

KINGSBURY/BAXTERLEY GROUP OF CHURCHES

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



Merevale



Hurley



Kingsbury



Baxterley



Wood End



Priest-in-Charge: In Vacancy
Parish Office Tel: 07426 068938
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21/12/2025 —
Advent 4

SUNDAY SERVICES

This Sunday - 21st Dec
Advent 4

BAXTERLEY

9.30am Holy Communion

MEREVALE

11.00am Carol Service

(Readings: Isaiah 7. 10-16;
Psalm 80. 1-8, 18-20; Romans
1. 1-7; Matthew 1. 18-end)

Next Sunday - 28th Dec
Christmas 1

GROUP SERVICE

10.30am Holy Communion

HURLEY

(Readings: Isaiah 63. 7-9;
Psalm 148. 7-end; Hebrews 2.
10-end; Matthew 2. 13-end)

Sunday 4th January '26
Epiphany

HURLEY

9.30am Holy Communion

MEREVALE

11.00am Holy Communion

(Readings: Isaiah 60. 1-6;
Psalm 72. 10-15; Ephesians 3.
1-12; Matthew 2. 1-12)

You'll find any important
updates on our FaceBook
Page

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61563036555109>
or on our Website
<http://www.kingbaxgroup.org.uk>

Forthcoming Events

Tuesday 23rd December

- 10.30am Morning Prayer at Kingsbury
- 1.30-3.30 Puzzle Library open
- 8.00pm Compline via zoom (and online via Facebook)

Wednesday 24th December - Christmas Eve

- 9.30am Morning Worship at Wood End
- 4.00pm Crib Service at Kingsbury
- 7.30pm Christmas Communion at Baxterley
- 11.30pm Christmas Communion at Kingsbury
- 11.30pm Christmas Communion at Merevale (please welcome AD Phelim O'Hare presiding)

Thursday 25th December - Christmas Day

- 10.30am Family Christmas Communion at Kingsbury

Monday 29th December

- 11.00am Funeral of Liam Bannigan at Baxterley

Tuesday 30th December

- 8.00pm Compline via zoom (and online via Facebook)

Forthcoming Events continued overleaf.....

Advent Candle Liturgy—Advent 4

We light this candle to recall Mary and Joseph who saw their visions and dreamed their dreams, who heard angelic Announcements and were obedient to your word and their calling, giving a home and care to the child.

May the light overcome the darkness.

Advent Candle Liturgy—Christmas Eve/Day

We light this candle for the baby of Bethlehem, for the child born to be king, for the boy in the cradle who became the man on the cross, the Redeemer and Saviour of the world.

The darkness is overcome; the light is around us.

Collect for Advent 4

Eternal God, as Mary waited for the birth of your Son, so we wait for his coming in glory; bring us through the birth pangs of this present age to see, with her, our great salvation in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**



Collect for Christmas Night

Eternal God, in the stillness of this night you sent your almighty Word to pierce the world's darkness with the light of salvation: give to the earth the peace that we long for and fill our hearts with the joy of heaven through our Saviour, Jesus Christ. **Amen**



Collect for Christmas Day

Lord Jesus Christ, your birth at Bethlehem draws us to kneel in wonder at heaven touching earth: accept our heartfelt praise as we worship you, our Saviour and our eternal God. **Amen**



Please Pray for:

Those who are ill:

Rachel : Lauren : Samuel
Hope : Sean : Kay
Rose Stubbs : Glenys
Carole Haines : Diane : Fred
Sandra : Bill : Millie
Martha : Sheila : Trevor
Hannah & Olivia
Chris Martin : Brian Moss
Ann Gallagher : Marjorie Nunan
Helen de Renzy : Lionel
Jane Pratt : Felicity Cawthra
Danielle Hughes : Margaret Evans

Those who have died

Margaret Pallett :: June Beasley
Liam Bernard Bannigan
Danny Ward
Tracy from The Anchor
and All families grieving the loss
of loved ones

