



Notices for 8th of December 2024

A warm welcome to everyone

The Second Sunday of Advent

Please come into the hall for refreshments after the 09:30 service.

Collect:

Almighty God,
purify our hearts and minds,
that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as
judge and saviour
we may be ready to receive him,
who is our Lord and our God.

Advent 2 – The Prophets

Jesus said, 'Do not think that I have come
to abolish the law and the prophets:
I have not come to abolish them but to fulfil them.'

Amen. Come soon, Lord Jesus!

The second candle is lit:

Jesus is the light of the world.

A light no darkness can ever put out.

We sing:

Advent candles tell their story as we watch and pray,
longing for the Day of Glory, 'Come, Lord, soon,' we say.

Pain and sorrow, tears and sadness,
changed for gladness on that Day
Prophet voices loudly crying, making pathways clear;

glimpsing glory, self-denying, calling all to hear.
Through their message - challenged, shaken –
hearts awoken:
God is near!

Hymns:

- 253** For the beauty of the earth
26 Hark, a thrilling voice is sounding
519 Make me a channel of your peace
542 O love that wilt not let me go
606 Thy hand, O God, has guided

Although there is no formal collection during the offertory hymn, please feel free to make a contribution to the work of St. Mary's either in the Treasury box at the back of church, or using the card reader, also at the back of church. Thank you.

Readings:

Philippians 1:3-11 I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that on the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

Luke 3:1-6 In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word

of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

"Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.

Every valley shall be filled,

and every mountain and hill shall be made low,

and the crooked shall be made straight,

and the rough ways made smooth;

and all flesh shall see the salvation of God." '

Post-communion prayer:

Father in heaven,

who sent your Son to redeem the world

and will send him again to be our judge:

give us grace so to imitate him

in the humility and purity of his first coming

that, when he comes again,

we may be ready to greet him

with joyful love and firm faith;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

VACANCY NEWS We are keeping our advert open in Dec/Jan for a closing date of 29th Jan. Shortlisting on 4th Feb for formal interview on 4th March. Mat Ineson (Guildford Mission Enabler Lead) leads our worship at 09:30 on 15th Dec. *Enquiries Peter & Dan*

8am SERVICES will be held only once a month on the first Sunday of each month. Any questions please talk to Dan or Peter.

Christingle Prep Help Needed! If anyone would be able to please help Jacqui and Colin with the Christingle prep it would be very much appreciated, on **Monday 23rd December at 10am in the hall.**

Dates for your diary

TODAY Sunday 8th December from 6.00 pm to 7.00 pm in the Hall 'Cloth for the Cradle' - an Advent Reflection - All are welcome to come to this gentle time of reflection as we prepare for the coming of Christmas. *For more details please see Joan or Maggie*

Saturday 14th December 10am-12pm Family Christmas Craft Workshop

This event is for children up to the age of 12yrs. All are welcome! Contact Daphne for any further info.

Sunday 15th Dec @6:30pm, Carol Service

Service of Readings and Carols. Come and hear the familiar Christmas story, some choir anthems and join in some popular carols. Followed by mulled wine and mince pies. *Karl as guest conductor for the choir.*

Christmas Eve @4pm, Christingle Crib Service

Christingle and Blessing of the Crib. This service is particularly suitable for children. We tell the story of Christmas, sing favourite carols and learn the meaning of the Christingle

Christmas Eve at 11.30 pm Midnight Service of Holy Communion

Christmas Day at 10 am

*Family Communion Service with many favourite carols. Children are invited to bring their favourite present. **Breaking News: Bishop Paul** will lead our 10:00am worship on Christmas Day*

Urgent Appeal from Epsom & Ewell Foodbank.

Please if you would like to donate the following items by the 10th of Dec.

Christmas cake, Christmas selection box's, Savory Christmas snacks, Yule logs, Chocolate tubs, Christmas biscuits, Mince pies, Custard, Tinned ham, Packet stuffing, Christmas sweets, Yorkshire pudding mix, Cooking Sauces, Beans/Pasta with Meat, Packet Soup, Noodles, Powdered Milk (**we have none**), Long life Juice **Urgent**, Squash **Urgent**, Ketchup/ Brown Sauce/Mayonnaise, Marmalade/Honey/Chocolate Spread, Sugar (500gr) , Rice Pudding, Chocolate Biscuit Bars, Long life Sponge puddings , Crisps, Deodorant (Female), Shaving Foam, Tampons, **Loo Roll – Urgent**, Washing Up Liquid, Strong shopper bags and bags for life.

Collection box for items is by church entrance. Thank you so much!