



# St John the Evangelist East Dulwich

13th December 2015

## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Welcome to St. John's church, and a particular welcome to any visitors here today. If you are a newcomer or visitor to St. John's, please do make yourself known to one of our Pastoral Carers who are wearing red sashes, and join us for refreshments at the back of church after Sung Mass. Communicant members of all Christian denominations are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

**LOOP SYSTEM** - Please turn your hearing aid to the T position.

### 08.00 Said Mass

Celebrant and Preacher: The Revd. Anne Clarke

### 10.00 Sung Mass with Children's Nativity Pageant

Celebrant: The Revd. Alistair McCulloch

Preacher: The Revd. Anne Clarke

Introit: Hark what a sound and too divine for hearing  
- Richard Runciman Terry

Opening Hymn: 5

Gradual Hymn: 12

Offertory Hymn: 495 (*Collection taken during this hymn*)

Anthem: O Mater Maria Gratiae - G B Crivelli

Communion Hymn: *Please see page 4*

Final Hymn: 32 (omit v.4)

Voluntary: Final from Symphony No.1 - Louis Vierne

Organist: Andrew Baars

### 18.00 Silent Prayer Group

**CHILDREN:** Every Sunday there is a Crèche (pre-school) and most Sundays there is Sunday School (primary school age). Please ask one of our Churchwardens or Pastoral Carers and they will direct you. If you have children with you and they become restless please take them into the Centre Foyer so as not to disturb those who may be listening or praying. **PARENTS AND CARERS PLEASE NOTE: UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES** should children, toddlers or babies be left on their own at any time on these premises.

**GIVING TO ST. JOHN'S** If you are a U.K. taxpayer, please Gift Aid using the yellow envelope provided for your offering or complete a Planned Giving form available at the Information Point.

**Please take this sheet home with you for use during the week**

## Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Deacon: God our Father,  
you gave to Zechariah and Elizabeth in their old age  
a son called John.  
He grew up strong in spirit,  
prepared the people for the coming of the Lord,  
and baptized them in the Jordan to wash away their sins.  
Help us, who have been baptized into Christ,  
to be ready to welcome him into our hearts,  
and to grow strong in faith by the power of the Spirit.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ,  
the Light who is coming into the world.

**All: Lord Jesus, Light of the world,  
John told the people to prepare,  
for you were very near.  
As Christmas grows closer day by day,  
Help us to be ready to welcome you now.**

### **The Collect:**

O Lord Jesus Christ,  
who at your first coming sent your messenger  
to prepare your way before you:  
grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries  
may likewise so prepare and make ready your way  
by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just,  
that at your second coming to judge the world  
we may be found an acceptable people in your sight;  
for you are alive and reign with the Father  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**Amen**

### **A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians (4:4-7)**

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

This is the Word of the Lord.

### **Canticle (Isaiah 12:2-6) (8 o'clock only)**

**R\:** Shout aloud and sing for joy,  
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

### **Gospel Acclamation:**

Deacon: The Lord be with you.

All: and also with you.

Deacon: Alleluia, alleluia.

I am the light of the world says the Lord.

Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness  
but will have the light of life.

All: Alleluia.

### **Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (3:7-18)**

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin 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.' And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?'

In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.' Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, 'Teacher, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Collect no more than <sub>3</sub> the amount prescribed for you.'

Soldiers also asked him, 'And we, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.' As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.' So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

### **Communion hymn**

1. Silent night, holy night.  
All is calm, all is bright,  
round yon virgin mother and child;  
holy infant, so tender and mild:  
sleep in heavenly peace,  
sleep in heavenly peace.
  
2. Silent night, holy night.  
Shepherds quake at the sight,  
glories stream from heaven afar,  
heav'nly hosts sing alleluia:  
Christ, the Saviour is born,  
Christ, the Saviour is born.
  
3. Silent night, holy night.  
Son of God, love's pure light  
radiant beams from thy holy face,  
with the dawn of redeeming grace:  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

## Children's Nativity Pageant

The Pageant will take place after the communion hymn. Please see separate order of service.

## TODAY

*Our hangings and vestments today are purple and are used during the season of Advent as we prepare for the coming of Christ at Christmas.*

**CHRISTMAS BAKING SALE** after the 10.00 Mass. The cakes have been made by St John's Young People - in aid of Advent Homeless charities

**11.30** Pastoral Carers meeting

## DIARY

Mon 14 December	19.00	Staff meeting (62 Oakhurst Grove)
Tue 15 December	19.00	St John's & St Clement's School Carol Service (Year 3 & 4)
Wed 16 December	19.00	St John's & St Clement's School Carol Service (Year 5 & 6)
	20.00	Women's Spirituality Group
Thu 17 December	12.00	Said Mass
	12.30	Goose Green Lunch Club
	14.00	Goose Green Primary School Carol Concert
	18.30	Vigil in the Lady Chapel for Val Nylander
	20.15	Choir Practice (Vestry)
Fri 18 December	9.30	St John's and St Clement's School End of Term Service
	11.00	Funeral of Val Nylander
Sat 19 December	9.00	Church cleaning(Pre-Christmas Clean)

**Sun 20 December**

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

8.00 Said Mass

10.00 Sung Mass

18.00 Nine Lesson & Carols

## OTHER NOTICES

### **SILENT PRAYER GROUP**

**\*\*\* TONIGHT \*\*\***

The Silent Prayer Group invites you to take a break from busy Christmas preparations and join us as we wait for Christ's coming at Christmas. The meeting will follow our usual pattern, with an opening prayer, half an hour of silence for people to use as they wish, and a closing prayer.