Please also pray for

The Archbishop of
Canterbury Elect,
Dame Sarah Mullally,
current Bishop of London

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**SEE OVERLEAF FOR
READINGS &
FURTHER NOTICES**

**This week we pray for all
who live or work in these
Roads in our communities:**

Maple Drive & Meadow Close
in Kingsbury; Lime Grove in
Hurley; Everglade Road in
Wood End; and Hipsley Lane
in Baxterley

Safeguarding Support: If you
have a safeguarding matter you
need to discuss, speak to our
Parish Safeguarding Officer -
Dr. Pru Allington-Smith on
01827 825701 or Rev. Carole
or in emergency the Bishop's
Safeguarding Adviser, Steph
Haynes on 07342 993844
StephH@cofebirmingham.com

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Facebook**

Readings for the Fourth Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 7. 10-16

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, ¹¹Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. ¹²But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. ¹³Then Isaiah said: 'Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. ¹⁵He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.

Matthew 1. 18-end

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.' ²²All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: ²³'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel', which means, 'God is with us.' ²⁴When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, ²⁵but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

Psalms 80. 1-8, 18-20

¹ Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel,
you who lead Joseph like a flock!
You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth
² before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh.
Stir up your might, and come to save us!
³ Restore us, O God;
let your face shine, that we may be saved.
⁴ O Lord God of hosts, how long will you be angry with
your people's prayers?
⁵ You have fed them with the bread of tears,
and given them tears to drink in full measure.
⁶ You make us the scorn* of our neighbours;
our enemies laugh among themselves.
⁷ Restore us, O God of hosts;
let your face shine, that we may be saved.
⁸ You brought a vine out of Egypt;
you drove out the nations and planted it.
¹⁸ Then we will never turn back from you;
give us life, and we will call on your name.
¹⁹ Restore us, O Lord God of hosts;
let your face shine, that we may be saved.

Romans 1. 1-7

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, ²which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, ³the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh ⁴and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, ⁵through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, ⁶including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, ⁷To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

New Pattern of Services from January 2026

With the deteriorating condition of Hurley Church and in an effort to raise congregation numbers, the PCC has approved a change to our pattern of **Sunday services from 1st January 2026** as follows:

1st Sundays: 9.30am Hurley
11.00am Merevale
3rd Sundays: 11.00am Merevale
2nd & 4th Sundays: 9.30am Baxterley (Winter)
11.00am Kingsbury
4.30pm Baxterley (Summer)

Our Mid-week services are unaffected.

Please remember to update your diaries now!

Forthcoming Events continued.....

Wednesday 31st December

- 9.30am Holy Communion at Wood End

Thursday 1st January 2026

- **NO** Evening Prayer at Baxterley

Friday 2nd January

- 12.30pm Funeral of Danny Ward at Wood End

Joining Details for most Online Zoom Services & Meetings

Meeting ID: **999 516 9418**

Passcode: **Twigster3**

You can also join by telephone on number: 0203 481 5237 and entering the ID: 999 516 9418 and Code: 570910568

Dates for your Diary

Sun 28th Dec - 12noon Burial of

Ashes of Derek Harrod @ Kingsbury

Mon 29th Dec - 11.00am Funeral

of Liam Bannigan at Baxterley

Fri 2nd Jan - 12.30pm Funeral of

Danny Ward at Wood End Church

Jigsaw Puzzle Lending Library...

Free jigsaw puzzle lending library on **Tuesday 23rd Dec. & 13th Jan at The Old Stables, Kingsbury Church—between 1.30-3.30pm.**
Open every **2nd & 4th Tuesday!**



Interregnum Arrangements

Our parish is now in interregnum and the Vicarage and its telephone will be 'off limits'. From now on all pastoral matters should be passed to **Rev.**

Carole via the new 'office' telephone number of **07426 068938** or via email on **admin@kingbaxgroup.org.uk**.

Matters regarding church buildings/grounds should be passed to the church wardens.

Many Thanks.