



St John the Divine Church, Selsdon
24th December 2017
The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Welcome to St John's!

Welcome to everyone! If you're a newcomer or a visitor to St John's we have great pleasure in welcoming you today. All you need for this service is contained in the service booklet you have been given and below are details of the hymns, readings and prayers we'll be using – we'll sing the hymns from the hymn books you have been given. **Hymns numbered 1-799 can be found in the green hymnbook. Hymns numbered 800 and above can be found in the blue books.** We hope you enjoy worshipping here. After the 10am service, tea and coffee are served in the church hall, to which you are warmly invited. Hosts today to welcome you are surprise friends! - do come and say hello!

PLEASE TAKE THIS LEAFLET HOME WITH YOU!

The Opening Prayer:

God our redeemer, who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son: grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour, so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our judge; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Post Communion Prayer:

Heavenly Father, who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of the promised saviour: fill us your servants with your grace, that in all things we may embrace your holy will and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Hymns at the 10am service:

First hymn:	161	For Mary, mother of the Lord
Gradual hymn:	896	With Mary let my soul rejoice
Offertory hymn:	185	Sing we of the blessed mother
Communion hymn:	836	Born in the night
Last hymn:	843	Angels sang in celebration

We are delighted to welcome our Come and Sing Choir to help lead our worship this morning

Prayers today are led by: Helen Lishmund

First Reading *read by*

Either:

Now when David, the king was settled in his house, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent.' Nathan said to the king, 'Go, do all that you have in mind; for the Lord is with you.'

But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the Lord: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, 'Why have you not built me a house of cedar?' Now therefore you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the Lord of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the Lord declares to you, David, that the Lord will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure for ever before me; your throne shall be established for ever.

2 Samuel 7.1-11,16

Or:

To God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith – to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory for ever! Amen.

Romans 16.25-27

Gospel

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David.

He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.' Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her.

Luke 1.26-38

We want to look after everyone in church today! Parents and carers can help by supervising their children at all times.

Please help us to keep everyone safe in church! Small children running around can so easily trip or tip something over and hurt themselves or others. Please try to keep children out of the sanctuary area (where the altar is) during the service and out of reach of the candles!

We hope you enjoy using our Children's Area – a special part of the church where parents/carers and children can share the service together, perhaps using the toys, books and puzzle sheets provided. If you have any suggestions on how we can make it even better, or help you enjoy the service more with your child, please let Jenny know.

For your prayers:

We pray for God's love to surround:

Neil Athron, Marion Hall, Tony Mead

We pray for those who have died recently:

Derek Sharman, Sandra Simpson

We pray for loved ones on the anniversary of their death:

24th December Dorothy Williams (2008)

25th December Marjorie Tyrrell (1990)

Mary Ann Wailes (2004)

Sylvia Edie (2010)

Winifred Cameron (2010)

27th December Winifred Bates (1974)

Tom Hughes (1982)

Margaret Sergeant (1987)

Andrew Hay (2016)

28th December Frank Lilley (1977)

Alan Hill (1990)

Joan Allchin (1994)

29th December Doreen Malley (1982)

30th December John Mercer (1980)

If you'd like prayer either for yourself or for another please contact Jenny at jennyrowley@waitrose.com or 0208 657 2343. And if you would like to include the name of a loved one among the list of the departed on the anniversary of their death, please give details to Jenny.



If you'd like to discuss arranging a baptism (christening), a wedding or a funeral, please call Jenny on 0208 657 2343.



Please give **NOTICES** for inclusion in the weekly service sheet to Jenny (jennyrowley@waitrose.com) preferably by e-mail, or in writing. It would be helpful to receive these before ***Tuesday*** each week.



St John's Website

The website for our church can be found at
www.stjohnsselsdon.org.uk

We have a Facebook page. To join the page search for:

St John the Divine Selsdon

The page is there to let you know of events taking place at the church.



PUBLICITY - St John's has a Publicity Group to publicize special events and services. If you would like to promote or advertise an event etc., please contact Amanda in the Parish office on 0208 657 9466 or

bookingsstjohns@gmail.com



If you'd like to book the Church Hall or Morris Chapman Room please call

**Amanda Sinclair on 07958 682 103
or e-mail bookingsstjohns@gmail.com**

There's a new way to donate to St John's Church, Selsdon.

