

Kempsford

(with Whelford, Dunfield and Dudgrove)

Parish Newsletter

December 2024 & January 2025

SATURDAY 21st DECEMBER

KEMPSFORD VILLAGE HALL

1PM TIL LATE



Christmas

**Darts
Tournament**

Registration closes @ 2pm

2 Boards - £5 entry plus optional £2

plate comp after losing 1st game

**CASH & SPECIAL PRIZES • BAR •
FESTIVE COCKTAILS & SHOTS plus
COTSWOLD CHIPPY from 3pm**

All Welcome!



Parish Diary

DECEMBER

Sun	1st	9.30am	St Mary's Kempford	Holy Communion for Advent Sunday
Mon	2nd	5.00pm - 7.00pm	Kempford Village Hall	Pizza Van
Fri	6th	5.00pm - 7.30pm	St Mary's Kempford	Christmas Tree Trail
Sat	7th	3.00pm - 6.00pm	St Mary's Kempford	Christmas Tree Trail
Sun	8th	3.00pm - 7.00pm	St Mary's Kempford	Christmas Tree Trail
Sun	8th	9.30am	St Mary's Kempford	Service of the Word
Wed	11th	5.00pm - 7.30pm	Kempford Village Hall	Chippy Van
Thurs	12th	12.00pm - 2.00pm	Kempford Village Hall	Community Café
Sat	14th	5.30 for 6pm start	Kempford Village Hall	Christmas Family Bingo
Sun	15th	9.30am	Castle Eaton	Holy Communion
Sun	15th	11.00am	Marston Meysey	Nativity & Carols
Mon	16th	7.00pm	Kempford Village Hall	Parish Council Meeting
Mon	16th	6.00pm	Marston Meysey	Blue Christmas
Mon	16th	5.00pm - 7.00pm	Kempford Village Hall	Pizza Van
Tues	17th	7.00pm	The George, Kempford	Carols
Thurs	19th	6.30pm	St Anne's, Whelford	Carol Service
Sat	21st	1.00pm - 11.00pm	Kempford Village Hall	Christmas Darts Social Evening
Sun	22nd	10.00am	Meysey Hampton	Holy Communion - All 5 villages together
Sun	22nd	5.00pm	St Mary's Kempford	Carols & Crib Service
Tues	24th	2.00pm	St Mary's Kempford	All Age Christingle Service
Wed	25th	9.30am	St Mary's Kempford	Holy Communion
Sun	29th	10.30am	St Mary's Kempford	Holy Communion - All 5 villages together
Mon	30th	5.00pm - 7.00pm	Kempford Village Hall	Pizza Van

JANUARY

Sun	5th	9.30am	St Mary's Kempford	Holy Communion
Wed	8th	5.00pm - 7.30pm	Kempford Village Hall	Chippy Van
Thurs	9th	12.00pm - 2.00pm	Kempford Village Hall	Community Café
Sun	12th	9.30am	St Mary's Kempford	Service of the Word
Mon	13th	5.00pm - 7.00pm	Kempford Village Hall	Pizza Van
Sun	19th	9.30am	St Anne's, Whelford	Holy Communion
Mon	20th	7.00pm	Kempford Village Hall	Parish Council Meeting
Mon	20th		FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER COPY DEADLINE	
Sat	25th	11.00am - 2.00pm	Kempford Village Hall	Family Café
Sun	26th	9.30am	St Mary's Kempford	Holy Communion
Mon	27th	5.00pm - 7.00pm	Kempford Village Hall	Pizza Van

FEBRUARY

Mon	10th	Doors 6.30pm	Kempford Village Hall	Talk/presentation by RAF Fairford U2 Pilot
-----	------	--------------	-----------------------	--------------------------------------------

REGULAR EVENTS

Mondays	10am - 11am	Kempford Village Hall	Rosie's Pilates Plus
Mondays & Wednesdays		Fairford Hospital	Friends of Fairford & Lechlade Communities Edna Dawes Lunch Club Tel:07713607106
Tuesdays	6.00pm - 9.00pm	Kempford Village Hall	Short Mat Bowls
Wednesdays	5.00pm - 7.00pm	Kempford Village Hall	Youth Club (Term time only)
Thursdays	12.00 - 2.00pm	Kempford VH Garden	Community Garden open (weather permitting)
Thursdays	7.00pm - 10.00pm	Kempford Village Hall	Darts
Thursdays	12.00 - 2.00pm	Kempford Village Hall	Post Office
Fridays	6.00pm - 7.00pm	Kempford Village Hall	Zumba



CHRISTMAS BINGO NIGHT

Get ready for a festive and fun-filled family Christmas Bingo
Night!
Refreshments and Raffle!

KEMPSFORD VILLAGE HALL



Saturday
14 December 2024



Doors - 5.30pm
Eyes down - 6pm

Cash only!



