

**St John the Divine Church, Selsdon**  
**9<sup>th</sup> December 2018**  
**The Second 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 Katie and Mark Notaro - do come and say hello!

**PLEASE TAKE THIS LEAFLET HOME WITH YOU!**

**The Opening Prayer:**

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. **Amen**

**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. **Amen.**

**Hymns at the 10am service:**

First hymn:	12 On Jordan's bank
Gradual hymn:	5 Hark a herald voice is calling
Offertory hymn:	10 Long ago, prophets knew
Communion hymn:	55 Hail to the Lord's anointed
Last hymn:	844 Make way

**Choir anthem today:** People look east Arr. Wood

**Prayers today are led by:** Emily Richardson

## **First Reading** *read by Sophie Jennings*

Every time I think of you, I thank my God. And whenever I mention you in my prayers, it makes me happy. This is because you have taken part with me in spreading the good news from the first day you heard about it. God is the one who began this good work in you, and I am certain that he won't stop before it is complete on the day that Christ Jesus returns.

You have a special place in my heart. So it is only natural for me to feel the way I do. All of you have helped in the work that God has given me, as I defend the good news and tell about it here in jail. God himself knows how much I want to see you. He knows that I care for you in the same way that Christ Jesus does.

I pray that your love will keep on growing and that you will fully know and understand how to make the right choices. Then you will still be pure and innocent when Christ returns. And until that day, Jesus Christ will keep you busy doing good deeds that bring glory and praise to God.

*Philippians 1.3-11*

## **Gospel**

For fifteen years Emperor Tiberius had ruled that part of the world. Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was the ruler of Galilee. Herod's brother, Philip, was the ruler in the countries of Iturea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias was the ruler of Abilene. Annas and Caiaphas were the Jewish high priests.

At that time God spoke to Zechariah's son John, who was living in the desert. So John went along the Jordan Valley, telling the people, "Turn back to God and be baptized! Then your sins will be forgiven." Isaiah the prophet wrote about John when he said,

"In the desert someone is shouting, 'Get the road ready for the Lord! Make a straight path for him. Fill up every valley and level every mountain and hill. Straighten the crooked paths and smooth out the rough roads. Then everyone will see the saving power of God.'"

*Luke 3.1-6*

***If you'd like prayer either for yourself or for another, please contact Jenny at [jennyrowley@waitrose.com](mailto: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.***

**For your prayers:**

**We pray for God's love to surround:**

Christobel Grant, Jack Platts

**We pray for those who have died recently:**

**Linda Hill**

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

9<sup>th</sup> December Gareth Jeffrey Waller (2014)

11<sup>th</sup> December Monty Joy (1998)

Daisy Kathleen Eddolls

David T Common (2006)

Lily Herbert (2007)

13<sup>th</sup> December Eric Coster (2005)

Raymond Sayer (2001)

Peter Swinnerton

14<sup>th</sup> December Jim Starr (1967)

Rose Durant (1971)

Alice Park (1980)

Doug Bellows (1981)

Maureen Samme (2013)

15<sup>th</sup> December Hilda Smith (1958)

James Waddington (1967)

Baby Lilly Emily Zippo (2012)

Sandra Simpson (2017)

***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.

**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 [www.stjohnsselsdon.org.uk](http://www.stjohnsselsdon.org.uk)

**The Parish Office** is open



Mon-Thur 9am-2pm Please call Amanda on to help

with:

- Parish admin or queries
- Hall Bookings
  - Publicity for the church or hall

Please call 0208 6579466 / 07958 682103

Or email [bookingsstjohns@gmail.com](mailto:bookingsstjohns@gmail.com)

## Meeting God in Silence

**Mondays 6pm-6.30pm**

*An opportunity to share a time of quiet in the Lady Chapel.*

*Led by Susan Oakes and friends*

**All Welcome !!!!**



## CHILDREN AND HOLY COMMUNION

Children are welcome at God's table – if you are baptised, but do not receive the bread and wine, but think you might like to, you could consider asking to be admitted to Communion.

If you think you might be ready to make this next step in your Christian journey, and would like to receive the bread and wine at our services, or just want to find out more, please speak to Jenny.

If you are a grown-up and want to know more about this important development in our life together, please pick up a leaflet from the back of church.

As you will have noticed, there is some disruption to car parking arrangements while we are building the Garden Room. We anticipate that up to six spaces, hopefully less, will be out of action in the car park for the duration of the build. Some people have been kind enough to make suggestions on alternatives which could release car parking spaces, and all these have been carefully considered but for various reasons have proved impractical.

