

Welcome to the Churches of Orsett, Bulphan and Horndon on the Hill



Weekly notice sheet Sunday 13th December

**Morning Praise Service at 10am,
St. Giles and All Saints Church, Orsett**



*Thank you for joining us! If this is your first time at one of our churches, it's great to have you with us.
Do make yourself known to the minister or to one of those greeting at the door.*

Today's Collect

God for whom we watch and wait, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son: give us courage to speak the truth, to hunger for justice, and to suffer for the cause of right, with Jesus Christ our Lord.

Dear All,

Christmas is fast approaching. And it will be a Christmas very different from previous years but the most important thing is that Christ is still at the centre.

This year we will be holding a Benefice Drive-in Carol Service at the Benton's Farm in Horndon on the Hill. We are extremely grateful to the Benton family for hosting this. Whilst it is far removed from our usual candle-lit services in church it is perhaps not such a far cry from the birth of Jesus in a stable all those years ago.

As I said in my October magazine article, much of what we are doing in church is simplified at the moment and, whilst the lack of contact with others has undoubtedly caused significant pain over the past year which we must not underestimate, in some cases, the simplicity has served to draw us back to the God we worship, and to our dependence upon him.

There is, though, a need to book for most Christmas services this year. This is not something that sits comfortably with me and I apologise for having had to instigate this. However, I do not want the fact that we have made provision for ordering tickets online to prevent anyone who is uncomfortable with technology from attending any service. Therefore, if you are unable or have any problems in booking a ticket on a computer, please, please do contact me on 01375 891254 or ask someone else who is confident online to help you.

At the time of writing this, there are still spaces available for all services and please note that for Christmas Day at Orsett at 10am, there is no need to book. Please could I ask you, though, to book your tickets sooner rather than later, as ticket numbers are limited. Should the tickets not be required by those receiving these weekly notices, we will offer them more widely.

I look forward to seeing some of you over the Christmas Period and for those of you who are not venturing out at the moment, please know that you are all very much in our prayers.

As ever, please do let me know of any pastoral or prayer needs.

Take care and God bless,

Sue



Hobnob Magazine

- January edition—Please submit articles to Ron by December 23rd email: ronald714@btinternet.com
- The online version of the magazine can be found on our website news page www.hobnob.org.uk/magazine

Knowing and sharing the love of Jesus in the Church and community

We take safeguarding seriously; details are displayed in all our churches and on the website

Prayers for the week

Prayer Diary

- Pray for the Church of England Guild of Vergers and give thanks for the work and devotion of the men and women who carry out this important task.
- PRAY for The Falkland Islands (E-P to the Archbishop of Canterbury) The Rt Revd Timothy Thornton, Bishop to the Forces and to the Falkland Islands
- Pray for those working in schools, NHS and caring professions that they will have the opportunity for some rest, refreshment and relaxation over the Christmas period.
- Pray for all that are working for Thurrock Foodbank at this time, that they are able to manage the high volume of work and that they are able to get some rest. The dedication and commitment to Thurrock Foodbank is an inspiration.
- Prayers for the rest of the week can be found here-://www.chelmsford.anglican.org/uploads-new/publications/WePray-DEC20.pdf

Benefice Prayer Diary

Ivy, Lucy, Ron S, Steve J, Janet, Deb, Sandra, Pat, Dottie and her family

Prayers for the recently bereaved

Freda and her family, Michelle and her family, the families of Tony and Peter.

Please let Revd Sue or Revd Max know of people who are unwell or in need of pastoral support



Christmas Services

Tickets for 13th, 20th and 21st December will be available to order from 9am on Saturday 5th December and will be issued on a first come first served basis. To order, please copy the relevant link and enter into the address bar on your internet browser. On the Eventbrite page click register, enter number of tickets required, against each ticket enter individual names but you can use the same email address against each name.

- **13th December:** Outdoor Glowstick Christmas Services:
5pm at Orsett *book tickets at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/131213524183>*
6pm at Bulphan *book tickets at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/131219437871>*
4pm and 7pm at Horndon-on-the-Hill *tickets to be collected from Horndon church, Tuesday or Saturday between 10am and 12 noon*
- **20th December:** 4pm, Drive in Carol Service at Arden Hall Farm, Horndon on the Hill.
book tickets at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/131195227457>
- **21st December:** 7.30pm Blue Christmas Service at Orsett Church for 'when Christmas hurts.'
book tickets at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/131220117905>

Tickets for 24th December will be available to order from 9am on Saturday 12th December

- **24th December:** 7pm at Orsett Church Family Christmas Service; 10pm at Bulphan Village Hall, Christmas Holy Communion Service; 8.30pm at Horndon Church, Christmas Holy Communion Service
- **25th December:** 10am at Orsett Church, Christmas Holy Communion Service

The Children's Society

Normally, the schools hand out collection candles and a collection is taken at our Christingle services but this year this has not been possible. The Children's Society is a national charity working to transform the hopes and happiness of young people facing abuse, exploitation and neglect. They support them through their most serious life challenges and campaign tirelessly for the big social changes that will improve the lives of those who need hope most.



