



St John the Divine Church, Selsdon Sunday 6th December 2020 The Second Sunday of Advent

Welcome to St John's!

Welcome to our service today we are glad to be back in the church and happy you can join us again. Welcome to any newcomers to St John's and welcome back to regular visitors.

The service today will be taken by Rev Stephen Wright and Rev Michael Skinner

The Opening Prayer:

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us: that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and forever. **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**

First Reading

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries out: 'In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.

Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'

A voice says, 'Cry out!' And I said, 'What shall I cry?'

All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever.

Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, 'Here is your God!' See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him.

He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

Isaiah 40.1-11

Gospel

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

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

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.'

Mark 1.1-8

For your prayers:

We pray for God's love to surround:

Andrew Bale, David Crietzman, Margaret Rapp

We pray for those who have died recently:

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

6th December	Gwen Dobson	(1982)
	Margaret Frith	(2004)
8th December	John Richard Chester	(2002)
	George Benjamin	(2009)
	Raymond Hayles	(2014)
9th December	Gareth Jeffrey Waller	(2014)
11th December	Monty Joy	(1998)
	Daisy Kathleen Eddolls	
	David T Common	(2006)
	Lily Herbert	(2007)

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



Message from Janice White:

Alan has completed his treatment for Plasma Cell Leukemia and I am delighted to tell you that the treatment went well and he is feeling stronger each day.

Please continue to pray from my brother David as he continues to fight Pancreatic Cancer. Your prayers are very much appreciated by the whole family

Looking forward to seeing you all again in not the too distant future. In the meantime, stay safe.

Janice

Christmas Coffee Morning

Join us for our last zoom meeting of 2020

Wednesday 16th Dec 2020
at 10.30am for an hour.

Christmas jumpers optional!!!!

Please email Amanda

bookingsstjohns@gmail.com to get a login for the sessions.



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.

**DONATIONS
NEEDED**



It's that time of year again

The return of the Christmas Card Post Box



The box will go out in church from 1st December. We will be grateful if all cards could be posted as soon as possible because sorting them is a huge job and some people will need their cards delivered to them. Cards can be put in the box on a Thursday between 10am -12 noon and at the Sunday morning service. Also if Amanda is in the office she may be able to let you in the church please ring to check she is available before you pop up.

We shall ensure that all cards posted before December 20th are delivered to those that cannot collect them in person, any received after that date will not be delivered but can still be collected

Anyone who wants to volunteer to deliver cards should let Elf Debbie or Elf Amanda know.

Christmas Raffle

Sadly, there will not be a Christmas Concert at St. John's this year, but we are going to hold a Christmas Raffle to raise much needed funds for our church.

Lots of prizes :

*****£25 John Lewis voucher**

*****Grand Hamper of Christmas goodies**

*****Wine, Chocolate biscuits, chocolates, Amaryllis**

Tickets are the usual £1 a strip and available on Sundays after the 10 am service or through Amanda in the Parish Office.

Get yours soon – the draw will take place on Sunday 20th December after the service.



****Forms are now at the back of church and the tree will be placed in church next Sunday 6th December you can also get the info from our website ****

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

A CHRISTMAS GIFT TO THE FOODBANK



Apart from everything else that has been restricted, missed or deferred during the Covid-19 pandemic this year, we have not been able to support many of the charities that we would normally have liked to. Over recent months, many within our community have been struggling financially, and we therefore thought that it would be a good idea to support our local foodbank in a practical and positive way this Christmas.

