



**St John the Divine Church,  
Selsdon  
Sunday 22nd August 2021  
Twelfth Sunday after Trinity**

## **Welcome**

Welcome to St John's, we hope that you enjoy today's service, there will be refreshments served in the church hall after the service please join us.

**PLEASE TAKE THIS LEAFLET HOME WITH YOU**

### **Opening Prayer**

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray and to give more than either we desire or deserve pour down upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask but through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### **Post Communion Prayer**

God of all mercy, in this eucharist you have set aside our sins and given us your healing: grant that we who are made whole in Christ may bring that healing to this broken world, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**Hymns:** Opening: **473** When morning guilds the skies  
Gradual: **339** Be thou my vision  
Offertory: **114** Now is eternal life  
Final: **336** Angel-voices ever singing

### **First Reading**

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the whole armour of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore, take up the whole armour of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm.

Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

*Ephesians 6.10-20*

## **Gospel**

Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live for ever.' He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

When many of his disciples heard it, they said, 'This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?' But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, 'Does this offend you? Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But among you there are some who do not believe.' For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. And he said, 'For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father.'

Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. So, Jesus asked the twelve, 'Do you also wish to go away?' Simon Peter answered him, 'Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.'

*John 6.56-69*

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**For your prayers:**

**We pray for God's love to surround:**

Jonathan Aitken, Linda Gordon, Ros Harley, Chloe Lou, Michelle Lord, Colin Perry, Margaret Rapp

**We pray for those who have died recently:**

John Kitchener

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

23rd August	Stella Allnutt	(1982)
24th August	Mary Bartlett	(1980)
	Betty Bentley	(1986)
25th August	Marie Jackson	(1995)
	Andre Bent	(2019)
26th August	Anne Hill	(2004)
	Emily Lyell	(2007)
27th August	Royston Killick	(2015)
	Philip Baker	(2016)
	Stephen Clayton	(2019)

*If you'd like prayer either for yourself or for another, please email*

*Revd Younis [revd.younis@gmail.com](mailto:revd.younis@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 speak to Younis.*

**Just a reminder that nothing should be left at the church door if you need to drop anything off please do this in office times.**

**Monday – Thur 9am-2pm or call Amanda on 0208 6579466 and arrange a time.**

**Many Thanks**

# **For Your safety**

The national restrictions have been lifted; however, the numbers are dangerously high so we need to think very carefully about how we conduct ourselves to ensure that those who are vulnerable and those who are anxious still feel able to come to church confident that they feel safe whilst they worship

**With this in mind we ask the following:**

- **Please wear a mask or visor entering and leaving the church and whilst processing up to receive communion**
- **Sanitiser will be available if you wish to use it**
- **Communion will continue to be in one kind for now**
- **Remain in your seats for the Peace and wave etc as we have been doing**
- **Though the green stickers have been removed from the seats please be aware that social distancing will feel more comfortable for many, do check that people are happy for you to sit near them and do try not to huddle in groups**
- **The children's area is open**
- **Singing will resume and the choir will resume in September**
- **Please stay away if you feel at all unwell**

If you have any concerns, please speak to Younis or one of the wardens.



## ***Meeting God in silence***

Will be taking a break in August and will recommence on  
Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September.

We meet in the Garden Room on Mondays at 6 pm for half an hour – time  
away from our busy and noisy world for silent reflection to ease you into  
the week.

Churches together in Selsdon and Addington are holding a

### **Quiet Morning**

on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> September from 10.30 am

at St. Mary's, Addington.

The morning will be led by Susan Oakes and will reflect on Silence and  
Peace. Everyone welcome.

The Croydon Refugee Centre is in desperate need of :



- men's, women's and children's shoes inc trainers and sandals
- men's and children's clothing
- toiletries and food.
- toys for children aged four-to-twelve-year olds

All items need to be clean and in reasonably good condition.

Please rummage in your cupboards and donate any unwanted items to Debbie Brown.



### **Choir dates for your diary:**

Our Church Choir are looking forward to returning in September and are delighted to announce that our services of Choral Evensong will resume (Covid permitting) on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> September. Please do join us.