Please consider supporting this charity by visiting <https://www.childrenssociety.org.uk/how-you-can-help/donate>

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Thurrock Foodbank



Your continued support for this charity is much appreciated. The Benefice has organised 5 collection boxes as listed below:

Orsett	The Rectory and Orsett Stores
Bulphan	24, Church Lane and Bulphan Local Store
Horndon-on-the-Hill	1, Lion Cottages, High Road

Shortages this week to put in their Christmas hampers are: rectangular Christmas cakes, Christmas Puddings, stuffing mix bottles of non alcoholic Christmas drink/punch, savoury biscuits/nibbles, cranberry sauce

Diary Dates

Services

- This service, at Orsett Church, will be live streamed and can be viewed at www.hobnob.org.uk/watch
- Next Sunday's Holy Communion service will be at 10am 20th November at Horndon-on-the-Hill Church and will be recorded and can be viewed at www.hobnob.org.uk/watch
- Morning and Evening Prayers will be held on a Monday and Friday at 8.30am and 6pm respectively and can be found through Facebook @HOBNOBChurches.
- If you would like to listen to daily prayers, these can be heard at <https://www.chpublishing.co.uk/apps/time-to-pray>
- Daily Hope, a free phone line of hymns, reflections and prayers can be found on 0800 8048044



Individual Private Prayer



Horndon-on-the-Hill Church is open on Tuesday and Saturday, 10am to 12.00 noon

Bulphan Church is open on Monday 10am to 12noon (1st and 3rd Thursday Holy Communion Service)

This time is for quiet prayer and unfortunately at the moment, following Government guidelines, the time should not be used for socialising with other members of the congregation.

Bible Readings for this week

Principal Service

Sunday	Isaiah 61.1-4, 8-end 1 Thessalonians 5.16-24	Psalms 126 John 1.6-8, 19-28
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	Morning prayer	Night prayer		Morning prayer	Night prayer
Monday	Psalms 40 Isaiah 49.14-25 1 Thessalonians 5.1-11	Psalms 26 Isaiah 38.1-8, 21-22 Matthew 16.13-end	Tuesday	Psalms 70 Isaiah 50 1 Thessalonians 5.12-end	Psalms 50 Isaiah 38.9-20 Matthew 17.1-13
Wednesday	Psalms 75 Isaiah 51.1-8 2 Thessalonians 1	Psalms 82 Isaiah 39 Matthew 17.14-21	Thursday	Psalms 76 Isaiah 51.9-16 2 Thessalonians 2	Psalms 44 Zephaniah 1.1-2.3 Matthew 17.22-end
Friday	Psalms 98 Isaiah 51.17-end 2 Thessalonians 3	Psalms 49 Zephaniah 3.1-13 Matthew 18.1-20	Saturday	Psalms 146 Isaiah 52.1-12 Jude	Psalms 57 Zephaniah 3.14-end Matthew 18.21-end

Contact details

Rector: **Revd Sue Mann**, The Rectory, School Lane, Orsett, Essex. RM16 3JS

Telephone: [01375 891254](tel:01375891254) Email: rectorsue@hobnob.org.uk

The Rector's day off is Wednesday each week

Associate Priest: Revd Max Blake

Telephone: [07596 215038](tel:07596215038) email: max@hobnob.org.uk

Baptism enquiries for the Benefice:

Christine Mortimer email: c.mortimer@hobnob.org.uk

Benefice website: www.hobnob.org.uk

Find us on Facebook or twitter [@hobnobchurches](https://www.facebook.com/hobnobchurches)

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Comfort and Joy

We would like to tell you about the Church of England Christmas resource, Comfort and Joy, which has been produced following on from the success of Follow the Star which some of you used last year.



Comfort and Joy includes reflections for each day from Christmas Day to 2nd January featuring contributions from **Kate Bottley, Jonathan Bryan, Bob Chilcott, Martha Collison, Stephen Cottrell, Guli Francis-Dehqani, Chine McDonald, Sally Phillips and Justin Welby.**

Please let Sue know if you would like her to order you a paper copy of this booklet, which will cost approximately 80p. This resource will also made available freely via audio, smart speaker, as well as in app and email formats with accompanying prayer activities for children and families.

Advent Reflections

Revd Max is going to be holding four reflection sessions on four parables, for Advent on Wednesdays at 5.30pm, approx 25 minutes in length. The schedule is as follows:-

2nd Dec The faithful or unfaithful slave. Matthew 24:45-51

9th Dec The 10 bridesmaids. Matthew 25:1-13.

16th Dec The Talents. Matthew 14-30.

23rd Dec The judgement. Matthew 25:31-46.

These are the last parables before the story of Holy Week and are all about the return of Jesus.