### **WOMEN'S SPIRITUALITY GROUP 8.00 pm Wednesday, 16 December**

Our December meeting will be held on at 36 Court Lane. We will contribute poetry, prose and music on the themes of Advent, waiting and preparation, and bring food to share with one another. All women are welcome. For further details contact Clare Brown, 020-8291-5295.

### **2016 SPECIAL CAUSE COLLECTION SUNDAYS**

There will be five Sundays in 2016, of which one will be for Christian Aid, on which members of the congregation will be invited to contribute to designated charities. If you have a charity you would like to be considered, please send details in writing to the Ven. Dr. Bill Jacob, Chair of the P.C.C., **TODAY**. The P.C.C. will vote on the nominations in January and you will be notified if your charity is successful. Please note: If your charity is selected you will be responsible for liaising with the charity concerned to arrange appropriate material.

### **CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTMAS CARD**

The Sunday School has worked very hard to produce our fantastic congregational Christmas Card which is now installed at the back of Church. To pass on your Christmas wishes to other members of the congregation, please sign the card and make a small donation (in one of the yellow envelopes).

### **CHRISTINGLE SERVICES - SIDESPEOPLE**

We are expecting large numbers of people for the Christingle Services on Christmas Eve at 3.00 p.m. and 4.30 p.m., and we need a lot of Sidespeople. If you can help, please speak to Rachel or Michael, our Churchwardens. Thank you.

**CHRISTMAS FLOWERS** - If you would like to make a donation towards our Christmas flower decorations please use one of the yellow envelopes pre-marked 'Christmas Flowers' available at the Information Point. If you are a UK taxpayer please sign the envelope in order to Gift Aid your donation. You may also like to use a Thanksgiving Card in dedication of a person or an event. Please put your donation and card in the envelope and place in the collection bag. Thanksgiving Cards will be offered at the altar at Midnight Mass. Thank you.

**SIMPLE GIFTS FOR ADVENT AND CHRISTMASTIDE**

You will find the Simple Gifts leaflet for Advent and Christmastide at the back of the church. If you would like to give a donation towards any of the items, please place it (cheques should be made payable to 'St. John's PCC') in one of our yellow envelopes hand it, together with your completed form, to a member of the Clergy or a Churchwarden.

**COMMUNION WAFERS** We are now able to offer gluten-free communion wafers. These have been approved by the Coeliac Society. If you would prefer to receive one instead of the usual wafer, please speak to me or one of the clergy.  
Alan Croft

**BRING AND SHARE LUNCH Sunday, 10 January 2016**

There will be a bring and share lunch after the 10.00 am Mass to welcome Bishop Humphrey Southern, Principal of Ripon College Cuddesdon, Patron of St John's. Bishop Humphrey will be celebrating and preaching and this will be a great opportunity for Bishop Humphrey to get to know us at St John's and for us to meet him as we prepare for the appointment of a new incumbent. If you would like to help with the lunch, please speak to Eurica Shaw.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO RING THE TOWER BELL.**

Many people have said to me how much they like to hear the church tower bell rung on Sunday mornings before the 10.00 am Mass. It would be great to have a small number of volunteers to ring for 5 minutes at 09.50 am on Sundays If you would like to learn how to ring the bell, please speak to me and I would be happy to teach you. It's not difficult to do and does not require a great deal of strength, but you will need to be able to climb the stairs to the belfry.

Many thanks. Michael Robinson

**THANK-YOU**

The recent Special Cause Collection for the Southwark Day Centre for Asylum Seekers raised £519.20, plus Gift Aid. Many thanks to everyone for their contributions to this very worthwhile cause.

## **SAFEGUARDING AT ST. JOHN'S**

Every person has a value and dignity, which comes directly from the creation of people in God's image. Christians see this potential as fulfilled by God's re-creation of us in Christ. Among other things this implies a duty to value all people as bearing the image of God and therefore to protect them from harm. At St. John's we commit ourselves to nurture, protect and safeguard all our members, particularly children, young people and vulnerable adults.

## **SAVE YOUR USED POSTAGE STAMPS**

*There are two boxes at the back of the church (British and Foreign stamps) for all your Christmas stamps. (In aid of The Orangutan Foundation)*

**PEW SHEET** - All notices for the Pew Sheet should be passed to the Parish Office (020 8693 3897/e-mail: stjohnsse22@hotmail.com), preferably via e-mail, by 10.00 on **TUESDAY** mornings please, with a copy to [christine.bannan@virgin.net](mailto:christine.bannan@virgin.net)

[www.stjohnseastdulwich.org](http://www.stjohnseastdulwich.org)

## **Christmas and New Year Services at St. John's**

### **CHRISTMAS EVE**

- 1500 Christingle Service for Children
- 1630 Christingle Service for Children
- 2300 Carols
- 2330 Midnight Mass

### **CHRISTMAS DAY**

- 1000 Sung Mass

### **Sunday, 27th December - John, Apostle and Evangelist**

- 0800 Said Mass
- 1000 Sung Mass

### **NEW YEAR'S DAY**

- 1200 Said Mass

### **Sunday, 3rd January - The Epiphany**

- 0800 Said Mass
- 1000 Sung Mass
- 1130 Children's Mass
- 1800 Silent Prayer Group