



St John the Divine Church, Selsdon
29th December 2019
The first Sunday in Christmas

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 Alice and Andrew Hicks do come and say hello!

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**

Hymns at the 10am service:

First hymn: 39 Unto us a boy is born

Gradual hymn: 903 Word that formed creation

Offertory hymn: 25 God rest you merry, gentlemen

Communion hymn: 387 Jesus, good above all other

Last hymn: 26 Hark the herald

Prayers today are led by Gill Sharpe

First Reading read by Debbie Brown

Either

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

or

In bringing many sons to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the author of their salvation perfect through suffering. Both the one who makes men holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers. He says,

"I will declare your name to my brothers; in the presence of the congregation I will sing your praises." And again,
"I will put my trust in him." And again he says,
"Here am I, and the children God has given me."

Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death – that is, the devil – and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. For surely it is not angels he helps, but Abraham's descendants. For this reason he had to be made like his brothers in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

Hebrews 2.10-18

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:

David Crietzman, Ruth Joy

We pray for those who have died recently:

Peter Maynard, John Waddington

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

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)
3rd January	Muriel Rann	(1995)
	Ellen 'Betty' Hartland	(1997)
	Cyril Broyd	(1999)
	Ivy Watmore	(2009)
	Laura Hay	(2019)
4th January	Mabel Chew	(1937)

If you'd like prayer either for yourself or for another, please contact Jenny on 0208 657 2343 or email rectorstjohns@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 Jenny.

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** 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!

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.

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MID WEEK COFFEE MORNINGS
ON THE SECOND WEDNESDAY OF EACH
MONTH 10.30am-12noon. Our next Coffee
morning is on Wednesday 8th January. See
the notice sheet for details of the venue!
ALL WELCOME!



EPIPHANY
Sunday 5th January
10am Parish
Eucharist (with
Incense)

**This is a “gift” service,
remembering the gifts which**

the Wise Men brought to Jesus.

**You are invited to bring along a gift suitable to donate to the
Foodbank at New Addington. Non-perishable foodstuffs and basic
toiletries are always welcome!**

Thank You

THANK YOU to everyone for their love and support over the festive season! Mark and I have once again been overwhelmed with love and good wishes, for which we are very grateful. It's been wonderful to see all our hard work come to fruition in the opening of the Garden Room this year - and to see it come into its own as we have welcomed friends into the church over Christmastime.

2020 will be another exciting year as we continue to explore together what it means to be Christ's body here in Selsdon and how best to fulfil all we believe God is calling us to be and to do here. Jenny

A BIG THANK YOU to everyone who has contributed to making our Christmas celebrations so special this year – to Helen and Gill and the flower team, and Ian Brentnall and Hilary Richardson, and Jonathan Musgrave and all those who made our Angelfest Weekend and the Christmas Concert such a success; those who have shared the Christmas story with children in the parish – in our children's area, at our Baby and Toddler groups, through school carol concerts and the Crib service; those who took the good news out onto the streets of Selsdon, delivering Christmas cards, sharing in the fun of Yarn-bombing Selsdon with hand-knitted angels - all our knitters and intrepid angel-fixers!; to Amanda for capturing these moments on our noticeboard for all to enjoy; thank you to Ian our Director of Music, to Jonathan our Organist, our Choirs, Servers, Readers and Intercessors who have enriched our worship; to Amanda our Parish Administrator who has done so much behind the scenes, including printing our service sheets; our Flower Arrangers and all those who have helped to make our church look so beautiful and welcoming; our Sidespeople and Welcomers who welcomed into church so many friends at each of our services; those who have done things behind the scenes so often unseen and unthanked - and to all God's people who joined with the angels to sing his glory at this very special time.



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

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



St John the Divine, Selston

Please join us for our next

CHORAL

EVENSONG

Sunday 12th January 2020

6pm

Sung by the choir of
St. John's

Director - Ian Brentnall

Organist - Jonathan Musgrave

Including

Introit: Come down, O love divine *Harris*

Anthem: If ye love me - Wilby

*A wonderful end to the weekend, a great way to start the
week.*



The Garden Room is now up and running and taking bookings for meetings and small gatherings.

We can hold groups of Max 20 people so if you can think of someone who would like to hire the room or a community service that could use the room for meetings etc please get in contact with Amanda Sinclair in the Parish office on 0208 657 9466 or email bookingsstjohns@gmail.com



Just a reminder that there is no Church Breakfast in January the first one of 2020 will be on

Sunday 2nd Feb 2020 at 8.45am in the Church Hall

Start it off with a banger



SERVICES AND OTHER EVENTS THIS WEEK

29th December 2019

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

Thursday

10.15am Said Eucharist

Next Sunday

8.00am Said Eucharist in traditional language

10.00am Parish Eucharist Epiphany (with Incense)

Readings Next Sunday

Isaiah 60.1-6 or Ephesians 3.1-12 Matthew 2.1-12

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