From your phone,
simply TEXT **SJCH05** and the amount you would like to donate
to **70070**

for example:
SJCH05 £10 to 70070
(to donate £10)

You can even Gift Aid your donation by Text or e-mail to make it worth
another 25% at no extra cost to you.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

And if you'd like to make your donation
specifically to the Garden Room Project,
please

Text **SJGR05** with your
amount to **70070**
for example
text **SJGR05 £10 to 70070**
(to donate £10)



**St John's Church Calendar is now available at the back of
church, and over coffee in the hall!!!**

**Just £5 with lovely seasonal photos in and around St
John's. Every home should have one (at least!) All
proceeds to the Garden Room Project. See Jenny, Gill
Salter or Helen Lishmund for details.**



ST JOHN'S SELSDON GARDEN ROOM

A COMFORTABLE AND WELCOMING SPACE FOR CHURCH AND
COMMUNITY GROUPS TO USE AND ENJOY

A BRICK WALL HAS APPEARED AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO **MAKE A DONATION** TOWARDS THE BUILDING OF
THE GARDEN ROOM, PERHAPS IN MEMORY OF A LOVED ONE OR IN
THANKSGIVING FOR AN EVENT eg. AN ANNIVERSARY OR SIGNIFICANT
BIRTHDAY, OR IN CELEBRATION OF AN ACHIEVEMENT, PLEASE TAKE A
"BRICK DONATION" PACK FROM THE BACK OF THE CHURCH.

SIMPLY FILL IN THE FORM AND RETURN IT TO A CHURCHWARDEN
OR TO GILL SALTER 21 RYLANDES ROAD, SOUTH CROYDON CR2 8EB WITH
YOUR DONATION.

*When you've made your donation, please choose a brick on the wall at the back of
church*

*and write on it a name or a message so we can share remembrances and
celebrations as the project progresses*

ALL COMPLETED FORMS WILL BE KEPT SO WE HAVE A RECORD OF
CONTRIBUTORS AND REMEMBRANCES TO DISPLAY
ONCE THE GARDEN ROOM IS BUILT

IF YOU WOULD LIKE ANY FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT

GILL SALTER ON 0208 4059971 OR SALTERG@OUTLOOK.COM

GARDEN ROOM PROJECT UPDATE – December 2017

Since our last Update, there have been quite a few significant developments.

As planned, we sent out a package of information to three Contractors for Tender pricing – this pack included the Planning Drawings, Scope of Works, Specification of Materials, Approximate Bill of Quantities and a selection of Construction Sketches. The aim of sending out this comprehensive package was to achieve an as realistic and high a degree of cost certainty as possible. At the time of writing we have received two Tender Sums back, we await the third, and once that is received we will undertake our Tender evaluation.

In the last update we advised that our Project Architect had submitted his drawings and Design and Access Statement to the Local Authority. We are really happy to confirm that we now have Planning Permission for the scheme. This Permission comes with a series of planning conditions – nothing that we were not expecting; mainly addressing materials and specific minor details.

So, much progress has been made. In the next few weeks we will be:-

- Undertaking the Tender Review.
- Modifying the Design Development Statements to reflect the recommendations of our selected preferred Contractor
- Making our formal submission to the Diocesan Advisory Committee
- Preparing details and submitting for Building Regulations approval

On-going with all the above is, of course, fund-raising – this now needs to be the focus of all our attention. Without the funds we cannot even start to think about building this exciting facility. If you have any queries at all on what we are doing, please have a chat with one of us.

Peter and the Project Team



Garden Room Planned Giving

We have received requests for a planned giving form to enable members of St John's and the wider community to make direct donations to the Garden Room project. A standing order mandate form has been produced and will provide the means to make planned donations as a one-off payment or several payments over a period of time to be determined by the donor, making this a convenient way to be part of the Garden Room Project as it grows. Forms are available at the back of church. Please contact Gill Salter on 0208 405 9971 or salterg@outlook.com if you need any further information or help

CONGRATULATIONS to Ian, Jonathan and our traditional choir on recording a CD of Christmas music. Thanks, too, to Malcolm Brown, our sound engineer.



‘A Divine Christmas’ is now available – get your copy either at the back of church or in the hall over coffee! Donations in the region of £10 would be welcome

All proceeds to the Garden Room Project



CTSA Christmas Lunch

Plans are underway for the CTSA Christmas Lunch at Selsdon Baptist Church on Christmas Day and your help is needed! Can you help as



- **drivers either at 10am, 11.30am or 3.00pm to transport guests to and from the Lunch.**
- **Some kind of entertainment for guests – this can be singing or a performance on musical instruments...whatever someone is willing to share!**

Please contact Caroline Hubbard on caroline@selsdonbaptist.org.uk or call the Church office for more info 0208 651 4308.