Kempsford Village Hall - December Events
To book the village hall; villagehallbookings@kempsford.net

Weekly Events

Mon	Pilates rosie@rosiehowenutrition.com	10:00am – 11:00am
Tue	Short Mat Bowls treasurerkempsford@gmail.com	7:00pm – 9:00pm
Wed	Youth Club	5:00pm – 7:00pm
Thur	Post Office Darts davis.william68@yahoo.com	12:00pm – 2:00pm 7:00pm – 10:00pm
Fri	Zumba bellaannie1@hotmail.com	6:00pm – 7:00pm

Other Events

Dec 2,16,30 Jan 13, 27	Pizza Van solelunapizza3@gmail.com	5:00pm – 7:00pm
Dec 11 th Jan 8 th	Chippy Van info@thecotswoldchippy.co.uk	5:00pm – 7:30pm
Thur 12 th Dec	Community Christmas Café	12:00 – 2:00pm
14 th Dec	Christmas Family Bingo	5:30 for eyes down at 6:00pm
21 st Dec	Christmas Darts Social Evening (See poster)	1:00pm – 11:00pm
25 th Jan	Family Café	11:00 – 2:00pm
10 th Feb	Talk/presentation by a U2 pilot from RAF Fairford. Ticket entry only, see other advert.	Doors open at 6:30pm

KEMPSFORD COMMUNITY CAFÉ
Thursday 12th December 12 – 2pm



Please join us for our Christmas Café
and start your celebrations here!
Come and try our Homemade Soups and Bread,
and Delicious Cakes,
Fresh Coffee and Speciality Teas.
The following café will be on the 9th January.

Church Services in December 2024 and January 2025

December

Sunday 1 st	9.30am	Holy Communion for Advent Sunday
Sunday 8 th	9.30am	Service of the Word
Sunday 15 th	9.30am	Holy Communion at Castle Eaton (not KF or WF)
	11am	Nativity & Carols at Marston Meysey
Monday 16 th	6pm	Blue Christmas at Marston Meysey
Tuesday 17 th	7pm	Carols at The George
Thursday 19 th	6.30pm	Carols at Whelford
Sunday 22 nd	10am	Holy Communion - All 5 Villages together at Meysey Hampton
	5pm	Carols & Crib service (KF)
Tuesday 24 th	2pm	All Age Christingle service
Wednesday 25 th	9.30am	Holy Communion (KF)
Sunday 29 th	10.30am	Holy Communion , All 5 Villages together at Kempford

January

Sunday 5 th	9.30 am	Holy Communion (KF)
Sunday 12 th	9.30 am	Service of the Word Kempford
Sunday 19 th	9.30 am	Holy Communion at Whelford
Sunday 26 th	9.30 am	Holy Communion at Kempford

See the church noticeboard for all the services in the 5 Villages

Kempford Village Hall

February 10th 2025 7:00pm (Doors open from 6:30pm)

A talk about RAF Fairford and the U2 planes by the 99 ERS U2 Squadron Commander.

Numbers are limited and entry by ticket only. Tickets £5.00 each which includes entry to a raffle. On sale from 6th January 2025, available from:-

The George Inn, Kempford

Kempford Primary School

Kempford Post Office (Thursdays 12- 2:pm Kempford Village Hall)

Karen Saunders, (Whelford) karensaunders@kempfordparishcouncil.net



Bar and refreshments available.



All proceeds to Kempford Village Hall

ST MARY'S KEMPSFORD WITH ST ANNE'S WHELFORD

Contact details for the parish

Rev Catie - 01285 671490 or Rev.catie@gmail.com

Lay Preachers – Rob Mitchell 01285 712821 & Elizabeth Emberson dizzylizzie@sky.com

Church wardens: Keith Howlett - 01285 712268 churchwarden@kempsford.net

or there is a Facebook page The 5 Villages

Curate Catie's Monthly Musings for December and January

Dear Friends,

As December begins, our thoughts turn to Christmas as the shops and streets sparkle with festive lights. Gifts to buy and lots of planning - the food, the parties, getting the decorations up, buying the tree, comparing diaries to try and get families together, oh golly, so much to do! And that is all very exciting AND exhausting – no wonder we are all shattered by the time Christmas actually arrives!

Yes, December is a time for preparation but in a different way and is what Advent is all about! 'Advent' (from the Latin *adventus* meaning 'coming') is a period of waiting and expectation, when we slow down, take stock, and prepare ourselves spiritually. This is not merely a time for frenzied shopping or festive planning, but a call to really think about what Christmas actually means because **Jesus is the reason for the season!**

Then, we celebrate fully the birth of Jesus with joy and thanksgiving. The humble arrival of the Christ child brings us together with a message of peace, love, and hope and it is not simply celebrating an historical event; it is a living reality that renews us each year, calling us to welcome Jesus into our lives with joy and wonder.

Then as we move into January, the "January blues" can begin to set in. Yet, the New Year offers us a chance for fresh beginnings, a moment to look ahead with renewed faith and purpose. On 6th January we celebrate Epiphany when the Magi followed the star to find Jesus and the light of the star reminds us that Jesus' light shines into every corner of our lives, guiding us through uncertainty and darkness and inviting us to start the year filled with hope and the promise of God's unending love. So may we carry the light of Christ into the New Year, trusting that in Him, we find the strength and vision to embrace whatever lies ahead.

