

St John the Divine Church, Selsdon
22nd December 2019
Fourth Sunday in 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 Rani, Charles and Christopher Samuels 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 our Lord

Gradual hymn: 896 With Mary let my soul rejoice

Offertory hymn: 33 Of the father's heart begotten (omit v2,3 and 6)

Communion hymn: 910 Mary came with meekness

Last hymn: 186 Tell my soul

Today we welcome the come and sing choir

Prayers today *are led by Peter Crocombe*

First Reading read by Ron Last

Either:

The Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. Then Isaiah said: 'Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.

Isaiah 7.10-16

Or:

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord. Through Christ we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Romans 1.1-7

Gospel

The birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.' All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet

'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel',

which means, 'God is with us.' When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

Matthew 1.18-25

For your prayers:

We pray for God's love to surround:

David Crietzman, Ruth Joy, John Waddington

We pray for those who have died recently:

Peter Maynard

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

22nd December Toni Simmons (1980)
James Hall (1965)

23rd December Colin Blood (2015)
Heather Reynolds (2016)

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)

If you'd like prayer either for yourself or for another, please contact Amanda in the parish office 0208 657 9466 email bookingsstjohns@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 give details to Amanda.

Please give NOTICES for inclusion in the weekly service sheet to Amanda bookingsstjohns@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 Jenny on 0208 6572343 or email rectorstjohns@gmail.com



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.



The Parish Office is usually open
Mon-Thur 9am-2pm

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

Please call 0208 6579466 / 07958 682103

Or email bookingsstjohns@gmail.com

St John's Website

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



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.



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!

Christmas Post Box and Christmas Card Tree

The St John's Christmas Post Box is back! The Post Box will be open until 22nd 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 Tree is also available to display Christmas Cards for St John's friends.

Santa's Chief Elf, David Moulton is chief sorter of cards please help him by taking your cards home. We will be taking cards to local parishioners in nursing home or housebound, if you want to send a card please add to the box.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Foodbank Christmas appeal - such a generous response meant we were able to take a whole car load of goodies to the Foodbank. THANK YOU!



A HUGE THANK YOU to everyone involved in the Angelfest Christmas Fayre and Christmas Concert. Another remarkable weekend in the life of St John's with lots of visitors, the church looking fantastic and lots of warm welcome and festive fun. We estimate that @£2,200 was raised, to be shared between MacMillan Cancer Care and St John's funds. Thank you to everyone!

ST JOHN'S SELSDON GARDEN ROOM

We hope you like it! If you do, tell your friends, if not tell me!

The church and Church Hall are now fully accessible for everyone and will soon be available for use for the benefit of St John's and the wider community of Selsdon. If you'd like to enquire about using the hall or the Garden Room, please contact Amanda on 07958 682 103 or email bookingsstjohns@gmail.com

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 **donate** 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

The Garden Room project is supported by...



ALLCHURCHES TRUST LIMITED®
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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 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 opportunity to remember those we never forget placing a label decoration on the Christmas Remembrance Tree

the
by

The tree will be placed in St John's on

Saturday 7 December 2019 until Epiphany, Sunday 5 January 2020 and will be dedicated at our

Quiet Christmas Service on Monday 16 December 2019 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 686 6163

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St John's, Selsdon Christmas Services 2019



Sunday 22nd December – 6pm

Nine lessons and carols with mulled fruit punch and mince pies

Tuesday 24th December - 4pm

Crib Service

11.30pm

Midnight mass

Wednesday 25th December 10am

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

Sunday 5th January 10am

Epiphany

Everyone is welcome to join us at all of our services!



St John's

Crib Service

Tuesday 24th

December 2019

At 4pm

A fun Christmas service for the young... and young at heart! Children are invited to come dressed as a character from the Nativity story.

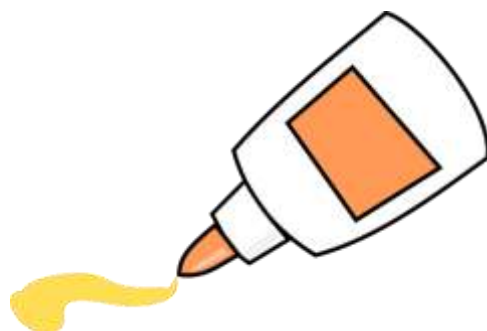
Come and help follow the star to get the animals get to the stable as we tell the story of Jesus' birth !

All Welcome



**Our next Messy Church session will
be on**

**Sunday 19th January 2019
from 2.30pm -4.30pm
In the Church Hall**



Nine lessons and Carols

**At St Johns
Church**

**On
Sunday 22nd
December 2019**

At 6pm



***Including mulled fruit punch
and mince pies***

SERVICES AND OTHER EVENTS THIS WEEK

22nd December 2019

Sunday

6.00pm Nine lessons and carols

Monday

6.00pm Meeting God in silence in the Lady Chapel

Tuesday

10.00am Rectors Coffee hour in Costa on Selsdon High Street. If you'd like to pop in for a chat or even just to say hello, please do!

4.00pm Crib service

11.15pm Midnight Mass

Wednesday

10.00am Christmas Day Communion with Carols

Thursday

10.15am Said Eucharist

Next Sunday

8.00am Said Eucharist in traditional language

10.00am Parish Eucharist

Readings Next Sunday

Isaiah 63.7-9 or Hebrews 2.10-18 Matthew 2.13-23

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 rectorstjohnschurch@gmail.com