

Benefice of Heyford with Stowe-Nine-Churches  
and Flore with Brockhall

Our Mission Statement

## SERVICES SCHEDULE AND NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2025

Rector: Revd Stephen Burrow 01327 344436



### Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December

2:00pm	Christmas Afternoon Sing-along	Heyford Church
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### Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December – Advent 2

10:00am	Holy Communion Service	Church Stowe
11:00am	Partnership First Sunday Service	Flore Church
6:00pm	Evening Prayer	Heyford Church

### Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December

2:00pm	Messy Church Christingle	Flore Church
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### Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December – Advent 3

10:00am	Benefice Holy Communion	Flore Church
10:00am	Instant Nativity	Flore Chapel

### Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December

7:00pm	Carols on the Green in Nether Heyford	Foresters Arms
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### Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> December – Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December

11:30am – 3:00pm	Angels Festival	Flore Church
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### Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December – Advent 4

10:00am	Holy Communion	Flore Church
3:00pm	Crib Service	Upper Stowe
6:00pm	Carols by Candlelight	Heyford Church
6:00pm	Carol Service	Flore Chapel

### Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Eve

6:00pm	Village Carol Service	Flore Church
8:30pm	Holy Communion for Christmas	Church Stowe

### Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Day

10:00am	Holy Communion for Christmas	Heyford Church
10:00am	Holy Communion for Christmas	Flore Church
10:00am	Family Christmas Service	Upper Stowe
11:00am	Family Christmas Service	Flore Chapel
11:15am	Holy Communion for Christmas	Brockhall Church

### Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas 1

10:00am	United Service of Holy Communion	Flore Church
10:00am	Service of Lessons & Carols	Upper Stowe

### *Midweek Services:*

Holy Communion at 10:00AM every Thursday at Flore Church.

Due to various events in the church, Flore Church will not be open for private prayer during December.

Morning Prayer on Zoom every Friday morning at 9:00AM (not 26<sup>th</sup> Dec). Please contact the Rector for details

## Letter from the Rector

Dear Friends.

As you receive this newsletter, we are rapidly approaching the end of the Church Year, and looking forward to Advent Sunday on 30<sup>th</sup> November. Already, I'm receiving adverts for Advent Calendars and wondering at the number of different ways we could choose to count down the days to Christmas. There seem to be Advent Calendars for everything these days – chocolate (of course), Lego, dice, highland cows (!?), and beauty products to name just a few. Even the Tank Museum at Bovington are offering an Advent Calendar with a tiny tank a day to hang on your Christmas Tree!!

The last few days, as shops have put away the Halloween stuff for another year, and displayed more Christmas lines, a verse from a nursery rhyme has been going around in my head; *Christmas is coming, the goose is getting fat. Please put a penny in the old man's hat. If you haven't got a penny, a ha'penny will do. If you haven't got a ha'penny, then God bless you*'. Many people in our local communities will struggle to feed themselves and their families this coming Christmas, let alone have an Advent Calendar to open each day.

If you'd like to help the food bank to support people and families who are struggling, here is another **Reverse (Pre-) Advent Calendar** which runs from Monday 24<sup>th</sup> November to Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December. Not all of these items seem particularly Christmassy, but they are the things the food bank needs right now to support local people in need. Please set aside one item a day for the foodbank, rather than (or in addition to) opening a window and taking a chocolate/highland cow/dice/etc (delete as appropriate) from your Advent calendar. Starting and finishing this early means that the things we collect can get to the food bank in time to be distributed to those in need before Christmas.

Mon 24 Nov	Tue 25 Nov	Wed 26 Nov	Thu 27 Nov	Fri 28 Nov	Weekend
Tinned meat or fish	Packet of 'Pasta n Sauce'	Tinned hot dogs or burgers	Corned Beef	Packet of Biscuits	Christmas snacks selection
Mon 1 Dec	Tue 2 Dec	Wed 3 Dec	Thu 4 Dec	Fri 5 Dec	Weekend
Tinned new potatoes	Tinned carrots or peas	Tinned fruit	Long-life Milk	Jar of Pasta Sauce	Christmas Chocolate Selection Box
Mon 8 Dec	Tue 9 Dec	Wed 10 Dec	Thu 11 Dec	Fri 12 Dec	Weekend
Shampoo or Body Wash	Bars of Soap	Deodorant or anti-perspirant	Toothpaste or toothbrushes	Washing up Liquid	Christmas Biscuits or chocolates

Thank you for your tremendous generosity in the gift services, and in your support for the food bank throughout the year. At a time when money is tight for so many of us, your continued generosity is a real blessing to the communities we love and serve and pray for. Thank you.

As we move towards the beginning of a new Church Year, I pray you have a peaceful, reflective Advent.

With love and blessings,

Rev'd Stephen (Tel: 01327 344436)

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**Praying for our villages by street:** During December we shall be praying for people living in Winston Close, Roberts Field and Ridgeway Furlong in Heyford, Nether Lane and Thornton Close in Flore, The Green in Church Stowe and The Old Rectory, Rose Cottage and Western Cottage in Brockhall.