



**St John the Divine Church, Selsdon
Sunday 13th December 2020
The Third 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 Canon Martin Greenfield

The Opening Prayer:

God for whom we watch and wait, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son: give us courage to speak the truth, to hunger for justice, and to suffer for the cause of right, with Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Post Communion Prayer:

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts; kindle in us the fire of your Spirit that when your Christ comes again we may shine as lights before his face;
who is alive and reigns now and for ever. **Amen**

First Reading

The servant of the Lord said:

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion – to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.

They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory. They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.

For I the Lord love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed. I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

Isaiah 61.1-4,8-11

Gospel

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, 'I am not the Messiah.' And they asked him, 'What then? Are you Elijah?' He said, 'I am not.' 'Are you the prophet?' He answered, 'No.' Then they said to him, 'Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?' He said,

'I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness,

"Make straight the way of the Lord",

as the prophet Isaiah said.

Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, 'Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?' John answered them, 'I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal.' This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

John 1.6-8,19-28

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, Joan Wallis

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

13th December	Eric Coster	(2005)
	Raymond Sayer	(2001)
	Peter Swinnerton	
14th December	Jim Starr	(1967)
	Rose Durant	(1971)
	Alice Park	(1980)
	Doug Bellows	(1981)
	Maureen Samme	(2013)
15th December	Hilda Smith	(1958)
	James Waddington	(1967)
	Baby Lilly Emily Zippo	(2012)
	Sandra Simpson	(2017)
	Peter Maynard	(2019)
16th December	Terry McDowall	(2013)
	Rose Miller	(2016)
17th December	Ermine Smith	(2017)
18th December	Richard Stookes	(2015)
	John Waddington	(2019)
19th December	Leslie Bull	(1969)
	Wally Johnson	(1984)

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

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.



It's that time of year again

The return of the Christmas Card Post Box

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 this 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 need to limit numbers this year, so you need a ticket for

- Nine lessons and Carols
- **Midnight Mass**
- **Christmas Day**

We will ask you to choose between **Midnight Mass and Christmas Day** to attend so we can make it fair for everyone to enjoy please 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

No congregational
singing of carols allowed

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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**

**PLEASE REMEMBER that there may be changes to the above
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page St. John the Divine Selsdon**

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



We will be opening the church on Saturday 19th December from 11am-2pm for people to come and have a look around see the crib and characters, Remembrance tree and a special treat for the kids. Music will be played a nice time to come and reflect.

FREE

Selson Christmas Dinner
DELIVERED TO YOUR DOOR ON
CHRISTMAS DAY

Working together with Churches Together Selson 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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