We have also been invited to sing at our Diocesan Cathedral as well as at Rochester Cathedral (postponed due to Covid restrictions), do please keep the following dates free and join us if you can:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>9<sup>th</sup> October 2021 -</b>   | Choral Evensong at Rochester Cathedral                                  |
| <b>20<sup>th</sup> November 2021 –</b> | St. John's is providing the choir for the Diocesan Confirmation Service |
| <b>30<sup>th</sup> April 2022 -</b>    | Choral Evensong at Rochester Cathedral                                  |
| <b>26<sup>th</sup> November 2022 -</b> | Choral Evensong at Southwark Cathedral.                                 |

**Choir Practise with resume on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2021 at 7.30pm in the Church**

Kind regards Ian



# **Father Michael's Diary**

FATHER MICHAEL'S DIARY

20 AUGUST 2012

CALL ME FATHER

Why should you? Of course, you don't have to unless you feel comfortable doing so. But it may be helpful to give some the background to the use of this term for Anglican clergy. It all begins with a man called Charles Fuge Lowder (1820 -1880). In 1856 he moved to St George's in the East as head of mission. In 1860 he began work on a new church – St Peter, London Docks. The church was finally consecrated in 1867 but no sooner had this taken place than a cholera epidemic broke out. Everyone who could get out of Poplar did so, but Charles and the sisterhood attached to St Peter's remained and ministered to the suffering people. HFB Maclay in his book "Saints and Leaders" continues the tale: "As he was seen time after time, carrying some cholera-stricken child in his arms to the hospital, the people began to call him 'Father.' Thus were the title 'Father' won for the secular clergy; it is a title which they will retain only so long as they are true to his ideal."

There is the challenge. Fr Lowder's ideals were inspired by the French priest Vincent de Paul and his work among galley slaves (you can read about them in Les Miserables). Throughout his life St Vincent set an example of selfless devotion to those among whom he ministered, and this inspired Charles Lowder and other slum priests, as Fr Lowder's work among the cholera victims shows. However, it must be said that although the slum priests worked tirelessly to minister to their flocks in the dire conditions of London's docklands it seems they did little if anything to address the main cause of the hardships their people suffered - the system of day labouring. Under this dockers were hired for work on a day-to-day basis and the older and more infirm men were lucky if they got any work at all while the fittest might only manage two or three days work a week.

Nevertheless, the devotion of the slum priests to their people and the austerity of their lives provide an example which would be hard to emulate today. But Maclay's challenge of Fr Lowder's ideals is still there every time a priest is addressed as "Father".

Love and prayers      Michael

## **READINGS AND PRAYERS**

22 AUGUST - TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY – JOHN 6.56-69 – the one who eats this bread will live for ever – thanksgiving for the Blessed Sacrament

23 AUGUST – Monday – I Thessalonians 1.1-5, 8-end - the power of the Holy Spirit – that the Holy Spirit may fill our lives

24 AUGUST – Bartholomew, Apostle – Luke 22.24-30 – I am among you as one who serves – for servant ministry

25 AUGUST – Wednesday – Matthew 23.27-32 – woe to you scribes and Pharisees – for heartfelt faith

26 AUGUST – Ninian, Bishop of Galloway –Apostle of the Picts, 432 – Acts13.46-49 – a light to light en the nations – the missionary work of the Church -

27 AUGUST – Monica, mother of Augustine of Hippo 387 – Ecclesiasticus 26.1-3, 13-16 – a good wife – the Mothers' Union

28 AUGUST- Augustine, bishop of hippo, teacher of the faith, 430 – Ecclesiasticus 39-1-10 –one who devotes himself to the study of the law – all theologians



## **Church Diary**

**(Sunday 22nd Aug – Sun 29th Aug)**

Sunday 22nd	8am	Eucharist Service
	10am	Eucharist Service
Monday 23rd	10am-1pm	Private Prayer
Tuesday 24th	10am-1pm	Private Prayer
Wednesday 25th	10am- 1pm	Private Prayer
Thursday 26th	10am	Eucharist Service
Sunday 29th	8 am	Eucharist Service
	10 am	Eucharist Service

## **The Parish Office**

Will are normally open Mon- Thur 9am -2pm

**THE OFFICE IS CLOSED FROM FRI 20<sup>TH</sup> AUG TO MON 6<sup>TH</sup> SEPT**

Tel: 0208 6579466

mobile number 07958 682103

Email:

[bookingsstjohns@gmail.com](mailto:bookingsstjohns@gmail.com)

St John's Website address is:

[www.stjohnsselsdon.org.uk](http://www.stjohnsselsdon.org.uk)

To find our Facebook page simply search

St John the Divine Selsdon



**If you'd like to discuss arranging any of the following**

**\*Baptism (christening) \*Wedding \*Funeral \* Home Visit**

**Please call Revd Younis on**

**Tel: 0208 6572343 / 07504 721 294**

**email [revd.younis@gmail.com](mailto:revd.younis@gmail.com)**