



St Martin's Church, Welton

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10 December 2017

Advent 2

WELCOME!

MORNING SERVICE

This morning we welcome Gill Beardmore
and thank her for leading our worship.

Please stay for tea or coffee after the service — we would love to chat with you.

MORNING SERVICES. All commence at 11.00am

| | Today | 17 December | 24 December Revd Canon Sarah Brown | 25 December The Ven. Richard Ormston, Archdeacon of Northampton. |
|--------------------|------------------------|-------------------|--|--|
| Challis | Morning Service | Val Hamblin | Jean Somerville | |
| Sidesperson | Joan Roberts | Pam Broadhead | Bob Somerville | |
| Reader | Joan Roberts | Charles Broadhead | | |
| Prayers | Keith Beardmore | Vicar | Vicar | |

AFTERNOON SERVICES

| Today | 17 December | 24 December |
|---|--|--------------------------------|
| W.I. Carol Service 3.00pm | Carol Service 4.00pm | Crib Service 6.00pm |
| <i>W.I. Carol Service. All welcome.</i> | <i>St Martin's Carol Service. All welcome.</i> | <i>All welcome.</i> |



You are warmly invited to:
Christmas Services at St Martin's, Welton

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**

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. 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.

A voice cries out: 'In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. 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. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.' 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. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever. 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!' See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. 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.

Gospel Reading **Mark 1. 1-8**

The Gospel According to Mark.

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight" ', John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. 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. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. 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. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.'

It is with great sadness that we notify the death of Harold Thompson on 02 December in Northampton General Hospital. Harold has been a valued member of our church family, having served St Martin's as Bellringer, Sacristan, and Sidesperson. We all send our heartfelt sympathy to Sally and his family. Please keep them in your prayers as they now prepare for his funeral. Details of this will follow.

It is with great sadness that we notify the death of Maud Lennox of Ashby Road on 04 December in Northampton General Hospital after a short illness. Her funeral will take place at 9.00am on Thursday 14 December at Rainsbrook Crematorium. Please keep Graham and her family in your prayers.

If you have any news or forthcoming events: email ros@rosirius.co.uk. Please let me know if you would like your name adding to the email list to receive weekly pew leaflets. Thank you. Roslyn.