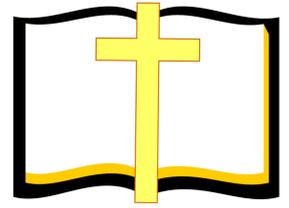
I'm sure you will appreciate that this is an inevitable part of the building work and will bear with us. If you do need to "double-park" it would be appreciated if you could pop a note on your windscreen to say who you are so if someone does need to get away before you they know who to ask.

Thank you for your consideration.

*Jenny, Martyn, Robert and Peter*

## CONFIRMATION

Confirmation is another step along the journey of faith – where you have the opportunity to confirm for yourself the promises made by your parents and godparents on your behalf when you were baptised, namely to follow Christ and to take your place within the life and worship of His church. If you think you might be interested in being confirmed, please speak to Jenny as soon as possible.



## Christmas Post Box

By popular request, The St John's Christmas Post Box is returning! The Post Box will be open until 16<sup>th</sup> December. Please collect your cards before Christmas Eve – and if you see cards for friends you know won't be able to collect theirs in person, please could you take them away for them. Any cards not collected by the new year will be recycled!



For those who prefer to send a single card to all their Friends at St John's, and perhaps make a donation to a favourite charity instead of buying individual cards, a board will also be available to display Christmas Cards for St John's friends.

***If there are any little elves that would like to help sort Christmas Cards, please let the Churchwardens or Catherine Sands know.***



**THANK YOU** to everyone who has helped with delivering the new St John's Christmas Cards to particular roads in the parish! **Your help with this important piece of outreach into our community is much appreciated!**

We're hoping to distribute these cards as widely as we can throughout the parish. So

please take at least 3 away with you today – one for you, and one for the neighbours each side of you – just pop it through their door on your way back from church today. And if you can take a handful for the rest of the road you live in, that'd be brilliant!



Thank you for all of those who expressed prayers and sympathy for Sandra. I hope you enjoyed the service. Thank you for all your thoughts and prayers.

Douglas x

# ST JOHN'S SELSDON GARDEN ROOM



*As you know, we've all been hard at work planning, and fundraising to build St John's Garden Room - a comfortable and welcoming space for church and community groups to use and enjoy. With all your hard work, and particular thanks to Peter Crocombe and his planning team and Gill Salter and her fundraising team, we now have sufficient funds, and the necessary permissions in place from the Diocese and from Croydon planning office, to be able to begin building. The building work is expected to last for about 6 months. During that time the Garden of Remembrance will be fenced off and at times there is likely to be limited access to the south side of the church as well as other disruption. I'm sure you will bear with us while the work goes on. If you have any particular needs or concerns at any time, please do speak to Jenny.*

*Although we've done really well with fundraising, and securing funds from external sources, we do still need to raise a bit more to cover all our costs. So our fundraising continues – please continue to support events which will raise much-needed funds for the project*

*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.*

*If you would like any further information please contact Gill Salter  
at 21 Rylandes Road, South Croydon CR2 8EB*

**0208 4059971 OR [salterg@outlook.com](mailto:salterg@outlook.com)**

**Supported By...**



**and Garfield Weston Foundation**

## Garden Room Planned Giving

We have received requests for a planned giving form to enable direct donations to be made 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](mailto:salterg@outlook.com) if you need any further information or help

### 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 those we never forget by placing a label decoration on the Christmas Remembrance Tree

**The tree will be placed in St John's on  
Saturday 8 December 2018 until Epiphany, Sunday 6 January 2019  
and will be dedicated at our Quiet Christmas Service on  
\*\*\*Monday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2018 at 7.30pm\*\*\***

If you would like to take part by writing your loved one's name on a label to be attached to the Christmas Remembrance Tree, full details with dedication 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 6866163

### **Do you like singing? Come and join St John's Choir!**

Even if you can only commit to one or two Sundays a month, please have a word with our Director of Music, Ian Brentnall if you might be interested. All voice parts welcome! Tel: 8290 6594 or email [ianbrentnall1@sky.com](mailto:ianbrentnall1@sky.com)



During Advent we will be collecting for our Christmas appeal.  
This year we are collecting for Nightwatch  
Please chuck your donations down the drain.



Nightwatch volunteers are out every night in the centre of Croydon giving food and other help to homeless and other vulnerable people.

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:jennyrowley@waitrose.com) or Gill Salter on [salterg@outlook.com](mailto:salterg@outlook.com)



### Are you free on a Thursday morning?

**Would you like to spend a few hours helping the toddler group on the craft table?**

We have a place for one or two people to sit with the little ones and help supervise the activities. A lovely morning getting to know the mums and children. The hours would be between 9.45am and 11.30am .We provide a cuppa and all the craft equipment.

