foyer of the Methodist Church on Tuesdays from 2 - 3pm starting 2nd December and ending 16th December. All welcome!

The next Worship Leaders meeting will be on Monday 26th January, starting at 7pm at South Scarle.

Safeguarding: Val Watson and Sally Lee are our Parish Safeguarding Officers (PSOs). If you have any safeguarding concerns, please contact either of them – see Contacts below. More information about safeguarding can be found on our website, www.easttrentchurches.org.uk.

Churches Together in Collingham are holding two regular house groups in the village to share a time of fellowship, prayer and discussion every alternate week. Everyone is welcome – if you're interested and would like more information, please ring Duncan Smith on 07394 325675.

For information on the **Newark Food Bank** and the **Collingham Area Pantry** please see the [Community Action](#) page on our website (under 'About Us' on the menu).

NEXT SUNDAY 21st December – 4th of Advent

10.00am	Holy Communion	Holme
3.00pm	Carol Service	Harby
10am-4pm	Open Churches	Besthorpe and Gorton

Readings for next Sunday: Isaiah 7.10-16; Psalm 80.1-8, 18-20; Romans 1.1-7; Matthew 1.18-end.

PRAYER

Please pray for:

- ❖ Lord Jesus, light of the world, John told the people to prepare, for you were very near. As Christmas grows closer day by day, help us to be ready to welcome you now.
- ❖ Peace in the Middle East, Ukraine, Russia and all other countries where there is conflict.
- ❖ All those who have recently died - Brian & Charles Wright, Brian Townsend.
- ❖ In our year's mind – Janet Radcliff, Hazel McParland, Colin Owens, Justine, Isabella & Harvey Collison, Donald Moran, Clive Hodson, Gerald Cobbold, Joan Cannon, Raymond Smith, Kenneth Breed, Alan Rolfe, Jack Batty.

CONTACTS

PASTORAL ENQUIRIES ~ Please contact your church warden(s).

SAFEGUARDING – Val Watson (07815 644236) or Sally Lee (01522 778691).

ALL OTHER ENQUIRIES, INCLUDING WEDDINGS & BAPTISMS, AND ITEMS FOR GRAPEVINE ~

Please contact the East Trent Group Administrator, Mrs Christine Hasman:

Telephone: 01636 679105

email: admin@easttrentchurches.org.uk

GRAPEVINE ONLINE:

<http://www.easttrentchurches.org.uk/community/east-trent-churches-7910/grapevine>