

Sunday 7th December 2025

Second Sunday of Advent

- 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion
- 10.00 a.m. Christingle Café-Style Altogether Worship
- 4.00 p.m. Christingle Tea Time Church
- 5.30 p.m. Youth Group

Collect for Today

Almighty God, purify our hearts and minds, that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as judge and saviour we may be ready to receive him, who is our Lord and our God. **Amen**

Service Readings

Isaiah 11:1-10 (*p.650*), Romans 15:4-13 (*p.159*) and Matthew 3:1-12 (*p.2*)

Please pray for

- ... Rebecca Brown, Mark & Jan Knott, Jenny Powell and Mike Woodcock.
- ... the family and friends of Ethel Mary Greenacre, Geoffrey Attewell and Rosemary Bailey whose anniversary of death is at this.
- ... those who live and work in Irwin Road, Iveagh Road, Litchfield Way and Lynwood.
- ... the Koens family in Papua New Guinea supporting the work of Bible translation through vehicle maintenance, teaching, missionary care.

Post Communion Prayer

Father in heaven, who sent your Son to redeem the world and will send him again to be our judge: give us grace so to imitate him in the humility and purity of his first coming that, when he comes again, we may be ready to greet him with joyful love and firm faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Financial Giving

We take a collection during our services. If you don't give regularly by standing order or the envelope scheme, please put your donation in the bag, tap the card reader on your way out, or use the QR code on the back of this news-sheet. Thank you.

Dear Friends

Today is the second Sunday of Advent, in this season when we prepare for Christmas and Jesus' coming among us. We'll be lighting the second of our Advent candles, and remembering the prophets who prepared the way for Jesus to come. The prophet who is uppermost in our minds for today is John the Baptist.

John was a colourful character, and with a fiery message: 'Repent for the kingdom of heaven has come near!'. His vocation was to prepare the way for Jesus to come; and many people came out into the wilderness to hear John preach and to be baptised by him. They believed his words that the Messiah was coming, and they needed to be ready. John was baptising with water, but when Jesus came he would baptise people with the Holy Spirit and with fire (Matthew 3:11).

Today we too prepare ourselves for Jesus' coming among us once again, as we celebrate the miracle of his birth at Bethlehem. The Christingles which we'll be making during our 10am and 4pm services today help us to understand the meaning of Jesus' coming:

The orange reminds us of the world God created, and of which we are a part; God is our creator and we are his children. The red ribbon reminds us that not everything in our world is good, but that Jesus came to transform our world. The fruits remind us of the fruits of God's Spirit - love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, faithfulness, self-control. And the candle in the middle reminds us that Jesus is the Light of the World.

As we make our Christingles today, I pray that we'll understand that message more clearly, and be ready to share it with the world.

Beverly

Mission Focus for December: Mosaic Middle East (MME)

Our prayers are again requested for the Middle East, and, with the Gaza conflict in the forefront of our thoughts, it is easy to forget that Iraq still faces a veritable storm of trouble. MME's friend in Baghdad is the Rev'd Canon Faiz Jirjees MBE, from St. George's Anglican church there. His message is that tensions between the communities and recent regional conflict have sent shockwaves through Iraq, heightening insecurity, increasing instability and deepening fear. So, as Christmas approaches and is celebrated, let us remember the people of Iraq, of whatever religion or sect, and pray that peace will prevail and that tensions there will die down. Further information on the work of MME will be found in the December magazine.

Notices

Decorating our Christmas Tree: TODAY, after the 10am Christingle service, we'll be decorating the Christmas tree! Join the fun by staying after to add the baubles and tinsel and to enjoy a mince pie.

Youth Group: TODAY at 5.30pm. Our meeting is early this month! It's not too late to tell Jeanette or Trish that you'd like to come along tonight to enjoy games, pizza and chat.

Planning Permission Granted! We're delighted to announce that Guildford Borough Council have granted planning permission for the Big Build Project. This is a big milestone and we give many thanks to each member of the Big Build team for their hard work in getting us to this point.

Guildford Food Bank: We're delivering the donations to the food bank on MONDAY so this is your last chance to pop your goodies into the boxes for Guildford Food Bank. In December they are expecting to support over 400 client households, which is double the number they saw in December 2022! Please bring your donations to the box provided in church. The items they need this time are: sharing boxes of chocolates or sweets, bags or boxes of sharing savoury snacks, gift toiletries, tinned meat, tinned fish, laundry detergent, dried flavoured noodles, toothpaste. Thank you!

Carol Singing with the Guides: Tuesday 9th December, 6.30pm gathering at the hall. As always, we'll be joining the Guides in visiting Dray Court and other friends in the parish.

OVRA Community Carol Singing and Mulled Wine: Friday 12th December, outside the village hall. Mulled wine from 5.45pm and carol singing from 6.15pm-6.45pm. Wear your best Christmas hat and remember to bring your mug for the mulled wine!

Advent & Christmas Services:

- ☿ Sunday 14th: 6pm *Nine Lessons & Carols*
- ☿ Wednesday 17th: 2.30pm *Carol Service at Dray Court*
- ☿ Sunday 21st: 10am *Morning Worship & Nativity*
- ☿ Wednesday 24th: 4pm *Crib Service*
- ☿ Christmas Day: 8am *BCP Communion*
10am *All-Age Communion*

Diary for the Coming Week

Morning prayer Mon, Tues and Weds 9.15am in the Reading Room and on Zoom. Thurs Holy Communion at 9.30am in the Reading Room.

Mon 8 th	Small Group Leaders, Vicarage, 10.00am Women's Bible Study Group, 16 West Meads, 12.30pm Barnabas Group, 26 Manor Way, 4.00pm
Tues 9 th	Carol Singing with the Guides, 6.30pm (meet at the hall)
Weds 10 th	Men's Coffee Morning, Reading Room, 10.30am Standing Committee, Vicarage, 7.30pm
Thurs 11 th	Holy Communion, Reading Room, 9.30am, Choir Rehearsal, 8.00pm Men's Group 'Exploring the Way', 6 Scillonian Road, 8.00pm
Fri 12 th	Baby & Toddler Group, Church, 10.00am Friday Group, 43 Poltimore Road, 3.00pm
Sat 13 th	Prayer Breakfast, 6 Scillonian Road, 9.00am
Sun 14 th	Church Family Communion, 10.00am Nine Lessons & Carols, 6.00pm

Daily Readings for the coming week

Mon 8 th	Ps. 44, Isaiah 30:1-18, Matthew 14:1-12
Tues 9 th	Ps. 56, Isaiah 30:19-end, Matthew 14:13-end
Weds 10 th	Ps. 62, Isaiah 31, Matthew 15:1-20
Thurs 11 th	Ps. 54, Isaiah 32, Matthew 15:21-28
Fri 12 th	Ps. 86, Isaiah 33:1-22, Matthew 15:29-end
Sat 13 th	Ps. 145, Isaiah 35, Matthew 16:1-12

Service Readings for Sunday 14th December: Third Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 35:1-10, James 5:7-10 and Matthew 11:2-11

Contacts

Rev'd Beverly Watson, Vicar
vicar@allsaintschurchgfd.org.uk
Tel: 07547 416721

Office: administrator@allsaintschurchgfd.org.uk Tel: 01483 563173
Safeguarding Officer: safeguarding@allsaintschurchgfd.org.uk Tel: 01483 568857



allsaintschurchgfd.org.uk



facebook.com/allsaintschurchgfd



instagram.com/allsaintsgfd/