DON'T SEND A CARD – For St John's!

Don't send individual Christmas cards to your church friends this year! Instead, why not write your good wishes on just one Christmas card and put it on the Christmas Card Display board at the back of Church for your friends to read and enjoy. And why not give the money you would have spent on cards and stamps to our Fundraising efforts for the Garden Room Project – or to another charity of your choice! So this year, we won't be putting out the "Postbox".



If you'd still like to give individual cards to particular friends at St John's you are encouraged to give them in person...please don't leave them at the back of church!

The Christmas Cards will be on display throughout Advent and Christmas until Epiphany.

ST JOHN'S CHURCH

CHRISTMAS REMEMBRANCE TREE



Christmas can be a difficult time if you have lost a loved one

This year St John's is again offering the opportunity to remember your loved one by dedicating a label on our Christmas Remembrance Tree

The tree is on display at the back of church until Epiphany, Saturday 6 January 2018

If you would like to take part by writing your loved one's name on a dedication label to be attached to the Christmas Remembrance Tree, full details with labels are available from the back of the church, please take an envelope.

We are grateful to Selsdon and District Funeral Service for kindly donating the tree this year

If you would like any further information or help please contact
Gill Salter on 0208 405 9971 or Ann Orchard on 0208 686 6163

From Shoeboxes to Presents St John's Christmas Outreach Appeal

THANK YOU to everyone who has supported St John's Christmas Outreach Appeal this year and a particular thank you to Andrew and Debbie Brown who have co-ordinated the Appeal. These gifts were given to Evolve Housing Charity (formerly YMCA) so that every homeless and vulnerable person in their care could receive at least one quality Christmas gift. I'm hoping to have more information in the next few weeks, but for now, a massive **THANK YOU** to everyone who has contributed so generously.



THANK YOU for your help!

**ST JOHN'S CHURCH
CHRIST IN THE COMMUNITY**



As we prepare for Christmas by our journey through Advent, you are invited to share in the fun of **Christ in the Community**

From Advent Sunday to Christmas Eve a simple nativity stable will begin travelling from St John's to homes all around the parish ending back at St John's for the Crib Service at 4pm on Christmas Eve

While it's in your care please take a photo of the stable out in the community to show that Christ is in all places even the unusual!

Send a copy of your photo to Amanda Sinclair on bookingsstjohns@gmail.com or take a copy into the Parish Office so that it can be included in a collage to be placed in St John's

If you would like to take part, please sign the sheet at the back of the church

If you would like any further details please contact Jenny Rowley on jennyrowley@waitrose.com or Gill Salter on salterg@outlook.com



Sunday 21st January

2.30pm - 4.30pm



St John's Church Hall,

Upper Selsdon Road

We give the kids a snack and we tidy up after !!!

All welcome!

**St John's Church
Christmas Services 2017**

**Sunday 24th December 4pm
11.30pm**

Crib Service
Midnight mass

Monday 25th December 10am

Christmas Communion with Carols. Children are encouraged to bring a small (!) present with them which they have opened already.

Tuesday 26th December 10.30am

Said Eucharist
(St Stephen's Day – the first Christian Martyr)

Sunday 7th January

6pm
Epiphany

Everyone is welcome

to everything !!!

*Unto Us
a Child is Born*



SERVICES AND OTHER EVENTS THIS WEEK

24th December 2017

Sunday

- 4.00pm Crib service
11.30pm Midnight Mass (St John's Choir will be singing carols from 11.15pm)

Monday **CHRISTMAS DAY**

- 8.00am Said Eucharist in traditional language
10.00am Parish Eucharist for All Ages – children are encouraged to bring along a small (!) present they have opened already to show everyone!

Tuesday **BOXING DAY**

- 10.30am Said Eucharist for St Stephen's Day

Thursday

- 10.00am No Baby and Toddler group
10.15am Said Eucharist.

Next Sunday **The First Sunday of Christmas**

- 8.00am Said Eucharist in traditional language
10.00am Parish Eucharist

Readings next Sunday at 10am:

Isaiah 61.10-62.3 or Galatians 4.4-7; Luke 2.15-21

Morning Prayer is usually said in Church each weekday (except Friday) between 9.00am and 9.30am. You are welcome to join any of these services.

If there's something on your mind and you'd like to talk it over with someone, or if you'd like to make your confession, Jenny will be happy to see anyone at any time by appointment. She can be contacted on: 0208 657 2343 or

jennyrowley@waitrose.com