**Please speak to Amanda in the Parish Office On 0208 6579466/ 07958 682103  
[bookingsstjohns@gmail.com](mailto:bookingsstjohns@gmail.com)**



A

**“Quiet Christmas”**

**At St John’s**

**on Monday 17th December at 7.30pm.**

**A special service of hope and reassurance for those who may struggle with a “Merry” Christmas this year.**

**The service will include the Dedication of the Christmas Remembrance tree**



Do you have a toy animal that would like to be part of our NATIVITY SCENE over Christmas? Please ask your soft toy animal friends, and if they’d like to join in, please bring them along to church. They’ll need to stay in church over Christmas until Epiphany.

*Watch the stable scene unfold over the coming weeks...*

*Nine lessons and Carols*



**At St Johns Church**

**On Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> December at 6pm**

*Including mulled fruit punch  
and mince pies*





## St John's Christmas Outreach Appeal Evolve Housing + Support

THANK YOU to everyone who has supported Christmas Outreach Appeal last year for Evolve Housing (formerly Croydon YMCA). Last year's donations went towards giving gifts to approximately 300 homeless residents that Evolve house in the Croydon area. The gifts were sorted into evenly weighted bags so everyone received an equal present. Usually these would include a main gift as well as a toiletry item and a chocolate item.

We'd like to continue to support Evolve Housing Charity this year in their appeal for Christmas gifts, so that they can give at least one Christmas present to every homeless and vulnerable person they support in and around South London. And we'd like to help by collecting as many gifts as we can for them to distribute among those who need a bit of loving care at Christmas!

Evolve tell us that 60% of the homeless people living in their hostels are male, 55% are aged between 18 and 25 years old. If you're still not sure what kind of gift might be appropriate, here are some ideas:

***A Gift voucher from Amazon, Argos, Boots, Topshop, Debenhams, Starbucks, Cinema etc \*Nail varnish/Manicure set \*Books\*DVDs \*A Watch \*A Photo Frame \*Mugs \*Wallet \*Perfume/After shave\*Sweets/chocolates \*Scarf/Gloves/Woolly hat \*Socks/Sparkly tights Earrings \*Lipstick \*Christmas treats \*Luxury toiletries (fancy face wash, moisturiser etc.)***

If you'd like to help, please bring your gift – it doesn't have to be wrapped or in a shoebox – and put it in the collection box at the back of church, ideally before Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December. Cut-off date is Monday 17<sup>th</sup> December.

THANK YOU for your help!

**If you would like to know more about Evolve Housing + Support please visit**

<https://www.evolvehousing.org.uk/>

### MID WEEK COFFEE MORNINGS

ON THE SECOND WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH 10.30am-12noon. See the notice sheet for details of the venue!

ALL WELCOME!

Our next Coffee Morning will be THIS WEDNESDAY  
12<sup>th</sup> December at the Rectory





**TONIGHT!!! at St Johns**



# **WHITE CHRISTMAS CONCERT**

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> December 6pm**

**Join us for a lively concert of  
Christmas songs, with mulled punch and mince pies**



## **St John's Church Christmas Services 2018**

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> December – 2.00pm – 5.30pm** White Christmas in Church  
**6pm** Christmas Concert

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> December – 7.30pm**

Quiet Christmas Service A special service of hope and reassurance for those who may struggle with a “merry” Christmas this year  
Dedication of the Christmas Remembrance tree

**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> December – 6pm**

Nine lessons and carols with mulled fruit punch and mince pies

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> December 4pm  
11.30pm**

Crib Service  
Midnight mass

**Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> December 8am  
10am**

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

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> January 10am**

Epiphany (with incense)

**Everyone is welcome to everything !!!**

# SERVICES AND OTHER EVENTS THIS WEEK

## 9<sup>th</sup> December 2018

### Sunday

2pm – 5.30pm Church open  
6.00pm Christmas Concert

### Monday

10.00am Baby and Toddler group  
6.00pm – 6.30pm Meeting God in Silence in the Lady Chapel

### Tuesday – Wives Advent Service

8pm

### Wednesday

10.30am – 12noon Coffee morning at The Rectory  
10.30am Meditation Prayer group

### Thursday

10.00am Baby and Toddler group  
10.15am Said Eucharist.  
2.00pm Rehearsal in church for Greenvale School Christmas concert

### Friday

2.00pm Greenvale School Christmas concert

### Next Sunday The Third Sunday of Advent

8.00am Said Eucharist in traditional language  
10.00am Parish Eucharist  
3.00pm Masons Christmas Service

***Readings next Sunday at 10am:***  
Zephaniah 3.14-end or Philippians 4.4-7: Luke 3.7-18

**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](mailto:jennyrowley@waitrose.com)