

## Events for the week

### Monday

10.00 am Crafty Saints  
2.00 pm Afternoon Tea & Chat

### Wednesday

9.00 am Silver Swans

### Thursday

10.00 am Silver Swans  
4.00 pm Silver Swans

### Friday

9.00 am Silver Swans

### Saturday

10.00 am Hunts Art Group

### Sunday

8.30 am Holy Communion Service (BCP)  
11.00am All Age Worship Service



## Those For Whom Your Prayers Are Asked

Mike Pitt, Elizabeth Boston, Susan, Rachel,  
Mary Adlam, Jimmy, Samuel, Rosemary Whiffen,  
Marcus, Andrew Whiffen, Martin Whiffen, Dr. M,  
Jean Baker, Elizabeth Cooper, Mary Clubb.

This week we are remembering all who live and  
work in **Oberon Close & Owl Way**

## Christmas Cards & Winter Comfort

Let's help others in need this Christmas. From Sunday 3rd December there will be a display board in church so that we can place one Christmas Card on it rather than giving several Christmas Cards to other members of the congregation. Last year we gave £155 to Winter Comfort who are based in Cambridge. Winter Comfort provide great advice, support, and compassion for those in need many of whom are homeless. Gifts should be placed in the collection plate in an envelope marked Winter Comfort. The total that we raise for Winter Comfort will be announced after Christmas.

**Fundraising** – The PCC would welcome ideas for Fundraising. This is a very important part of our income and the Fundraising programme for 2024 will be agreed at the next PCC Meeting in January. If you would be interested in suggesting an idea for an event or organising either an existing or new event, please speak to one of the Churchwardens – Paul Fearon or Sue Craven.

**Lifts** – there are some people who are finding it difficult to come to church as they haven't got their own transport. If you would be willing to offer lifts to help these people to come and share in our worship and fellowship then please speak to Geoff, Sue, or Paul.



## All Saints Hartford with Houghton-with-Wyton

### **The First Sunday of Advent** **The Lesson of the Fig Tree** Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2023



### Today

**11.00 am Holy Communion Service (BCP)**

**Preacher: Rev Samuel Perez**

**Readers: Patrick Hawkins  
Rev Samuel Perez**

**Intercessor: Avis Owen**

### Readings

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Isaiah 64:1-9**

**Gospel: Mark 13:24-37**

### Hymns

**480 O come, O come Emmanuel**

**405 Lo, he comes with clouds descending**

**263 Hark! a herald voice is calling**

**755 Ye holy angels bright**

**940 Sanctum nomen Domini (Admin)**

### Collect

#### **The First Sunday of Advent**

Almighty God, as your kingdom dawns,  
turn us from the darkness of sin to the light  
of holiness, that we may be ready to meet  
you in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**

#### **Please Take The Weekly Sheet Home**

You can watch the latest Service video on our  
website: <https://www.allsaintshartford.org.uk/>

**First reading:**

**Isaiah 64:1-9**

<sup>1</sup>O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence—<sup>2</sup>as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil—to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence!<sup>3</sup>When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.<sup>4</sup>From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him.<sup>5</sup>You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed.<sup>6</sup>We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.<sup>7</sup>There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.<sup>8</sup>Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand.<sup>9</sup>Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity for ever. Now consider, we are all your people.

**Gospel:**

**Mark 13:24-37**

**The Coming of the Son of Man**

<sup>24</sup>‘But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, <sup>25</sup>and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.<sup>26</sup>Then they will see “the Son of Man coming in clouds” with great power and glory. <sup>27</sup>Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

**The Lesson of the Fig Tree**

<sup>28</sup>‘From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. <sup>29</sup>So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. <sup>30</sup>Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. <sup>31</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

**The Necessity for Watchfulness**

<sup>32</sup>‘But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>33</sup>Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. <sup>34</sup>It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. <sup>35</sup>Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, <sup>36</sup>or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. <sup>37</sup>And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.’



**Christmas at  
All Saint's Hartford  
'the church by the river'**

**Featured services for the  
Christmas period**

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December**

11.00 am All Age Communion  
4.00 pm Carol Service  
Doors open at 3.15 pm



**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Eve**

11.00 am Morning Prayer  
4.00 pm Nativity Service  
Doors open at 3.15 pm  
11.30 pm Midnight Communion  
Doors open at 11.00 pm

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Day**

11.00 am Holy Communion




 **Advent Carol Service** 

This service of Advent Carols, readings and poems is a beautiful and meaningful beginning to the season of Advent. Do join us at St Mary Houghton on **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December at 6.30pm**. (NB no Evensong at Hartford that evening)

You can contact the Rector,  
**Revd Geoff Boucher on 01480 461846** or  
by email at: [geoffboucher@btinternet.com](mailto:geoffboucher@btinternet.com)