



**St John the Divine Church,
Selsdon
Sunday 29th August 2021
Thirteenth 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 God, who called your Church to bear witness that you were in Christ reconciling the world to yourself: help us to proclaim the good news of your love, that all who hear it may be drawn to you; through him who was lifted up on the cross, and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

God our creator, you feed your children with the true manna, the living bread from heaven: let this holy food sustain us through our earthly pilgrimage until we come to that place where hunger and thirst are no more; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Hymns:

Opening: **846** God of grace and God of glory
Gradual: **810** Take my life, and let it be
Offertory: **847** Brother, sister, let me serve you
Final: **870** Send me out from here

First Reading

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfilment of his own purpose, he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore, rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, ongoing away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

James 1.17-27

Gospel

Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, ‘Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?’ He said to them, ‘Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

“This people honours me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.”

You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.’

Then he called the crowd again and said to them, ‘Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.’

For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.’

Mark 7.1-8,14-15,21-23

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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:

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

29th August	Kenneth Hollis	(2017)
30th August	Ethel Hopgood	(1964)
	Sylvia Bailey	(1993)
	Frank "Billy" Pattinson	(2003)
31st August	Lawrie Souter	(1981)
	Maisie Fenton	(2017)
1st September	Doreen Brett	(2011)
	Michael Gravells	(2017)
2nd September	Beatrice Wennell	(1970)
	Florence Wright	(1980)
	Doreen Wannell	(2012)
3rd September	Maisie Gayton	(1994)
	Walter Hancox	(1996)
4th September	Lewis Ward	(1980)

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

Revd Younis 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 6th 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 18th 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.



Singing hymns and spiritual songs...

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 12th 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:

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

Choir Practise with resume on Thursday 2nd September 2021 at 7.30pm in the Church

Kind regards Ian



Father Michael's Diary

27 AUGUST 2021

A HOLY REBEL

The Beheading of St John the Baptist is celebrated each year on 29 August (not this year because the 29th is a Sunday). This sordid incident marks the end of a remarkable life which prepared the way for Jesus' own ministry.

Naturally our focus on John is the forerunner of Jesus but that obscures his significance as the last of the prophets. Some six months older than Jesus John would have been in his early thirties when he emerged in the Judean wilderness in garb of an Old Testament Prophet. But we know nothing of his life before that beyond his miraculous birth. Perhaps he joined a community of the Essenes (a quasi-monastic Jewish community) or possible the Qumran community which produced the Dead Sea Scrolls. Qumran is on the shores of the Dead Sea near to where John appears to have ministered in the Jordan delta, like him they had strong apocalyptic interests.

John's arrest by Herod and the scandalous events surrounding his death must have been the subject of intense gossip in the souks and bazaars, with wild speculation about the depravity of Herod's court. This also fascinated two much later writers, Oscar Wilde and the composer Richard Strauss. Wilde wrote a play Salome on which Strauss based his opera. In both John is portrayed as a figure of compelling purity, irresistibly attractive to Herod's stepdaughter Salome who as a reward for dancing to entertain the guests at Herod's birthday banquet demands his head, which Herod grants her.

John is therefore honoured not only as the last of the prophets but also, in a way, the first of the martyrs.

Love and prayers

Michael

READINGS AND PRAYERS

29 AUGUST – THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY – MARK 7.1-8 – this people honours me with their lips but their hearts are far from me – for sincerity in our faith

30 AUGUST – John Bunyan, Spiritual Writer, 1688 – Luke 21 21, 34-36 – be on your guard – for steadfastness in our faith

31 AUGUST – Aiden, Bishop of Lindisfarne, Missionary, 651 – I Corinthians 9.16-19 – the proclamation of the Gospel is free of charge – for our mission

1 SEPTEMBER – Wednesday – Luke 4 38-end – the healing of Simon's mother-in-law – the healing of the Church

2 SEPTEMBER – The Martyrs of Papua and New Guinea, 1901 and 1942 – Isaiah 43.1-7 – the saviour of the ends of the earth – all who suffer for the faith today

3 SEPTEMBER – Gregory the Great, Bishop of Rome, Teacher of the Faith, 604 – I Thessalonians 2.3-8 – entrusted by God with the message of the the gospel – our Archbishops and Bishops

4 SEPTEMBER – Cuthbert, Bishop of Lindisfarne, Missionary, 687 – Ezekiel 34.11-16 - I will seek the lost – those who minister to people on the fringe s of society

Church Diary

(Sunday 29th Aug – Sun 5th Sept)

Sunday 29th	8am	Eucharist Service
	10am	Eucharist Service
Monday 30th	10am-1pm	Private Prayer
Tuesday 31st	10am-1pm	Private Prayer
Wednesday 1st	10am- 1pm	Private Prayer
Thursday 2nd	10am	Eucharist Service
	7.30pm	Choir Practice in Church
Sunday 5 th	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 20TH AUG TO MON 6TH SEPT

Tel: 0208 6579466 mobile number 07958 682103

Email: bookingsstjohns@gmail.com

St John's Website address is: 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