

Collect, Special Prayer for today

YOUR kingdom is at hand, O God of justice and peace; you made John the Baptist its herald to announce the coming of your Christ, who baptizes with the Holy Spirit and with fire. Give us a spirit of repentance to make us worthy of the kingdom.

Let complacency yield to conviction, that in our day justice will flourish and conflict give way to the peace you bestow in Christ.

Grant this through him whose coming is certain, whose day draws near:
your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 11:1-10

OT Pg: 667

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 3:1-12

NT Pg: 2

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."' Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

News

Toys for SEND prison at Christmas. Once again we are collecting toys for the children who have a mother in Send prison. If you would like to donate any this Christmas please bring them to Pixham church service, leave them in the Christian Centre or contact Anne Brown on 01306 884424 who will gladly collect them. The cut off date for dropping gifts is Monday 16th December. If you are unsure what to donate there is always a shortage for teenagers and particularly boys. Suggestion are gift sets of 'smellies', music vouchers, gift vouchers e.g. Boots for hair products, sprays etc. Anything is welcome. Thank you.

Christmas Presents. The Christian Centre are appealing for male and female Christmas gifts to be given out during their Christmas Day event at the Centre. All donations gratefully received e.g. gift sets, chocolates, tins of biscuits, gift tokens. Thank you.

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 secured on a board at the back of church for all to see. This does not mean we cannot send individual cards if you would prefer to do so. The board will be at the back of church from Sat 14th Dec.

Date for your diary - Decorating Church for Christmas. We will be decorating church on Saturday 14th December at 10am. If you would like to decorate a window sill for Christmas please come along to help. If you have any greenery please also bring it.

Live Nativity: Sunday 15 December at 4pm. The return of this much loved event is a huge opportunity for St Martin's to show its welcome and hospitality to people who may not be regulars. We always need help on the day with making and serving refreshments etc. and washing up afterwards. Please speak to Mike Gibb or Peter Bunn if you can be part of the team.

Reminder about returning the Children's Society Boxes - please return to the Christian Centre Office or the Church Office for Janette. Thank you.

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.

Dorking Hospital Carol Service – Tuesday 17th December at 2.30pm - Singers are invited from all local churches to sing at the Hospital Carol Service in Ranmore Ward. There will be a practice in the Hospital Chapel at 1.45pm. If you are able to help please contact Helena Twentyman (01306 882457 or helena.twentyman@talktalk.net), and bring green and orange Carols for Choirs books if you have them.

Christmas at Dorking Christian Centre - enjoy a wonderful Christmas Day. Come alone, with friends, bring a neighbour, bring the whole family. If you would like to join in the festivities, please contact Janette or Clare to book your place on 01306 886830 by Fri 20th December.

Healing in the Steps of Jesus' Guildford Diocesan Healing Conference - 1st February 2020, 10am – 4pm at Guildford Cathedral. Join Guildford Diocese and Acorn Christian Healing Foundation for what promises to be an excellent day of teaching, sharing, worship and healing prayer. Sharing with us over the day will be keynote speakers Bishop James Newcome (Bishop of Carlisle), and Rev Paul Harcourt (National Leader of New Wine), plus professionals speaking on Emotional Wellbeing, Nurturing the Mental Health of Children and Young People, and Disability. The day concludes with a service of healing and prayer led by Bishop Andrew Watson. Open to all wanting to explore the Christian healing ministry. Refreshments are provided although please bring a packed lunch. Plenty of free, onsite parking. Information and tickets can be found at www.acornchristian.org

Dorking Foodbank. For the next week can we please ask for the following items: Adult toothbrushes, Christmas bar cakes, Boxes of breakfast cereal, Tins of meat and Christmas sweets. Please ensure food items are well within use by date.

News and Notices for the Weekly News Sheet are to be forwarded to the church office by the close of business on Wednesdays. 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 Society of Friends (Quakers).

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 Kerslake, Simon Hardcastle,
Paul Berning, Steve Parker.



And those who have recently died: David Sprague, Debbie Heaysman, Harry Robinson.

Sunday 8th December Second in Advent



St Martin's

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
President: Derek Tighe

10.00am St Martin's @ 10 Holy Communion with Baptism of Tanner Clarke
President: Derek Tighe

St Mary's
10.30am Morning Prayer
Led by: Chris Watts

St Barnabas
11.00am Holy Communion
President: Mike Stewart

This Week

Tuesday	2.30pm	Women's Fellowship, Christmas Quiz
Wednesday	11.00am	Holy Communion Mothers' Union Corporate Communion
Saturday	10.00am	Christian Centre Coffee Morning

Sunday 15th December Third in Advent

St. Martin's

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)

**10.00am St Martin's @ 10
Holy Communion**

4.00pm St Martin's @ 4 Live Nativity

St. Mary's
**10.30am Pixham Praise with Holy
Communion and Christingle**

St Barnabas
11.00am Festival of 9 Lessons and Carols

PRAYERS IN CHURCH

Morning Prayer is at 9am in the Lady Chapel Monday to Thursday. Midday Prayer is on Friday in the Lady Chapel.

For details of many more events and contact numbers please see 'Activities' & 'Who's who' pages of St Martin's Magazine.