We have therefore decided to hold a Christmas Gift Collection at our service next Sunday 13 December, just in time for us to deliver these goods to the foodbank, and for them to distribute them to their clients. So, please bring along whatever you can to our 10.00am service next week where these gifts will be placed in front of our altar and blessed, that they may hopefully go towards someone or a family in need having a slightly easier Christmas. The foodbank have indicated that they would be very happy to receive the following in order to make some hampers:

- **Sachets of Custard powder
- ** A carton of fruit juice
- **Cheese Straws or Breadsticks
- ** Tin of Biscuits
- ** Box of Chocolates
- **Bag of sugar
- **Jam
- **Pringles
- **A bottle of Shloer or similar
- ** Carton of long life milk
- ** Christmas Cake
- **Chocolate Log
- ** Bag of sweets
- **Coffee
- ** Tea

!!! Please don't wrap any gifts as they will be put together in hampers!!

Many thanks in anticipation.



We are keeping our fingers crossed that these services go ahead over Christmas and we will keep you informed via our website and facebook pages so keep an eye out to check for cancellations.

We need to restrict the numbers to each service so please chose **one service** you would like to attend (Nine Lessons, Midnight Mass or Christmas Day) and contact Amanda in the parish office for tickets. You can call her on 0208 6579466 / 07958 682103 Or email bookingsstjohns@gmail.com

This Service will be ticketed to keep numbers attending at a safe level. Please see our website for details or contact our parish office on the details below Tickets available from 1st December.

SERVICE OF 9 LESSONS WITH THE CHOIR



SUNDAY 20TH DECEMBER
AT 6PM

**No congregational singing of
carols allowed**

PLEASE REMEMBER that there may be changes to the above services due to further Covid-19 restrictions. Check our website:- www.stjohnsselsdon.org.uk or our Facebook page St. John the Divine Selsdon All services are Covid secure, socially distanced and masks must be worn.

St John's Church, Upper Selsdon Road, South Croydon CR2 8DD
ParishOffice Office 0208 657 9466 bookingsstjohns@gmail.com
www.stjohnsselsdon.org.uk

Quiet Christmas

Tuesday 22nd Dec

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

***All services are covid secure, socially distanced and masks must be worn.**

Please note that services could be cancelled due to covid retrictions please check our website and facebook page for updates

No congregational singing of carols allowed

St John's Church, Upper Selston Road, South Croydon, CR2 8DD www.stjohnsselston.org.uk

ST JOHNS CHURCH
WOULD LIKE TO INVITE
YOU TO

Midnight Mass

on Christmas Eve at
11.30pm

Services will be ticketed to keep numbers attending at a safe level. Please see our website for details or call the parish office on the number below. Tickets available from 1st dec

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ST JOHN'S SELSDON
UPPER SELSDON ROAD, SOUTH
CROYDON, CR2 8DD

PARISH OFFICE TEL 0208 6579466
BOOKINGSSTJOHNS@GMAIL.COM
WWW.STJOHNSSELSDON.ORG.UK

**Season's
greetings!**



Christmas Day Eucharist at 10am

Christmas Communion.

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

**The service will be ticketed please contact the parish
office or check the website for details Tickets available
from 1st Dec**

**No congregational singing of carols
allowed**

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**Parish Office 0208 657 9466 bookingsstjohns@gmail.com
www.stjohnsselsdon.org.uk**

Remember

You can see a range of info on our website:

- Weekly notice Sheets
- Virtual Services
- News and events
- Children' activity sheets (look out for our Christmas activities coming soon)
- Remembrance tree messages (coming soon)
- Info on who to contact
- Pictures of the church and past events



As well as the website you can look at our facebook page by searching for **St John The Divine Selsdon**

FREE

Selsdon Christmas Dinner
DELIVERED TO YOUR DOOR ON
CHRISTMAS DAY

Working together with Churches Together Selsdon and Addington (CTSA) we will be making & delivering a free 2 course Christmas lunch on Christmas day. If you would like to be added to our list or have any questions then please do contact us.

If you would like to offer your help we are looking for volunteers for the following:-

1. Donations towards the cost
2. Christmas day delivery drivers (Socially distanced)
3. If there is anyone you would like to add to the list for a meal please contact us

SALLY-ANN JUSTSALLYANN@ME.COM
KIM WRG160@AOL.COM

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