

## Diary

Mon 16th Dec	9.00am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
Tues 17th Dec	9am	Experience Christmas	Tibberton School
	2.00pm	School Carol Service	Highnam
	6.00pm	School Carol Service	Highnam
Thurs 19th Dec	9.00am	Wild Wanderings	Highnam Academy
	9.00am	Collective Worship	Highnam Academy
	7.00pm	Carol Service	Highnam

### Sunday 22nd December - 3rd Sunday of Advent

10.00am	Benefice Holy Communion	Minsterworth
4.00pm	Carol Service	Rudford

## Highnam Academy Community Coffee Morning

Thursday 19th December. 9.30am

All welcome



### Contacts

**Benefice Administrator:** Amy Meta (Mon, Tues or Fri 9am - 1pm)  
Email: [highnam.church@aol.co.uk](mailto:highnam.church@aol.co.uk). Tel: 07732331068  
(answerphone)



**Vicar:** Rev Heather de Gruyther 01452 942173; [revheatherdg@gmail.com](mailto:revheatherdg@gmail.com)  
Day off is Friday

For all other contact details please refer to the front page of the monthly Link;

Or visit our website: [www.highnamchurch.org](http://www.highnamchurch.org)

Find us on Facebook search for 'Highnam Church Life' or 'Tibberton Church'.



The United Benefice of  
Highnam, Tibberton with Rudford and Taynton and  
the Parish of Minsterworth

## Sunday 15th December

## Third Sunday of Advent



*A very warm welcome to our services*

*If you are visiting or worshipping with us for the first time, we do hope that you will enjoy the service.*

*Please introduce yourself to the clergy and the worship team.*

### Sunday 15th December - Today's Services

9.30am	Holy Communion	Minsterworth
11.00am	Holy Communion	Highnam
5.00pm	Family Huddle	Highnam Academy
7.00pm	Carol Service	Taynton

### Bible Readings

Zephaniah 3.14-end

Philippians 4.4-7

Luke 3.7-18



### 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.

## Carol Services

7.00pm	15th December	Taynton
7.00pm	19th December	Highnam
4.00pm	22nd December	Rudford
4.00pm	27th December	Minsterworth



## Tuesday 24th December – Christmas Eve

4.00pm Crib Service Highnam  
- Come dressed up as a nativity character

11.00pm Midnight Mass Highnam & Minsterworth



## Wednesday 25th December – Christmas Day

10.00am Family Christmas Communion Taynton

### Congregational Christmas Card

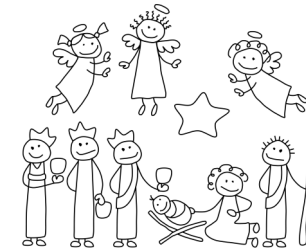
Building on the Bronze award from Eco Church, Highnam Church are introducing a congregational Christmas card this year. The reason for this is 2 fold, firstly they save valuable resources by not sending cards to people that you frequently see in church and secondly raise money for charity. How it works - sign the Christmas card that you will find in Highnam church and make a donation in the monkey puzzle bowl that will be sent to the Childrens Society. Our thanks to Kath Cudby who kindly made the card and to John Grayson who made and carved the 2 new bowls you will see in Highnam church from the monkey puzzle that was felled earlier in the year.

If you want to know more about Eco Church please ask.

Helen Babbage - Church Warden

## WANTED!

### Volunteers for Crib Service – Christmas Eve 4pm



#### Welcomers and costume finders

Skills required – must be friendly and **not** committed to finding costume perfection (sometimes a tea towel will have to do!)

#### Nativity Characters

Skills required – ability to laugh, willingness to parade whilst singing, willingness to dress up and have fun!

All costumes provided!

### Applications to Rev. Heather ASAP please!

Floral donations. If anyone would like make a contribution towards the Christmas floral arrangements please see Christine Steadman or Sue Jones.

Please save your used stamps for Susanna – supporting Macular Degeneration Research charity. Cut 1cm around stamp'

Highnam PCC is actively seeking to contact the relatives of Constance Irene Evelyn ILES who died in 1979. We would like to trace them as the memorial is in need of repair. If anyone has any information about how we can contact the family please get in touch with Gill Davies, Churchwarden 0744 365 2148 or email [highnamchurchwardens@gmail.com](mailto:highnamchurchwardens@gmail.com)

## Luke 3.7-18

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.'

And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?' In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.' Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, 'Teacher, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.' Soldiers also asked him, 'And we, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.'

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

## Bible Reading

### Zephaniah 3.14-end

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;  
shout, O Israel!  
Rejoice and exult with all your heart,  
O daughter Jerusalem!  
The Lord has taken away the judgements against you,  
he has turned away your enemies.  
The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst;  
you shall fear disaster no more.  
On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:  
Do not fear, O Zion;  
do not let your hands grow weak.  
The Lord, your God, is in your midst,  
a warrior who gives victory;  
he will rejoice over you with gladness,  
he will renew you in his love;  
he will exult over you with loud singing  
as on a day of festival.  
I will remove disaster from you,  
so that you will not bear reproach for it.  
I will deal with all your oppressors  
at that time.  
And I will save the lame  
and gather the outcast,  
and I will change their shame into praise  
and renown in all the earth.  
At that time I will bring you home,  
at the time when I gather you;  
for I will make you renowned and praised  
among all the peoples of the earth,  
when I restore your fortunes  
before your eyes, says the Lord.

### Philippians 4.4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.