



St John the Divine Church, Selsdon Sunday 27th December 2020 The First Sunday after Christmas

Welcome to St John's!

Welcome to our service today we are happy you can join us. Welcome to any newcomers to St John's, we hope you enjoy the service.

The service today will be taken by the Revd Michael Skinner

PLEASE TAKE THIS LEAFLET HOME WITH YOU

The Opening Prayer: Almighty God, who wonderfully created us in your own image and yet more wonderfully restored us through your Son Jesus Christ: grant that, as he came to share in our humanity, so we may share the life of his divinity; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

Post Communion Prayer:

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son shared at Nazareth the life of an earthly home: help your Church to live as one family, united in love and obedience, and bring us all at last to our home in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

First Reading

I will tell of the kindnesses of the LORD, the deeds for which he is to be praised, according to all the LORD has done for us – yes, the many good things he has done for the house of Israel, according to his compassion and many kindnesses. He said, "Surely they are my people, sons who will not be false to me"; and so he became their Saviour. In all their distress he too was distressed, and the angel of his presence saved them. In his love and mercy he redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

Isaiah 63.7-9

Gospel

When the Magi had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. "Get up," he said, "take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him."

So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: "Out of Egypt I called my son."

When Herod realised that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi. Then what was said through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled:

"A voice is heard in Ramah, weeping and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are no more."

After Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who were trying to take the child's life are dead."

So he got up, took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning in Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. Having been warned in a dream, he withdrew to the district of Galilee, and he went and lived in a town called Nazareth. So was fulfilled what was said through the prophets: "He will be called a Nazarene."

Matthew 2.13-23

For your prayers:

We pray for God's love to surround:

Andrew Bale, Margaret Rapp

We pray for those who have died recently:

David Crietzman

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

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)
31st December	Philip Holder	(1988)
1st January	Sylvia Platts	(2010)
2nd January	Stuart Cushnaghan	(1993)
	Dorothy Hancox	(2006)

If you'd like prayer either for yourself or for another, please email rectorstjohnschurch@gmail.com 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 email Amanda on the above email.

Please give NOTICES for inclusion in the weekly service sheet to Amanda bookingsstjohnschurch@gmail.com preferably by e-mail, or in writing. It would be helpful to receive this before * Tuesday * each week.

If you'd like to discuss arranging a baptism (christening), a wedding or a funeral, please call 0208 6572343 or email rectorstjohnschurch@gmail.com

We need to keep social distance to a minimum of 1m, swift movement out of the church after services and that, sadly, we cannot serve coffee currently due to revised government guidance

The Parish Office

Open Mon- Thur 9am-2pm from

For any enquiries please call

0208 6579466

Or email bookingsstjohns@gmail.com

St John's Website address is:

www.stjohnsselsdon.org.uk

To find our Facebook page simply (Google) search

St John's Church, Selsdon

The office will be closed until Wed 6th January

Down the Drain

The drainpipe will be out at the back of church as usual over the Christmas period.

You are invited to 'throw your money down the drain' in support of St. John's Boiler Fund.



A little thank you to all the Christmas Elves who helped sort and deliver the Christmas Cards to the congregation this year it made the process run very smoothly

Debbie

Just a little note

Thank you for all your kind Christmas messages. I'm really sorry not to be with you over this week but Linda and I are self-isolating after my daughter Tamsin caught COVID-19.

Thankfully she isn't feeling many ill-effects and Linda and I are keeping well so far. We send everyone our love and prayers for a peaceful Christmas and a hope-filled new year.

Many thanks.

Take care

Stephen

Christmas Raffle

Thank you to everyone who bought tickets for the raffle we raised £241 for St John's funds - and the winners were –

JL voucher - Monica

Hamper - Julia Bailey

Chocs - Martyn Brown

Biscuits - Brian Miller

Beauty set - Julia Furzer (Gill's daughter)

Crackers - the Meads

Amarylis - the Gordons



Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

I would like to thank everyone who has made this difficult year run smoothly from the ministers who have stepped up to help with church and virtual services, to the Interregnum group Standing Committee and the PCC who have made plans to keep the church going during this uncertain time. To the wardens and deputies who have made all the important decisions.

To the servers, sides people and helpers who have helped run the services in church and people who have helped with private prayer sessions. To the flower ladies who have made sure the church looks beautiful, to Neetha who helps keep the church and hall clean. To everyone who has contributed to the church this year to keep us running.

I wish you a Merry Christmas wherever you are and whoever you are with I hope it will be a time to reflect and relax.

Best Wishes
Amanda

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 in place in St John's from

Sunday 6 December 2020 until Sunday 3 January 2021

and will be dedicated at our

Quiet Christmas Service on

Tuesday 22nd December 2020 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.

If you would like any further information or help please contact

Gill Salter on 0208 405 9971 or Ann Orchard on 0208 686 6163

!! CORONAVIRUS !!

As we move into Tier 3 and the cases of coronavirus spiral upwards in London and the surrounding counties could I remind everyone of the following:

Coronavirus is highly infectious. Older people and those with underlying health problems are at increased risk of severe illness and potentially death

It is critical that we follow strict rules if we wish the church to remain open

- 1 Everyone must wear a mask properly unless they have a compelling reason not to do so and must sanitise on entry to and departure from church
- 2 Spacing is critical, please do not huddle together and please keep 2m apart unless you are in a bubble, sit on chairs which have a green square on them
- 3 Leave church in a measured way, not in a scrum and do not stand at the back of the church talking to others
- 4 Provided you remain in your seats we can deliver your cards to you, if you can take cards for other people please let us know
- 5 Windows need to be open, as does the back door

THANK YOU FOR HELPING TO KEEP THE CHURCH OPEN AND PROTECTING OUR CONGREGATION

Debbie Brown



Diary Dates

Sun 27th December

Christmas 1 Eucharist 10am

Mon 28th December

Church Closed

Tue 29th December

Church Closed

Wed 30th December

Church Closed

Thur 31st December

Church Closed

Fri 1st January

Church Closed

Sat 2nd January

Church Closed

Sun 3rd January

Epiphany Service 10am

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