

The Benefice of Wantage Downs East Hendred, West Hendred, and Ardington with Lockinge

3rd -17th December 2025

Services

7th December – Second Sunday of Advent

9am – West Hendred – Holy Communion

10am – East Hendred – Holy Communion

6pm – Lockinge – Evensong

14th December – Third Sunday of Advent

9am – West Hendred – Holy Communion

10am – East Hendred – Morning Service

11:15am – Ardington – Holy Communion

18th December – Thursday

6:30pm – East Hendred – Carols by Candlelight

21st December – Fourth Sunday of Advent

9am – West Hendred – Holy Communion

10am – East Hendred – Holy Communion

6pm – Lockinge – Carol Service

Readings for 7th December

Isaiah 11:1-10; Romans 15:4-13; Matthew 3:1-12.

Readings for 14th December

James 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11.

News

East Hendred - Christmas decorating

We will be decorating St Augustine's church for Christmas on Saturday 13 December, from 2-4pm. Everyone is invited to come and help dress the church with greenery and candles ahead of the Carols by Candlelight and the school end of term services. Donations of seasonal greenery for the pillars and the windows would be much appreciated – please just bring it

along that afternoon or leave it at the back of the church earlier in the day. If you have any questions, please call Anne Pappenheim (01235 835014).

West Hendred

The dates for the Compline / Night Prayer are 7pm on

- Week 1 - Thursday 4th December - John of Damascus, Monk, Teacher of the Faith
- Week 2 - Wednesday 10th December – Ember Day
- Week 3 - Wednesday 17th December – O Sapientia
- Week 4 - Tuesday 23rd December

This Advent, we're going to try holding the services as "Church at Home" on Zoom. Please contact Hugh Rees (details below) for information on how to join.

Quarterly Quodlibetal Questions

Join us for our Q&A with Nikolaj and Fr Matthew. It's a great opportunity to be curious about what others believe, including other kinds of Christians, and appreciate the nuances that exist within each church tradition. The good thing about these sessions is: you don't have to know the answers, you don't even have to ask the questions if you don't want to, but if you do, please be assured there are no stupid questions. So, come along to the Wheatsheaf, East Hendred, on Wednesday 17th December from 7:30pm.

Ardington and Lockinge Singers

Join us for the Ardington & Lockinge Singers and Friends annual concert: carols, readings, brass group etc. Free entry, collection for local charities. 6:30pm 22nd December, Ardington Church.

For more news and updates sign up to our online newsletter:

www.wantedowns.org/newsletters

Please remember in your prayers

Health and healing: Yvonne and Sidney H, Ewan and Colin Stutt, Louise E.

Global: Our twin Diocese of Jamaica and The Cayman Islands, following the devastation of hurricane Melissa.

Clergy

Rector: Nikolaj Christensen: rector@wantedowns.org | 01235 634940 | Usual working days: Sunday–Friday. NB! Emails sent after 3pm on a Friday may not be seen until Monday.

Associate Vicar: John Durant: areadean@wantedeandery.org.uk | 01235 234001

Church Wardens

Ardington: Patrice Vogt: Patrice_vogt@yahoo.fr **Lockinge:** Thomas Loyd: tloyd@lockinge-estate.co.uk; Liz Townsend: liztownsend@qi.com

East Hendred: Jill Cook: churchwardeneh@gmail.com **West Hendred:** Hugh Rees: hugh@citidata.co.uk

Church Office: office@wantedowns.org, Open: 9am-1pm Monday, 1pm-4pm Wednesday, 9am-1pm Friday.

This newsletter is sent out fortnightly. Material for inclusion should reach our administrator (email above) by 9am Monday.