We have lots of great services happening in all 5 Villages but as well as the jollity and fun, we will be holding a 'Blue Christmas' service (see service schedule). This is a quiet service for anyone who finds it hard to cope with the sometimes 'forced' happiness of Christmas and for anyone who finds this a difficult time of year.

Wishing you a blessed Advent, a joyous Christmas, and a hopeful New Year.

Yours in Christ,

Rev'd Catie

CONTACTS

NEWSLETTER COPY	Teresa Griffin	clerk@kempsfordparishcouncil.net	0781 8626158
COUNCILLORS	KPC Website -	www.kempsfordparishcouncil.net	
Parish Council Chair	Mark Strange	markstrange@kempsfordparishcouncil.net	01285 810635
Parish Councillor	John O'Connell	johnoconnell@kempsfordparishcouncil.net	01285 810512
Parish Councillor	Christine Nugent	christinenugent@kempsfordparishcouncil.net	01285 810306
Parish Councillor	Karen Saunders	karensaunders@kempsfordparishcouncil.net	01285 713155
Parish Councillor	Neil Green	neilgreen@kempsfordparishcouncil.net	07745 193925
Parish Councillor	Stephen Andrews	stephenandrews@kempsfordparishcouncil.net	01285 719924
Parish Councillor	Debbie Watson	debbiewatson@kempsfordparishcouncil.net	01285 810664
Parish Clerk	Teresa Griffin	clerk@kempsfordparishcouncil.net	0781 8626158
County Councillor	Dom Morris	dominic.morris@gloucestershire.gov.uk	07500894702
District Councillor	Tristan Wilkinson	tristan.wilkinson@cotswold.gov.uk	
District Councillor	Helene Mansilla	helene.mansilla@cotswold.gov.uk	
Constituency MP	Dr Roz Savage	roz.savage.mp@parliament.uk	
CHURCH			
Canon	Rev John Swanton	ampneyrector@gmail.com	01285 851309
	Rev Caroline Symcox	carolinesymcox@googlemail.com	01285 712611
PCC Secretary	Rosemary Andrews	rosemary.andrews@btinternet.com	
Choir	Mrs Cathy Stanford		01285 713033
Church & Hand Bell:	Sally Strange		01285 810635
KEMPSFORD VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE MEMBERS			
Chair & Trustee	Ian Housley	To contact any Committee Member email -	
Secretary & Trustee	Kathy Woodward	infokempsfordvillagehall@kempsford.net	
Community Garden	Jacqui Howlett		01285 712268
WHELFORD VILLAGE HALL			
Bookings	Sue Griffin	374croft@gmail.com	01285 712979
SCHOOLS			
Kempsford School	Helen Seward (Head)	admin@kempsford.gloucs.sch.uk	01285 810367
School Governors		chair@kempsford.gloucs.sch.uk	01285 810875
Farmors School	Matthew Evans (Head)		01285 712302
COTSWOLD DISTRICT COUNCIL	(including Bulk Refuse)		01285 623000
GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL	Switchboard		01452 425000
	Adult Social Services		01452 426868
	Children's Social Services		01452 426565
GLOUCESTERSHIRE HIGHWAYS		highways@gloucestershire.gov.uk	08000 514 514
WILTSHIRE HIGHWAYS		northernhighways@wiltshire.gov.uk	0300 456 0105
Royal British Legion	Mr A Hill		01285 810035
SSE		Reporting of power cuts	105 or
Thames Water			0800 316 9800
Environment Agency		Floodline - 0845 9881188	03708 506 506
Non-emergency	Police		101
NHS 111 Service		(when less urgent than 999)	111
Hilary Cottage Surgery			01285 712377
FRIENDS OF FAIRFORD & LECHLADE COMMUNITIES - Serving Fairford, Lechlade & surrounding villages			
Administrator	Kerry	admin@friendsoffairford.org.uk	01285 707300

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL 2024

Once again, many, many thanks to the House to House Collectors, the residents of Castle Eaton, Dudgrove, Dunfield, Kempford, Whelford, the Parish Council, Kempford Primary School, staff and pupils, **St Mary's Churches in Castle Eaton and Kempford**, The RAF Charitable Trust (RAFCTE) Fairford, the George in Kempford, the Red Lion in Castle Eaton and the Shell Garage on London Road. With your generosity and tremendous support we have managed to raise £ 1761.89 for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal 2024.

This money will be used by the Royal British Legion to support our Service personnel, past and present, and their dependents, in their time of need.

Thank you so much for your continued support.

Alvin M Hill, **Squadron Leader (Ret'd)**

Local Poppy Appeal Organiser

amjhill@btinternet.com



Christmas Tree Trail 2024



St Mary's Church Kempford

FREE ENTRY to our sparkling festive trail on:

- ☆ Friday 6th December 5.00pm - 7.30pm
- ☆ Saturday 7th December 3.00pm - 6.00pm
- ☆ Sunday 8th December 3.00pm - 7.00pm

Add a star to
our '**Cherish**' tree



Enjoy festive
refreshments

A celebration of groups and clubs in our community
and others who support our community.

With thanks to everyone who helped to make this trail possible