

Collect, Special Prayer for today

Eternal God, in the psalms of David, in the words of the prophets, in the dream of Joseph, your promise is spoken. At last, in the womb of the Virgin Mary, your Word takes flesh. Teach us to welcome Jesus, the promised Emmanuel, and to preach the good news of his coming, that every age may know him as the source of redemption and grace. Grant this through him whose coming is certain, whose day draws near:

New Testament Reading

Romans 1. 1-7 NT Pg: 162

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.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 1. 18-25 NT Pg: 1

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.

Readings for Sunday 29th December:

Hebrews 2. 10-end NT Pg: 234

Matthew 2. 13-end NT Pg: 2

News

Christmas Presents. The Christian Centre are sending a last minute appeal for male and female Christmas presents to be given during their Christmas Day event at the Centre. Any last minute donations would be gratefully received by **Monday morning** e.g. boxes of chocolates or biscuits.

Christmas Cards. In order to be a bit more of an eco friendly church, it has been suggested that instead of buying those we see each week a Christmas card, we send one to the whole church family and they can be added to the arrangement by the font for all to see. This does not mean we cannot send individual cards if you would prefer to do so.

Don't miss our Christmas Services. As you will see from our front page there is a packed few days of services ahead. It would be lovely to see you and your family and friends at one of these special services. Please do invite a friend or neighbour to come with you, everyone is welcome!

SMURFS (St Martin's Under Fives) Toddler Group will next meet on Friday 3rd January at the Christian Centre. The group is friendly and welcoming and love to see new visitors. They would also like new helpers in the New Year so if you can spare a couple of hours of your time once a month on a Friday morning, please contact the Church Office for more details on 01306 884229.

Cancellation of Music at Midday Recital. The **January 4th recital has unfortunately been cancelled.** The next one will be on Saturday 1st February, Fumi Otsuki, violin.

The next dates for the Traidcraft stall are 5 January and 2 February at St Martin's, and 19 January at Pixham.

CTD Annual General Meeting will take place on Tuesday 21st January 2020 at 7.30pm in the Christian Centre. All welcome! It's not just formalities but a chance to learn about and celebrate the various activities of the past year.

CTD Shared Service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity - Sunday 26th January 6pm at St Joseph's. All welcome.

URC Afternoon Tea on Thursday 20th February 2020 (2pm - 4pm) to celebrate the 7th Holiday at Home week at the end of August. All are welcome to the tea which will also include musical entertainment from the Courgettes and Zucchini Sisters who were very well received at Holiday at Home in the summer. Invitations will be available in January 2020. We look forward to seeing you in February. If anyone is interested in helping at the Holiday at Home week in August 2020 do make yourself known. Contact Chris Currie, 07771596654 chris.currie.dorkingurc@outlook.com

Bible Reading Fellowship: Study notes for Jan-April 2020 are in pigeonholes at the back of St Martin's. Please collect yours, Sally Lowe (884467).

Dorking Foodbank. For the next week can we please ask for the following items: Toilet Rolls, Tins of Meat, Cereal, Washing-Up Liquid and Instant Mashed Potato. Please ensure food items are well within use by date.

News and Notices for the next issue of the Weekly News Sheet are to be forwarded to the church office by the close of business **Tuesday 31st December**.
Tel: 01306 884229 or e-mail smartinsdorkingchurchoffice@gmail.com

Churches Together in Dorking Prayers. Members of CTD all pray for one church, community, congregation, or initiative each week. **This week** we are praying for St James Abinger with Coldharbour and **next week** BeMe Project.

Those in our congregation who have long term concerns are named in our prayer corner and are prayed for regularly.

Please remember in your prayers:
Betty and Brian Smith, Heather Anderton, Pamela Kerlake, Simon Hardcastle, Paul Berning, Steve Parker.



PRAYERS IN CHURCH

Morning Prayer is at 9am in the Lady Chapel Monday to Thursday. Midday Prayer is on Friday in the Lady Chapel.
Note - Not Christmas Day or Boxing Day.

Sunday 5th January Second Sunday of Christmas

St. Martin's	
8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00am	St Martin's @ 10 Family Worship
6.00pm	Evensong for Epiphany
St. Mary's	
10.30am	Holy Communion
St Barnabas	
11.00am	Matins

**A VERY MERRY
CHRISTMAS
and Happy New Year!**



st martin's DORKING

WITH ST. MARY'S PIXHAM

Welcome, particularly if you are new or just visiting; it is lovely to have you with us, and do join us after the 10 o'clock service for coffee.

Sunday 22nd December Fourth in Advent



St Martin's	
8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP) President: Derek Tighe
10.00am	St Martin's @ 10 Holy Communion President: Derek Tighe
6.00pm	Nine Lessons and Carols Service Led by: Derek Tighe
St Mary's	
10.30am	Songs of Praise Led by: David Cowan
St Barnabas	
11.00am	Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols Led by: Mike Stewart

THIS COMING FORTNIGHT...



Tuesday 24th	
Christmas Eve	4.00pm Family Carols and Crib Service
St Martin's	11.00pm Carols Around The Tree
	11.30pm Midnight Communion
St Mary's	5.30pm Family Carols and Crib Service
St Barnabas	11.00pm Midnight Communion (BCP)
Wednesday 25th	
Christmas Day	
St Martin's	8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
	10.00am Christmas Family Communion
	11.00am Christmas Day in the Christian Centre
St Mary's	10.00am Holy Communion for Christmas Day
St Barnabas	10.00am Holy Communion (BCP) for Christmas Day
Saturday 28th	10.00am Christian Centre Coffee Morning
Sunday 29th	
First Sunday of Christmas	10.00am Benefice Family Communion
	(No service at St Mary's or St Barnabas)
Wednesday 1st January	No Service
Saturday 4th	10.00am Christian Centre Coffee Morning