

A warm welcome to everyone, especially any visitors. If you are new to our Churches please introduce yourselves to the sides people on duty. If you need help in any way during your time in church please talk to one of the sides people. Please note that both churches are installed with hearing loops to help those who wear a hearing aid with the T setting.

SERVICES NEXT WEEK

St. Mary's

Wednesday 10am ~ Holy Communion Sunday 9.30am ~ Family Eucharist

Sunday 17th December ~ 3.30pm Carols and Christingle followed by mulled wine and mince-pies

St Oswald's

Sunday 11am ~ Parish Eucharist

From the Diary

Monday 11th 7.30pm ~ Horticultural Society Christmas Evening ~ Memorial Hall

Tuesday 12th 7 for 7.30pm ~ Carols in the Memorial Hall £3 entry ~ refreshments and mulled wine

Wednesday 20th 7.30pm Carol Service at St Oswald's with the Hooe Village Band

TODAY'S READINGS The Second Sunday of Advent

The Collect

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. **Amen.**

First Reading Isaiah 40.1-11

¹ Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. ² Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. ³ A voice cries out: 'In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴ Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. ⁵ Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.' ⁶ A voice says, 'Cry out!' And I said, 'What shall I cry?' All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. ⁷ The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. ⁸ The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever. 9 Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, 'Here is your God!' ¹⁰ See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. ¹¹ He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

Second Reading 2 Peter 3.8-15a

⁸ Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. ⁹ The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. ¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be discolved with fire, and the earth and every-thing that is done on it will be disclosed. ¹¹ Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, ¹² waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? ¹³ But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. ¹⁴ Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; ¹⁵ and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

Gospel Reading Mark 1.1-8

¹ The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. ² As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; ³ the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight," ⁴ John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the for-giveness of sins. ⁵ And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶ Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷ He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸ I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.'

Contacts:

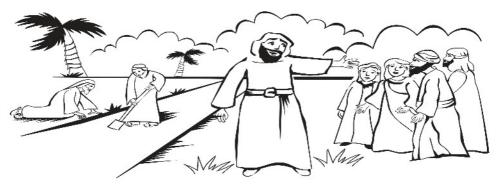
Priest in Charge: Rev Paul Frostick To 01424 218126 / 07713243427 paul.frostick@sky.com

Churchwardens: Hooe~ Mr Rist 2892576 Mr Pattisson 2845087 Ninfield ~ Mr Ringrose 2892792 Mrs Owen 2225421

PRAYERS & INTENTIONS

Pray daily for peace and all those who suffer from illness especially Barry and Margaret West, Hope Green, Peter Green, Donna Morris, Nicki Rist, Justin Pierce, Jim Hoad and Aubrey Yull. This week we pray for residents of Moor Hall Drive, Ninfield, Mill Lane Gardens, Hooe, and Ninfield Bowls Club. In our CTiB cycle of prayer we pray for

St Mark's Church and Jonathan Frais



In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. (Isaiah 40:3) © Copyright 2008 Kevin Maybew Ltd

Poem by

Peter Dainty

Isn't it time for someone to shout in the desert like wild John: Level off the unjust hills; fill in the oppressed valleys; straighten the crooked ways and make a smooth road for the Lord to enter his Kingdom'? Any items for the Weekly Sheet to Sally Bobin sallypod@hotmail.co.uk and Sally Parry sparrygb@gmail.com By Wednesday 6pm please.