

MONTHLY PARISH MAGAZINE NOV 2016

Traditional & New



Family Fun



friendly



Local & Global



Community



Vibrant

Relevant



Caring



Holy Saviour Church, Croydon

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SUGGESTED DONATIONS 50P



November Services

'We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church'

This line comes towards the end of our Creed. The word 'catholic' here does not mean 'Roman Catholic' but is used in its original meaning which is 'everyone' - a holy church for 'all'. The word 'apostolic' relates to the succession of spiritual authority from the 12 Apostles. As Church of England Anglicans this succession we believe has come down from the Apostles through our Bishops.

Every Tuesday 9.30am-11am Parents and Babies' Stay & Play

Every Tuesday in November 7.30pm-9pm 'New Style Group Singing and Night Prayer'

Every Wednesday 10am-10.45am Holy Communion Peaceful and Prayerful.

Sunday 6 November 10am

Holy Communion and Sunday school
3rd Before Advent Sermon by Reader Paul Parmenter

Sunday 6 November 4pm

All Souls Service We remember with thanksgiving before God those whom we have known, who gave us life and love. Light a candle for all those who rest in peace.

Sunday 13 November 10am

Holy Communion and Sunday school
Remembrance Sunday.

'They shall not grow old as we that are left grow old. Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning We will remember them. We will remember them'

Sunday 20 November 10am

Holy Communion, Sunday school and Young People's Group
Christ the King Sermon by guest Rev Canon Andrew Wingate.

As we celebrate Christ's glory in all the world, Canon Andrew will speak on Christ in a multi-faith area. It's National inter-faith week. Also baptism of Otis, Ingrid's other grandson!

Sunday 27 November 10am

Holy Communion and Sunday school
Advent 1 *The church calendar starts again and the serious season of preparation begins, awaiting the coming of Jesus Christ. Our hangings change to purple. Sermon by Reader James Lewis. Denise Mendez will hang a new Advent banner. And it's the baptism of well loved baby Vanessa.*



Save the Date

November 2016

Sunday 6 Nov 11.45am Standing Committee meeting
Sunday 13 Nov 12 noon Mission and Communications Action Team meeting
Tuesday 15 Nov 7pm-9pm PCC meeting in the Vicarage
Friday 18 Nov 6.30pm Faith Action Team meeting
Sunday 20 Nov 12 noon Building and Finance Action Team meeting

Saturday 26 Nov 11am-1.30pm Lead up to Christmas fayre and café in the church hall organised by Social Events Team

& December 2016

Saturday 3 Dec 2pm-4pm Rehearsal for new style Christmas Concert

Sunday 4 Dec Bring and Share lunch after the Sunday service followed by Guest led Advent Quiet afternoon in vicarage 12.30pm-2.30pm

Wednesday 7 Dec 6.30pm in the church hall Co-op Candle Memorial Evening.

Saturday 10 Dec 5.30pm new style Christmas Concert followed by a 'social' in the church hall

Sunday 18 Dec 10am Holy Communion service with Sunday school Nativity

Sunday 18 Dec 5pm Traditional Carol Service (Nine Lessons and Carols)

Saturday 24 Dec Christmas Eve 11.30pm **Midnight Mass**
Sunday 25 Dec Christmas Day! 10am **Holy Communion Service** child friendly

Thursday 29 Dec 9pm **Night Prayer (Compline) and Cocoa**

Saturday 31 Dec 11pm **New Year's Eve Watch Service** (with TV broadcast of New Year fireworks).



Exekiel

Short story by Alex White



Exekiel detached himself from the tree he had been leaning against and padded silently across the damp, springy grass, following the sound of a sharp, anguished voice he could hear in the darkness. Two shapes emerged outlined against a distant street light. On the ground a man in his 20s was being kicked repeatedly. He groaned. In lightning speed, Exekiel had closed the gap and had put himself between the man on the ground and his abuser. The man on the ground quickly saw his opportunity to escape and took it. ‘Who do you think you are?’ the angry man shouted, taken aback. Deciding

Exekiel posed no threat to him he moved aggressively forward. Exekiel reached out his hand and touched the man lightly on the arm.

An electrifying bolt of love, compassion and understanding transferred from him to the man. The man visibly shaken, slumped, his anger and bravado ebbing from him. So deeply moving was the experience, the man stuttered ‘Who are you?’ ‘I am a follower of Christ. If you wish to be forgiven and have everlasting life, accept Jesus Christ as your saviour and sin no more’.

The man dropped his eyes. ‘I have done things you do not know. I could never be forgiven.’

‘Forgiveness is for every one of us’, Exekiel said in a gentle voice, ‘Come with me’.

Exekiel turned and led the way.



From the Mouth of Babes - A child's prayer from Northern Ireland from 265 Children's Prayers, Lion Books

Father God, some of us know what it is to be afraid to talk to people of a different religion. We are afraid because of what our neighbours will do to us. Give us courage. Teach children and grown-ups in this and every land to show love to people no matter what colour they are or by what name they are called. Amen.



Sunday Services 10am Holy Communion with Sunday School

Weekday Services Wednesday 10am Holy Communion

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Rev's End

*in the context of Holy Saviour Church,
Croydon and our parish area?*

November 2016

Hello Holy Savs! As a whole church we have recently submitted our **5 year** plan to the Diocese. Please do have a look at the full plan on our lobby notice board.

All of this has been discussed and planned together through our 6 teams and our Parochial Church Council (PCC).

The 5 year plan is called 'Mission Action Plan' (MAP). Its overall aim is to:

- ❖ **Build the number of people attending church worship**
- ❖ **For Holy Saviour to increasingly become a focal centre of the local community for all the different types of people who live around us.**

Back in July we had a 'PCC day' to finalise this MAP. This was held at the Vicarage and there was a lengthy discussion on the '5 Marks of Mission' which the Church of England has recognised. We asked: '**how do these Marks of Mission become meaningful**

1. Proclaiming the Good News of the Kingdom:

The discussion revolved around evangelism **by being 'living examples'** of the teachings of Jesus in the Gospels, talking with others about the challenges and learning of the disciples, **of being a centre of community even within different faiths**, about promoting to the secular world, in particular, the beliefs of the Christian 'pathway' of following Christ's goodness, through suffering into hope that have given our own lives a greater sense of security without materialism and instead **'love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control'**.

2. Teaching, baptising and nurturing new believers:

The groups discussed the **'who'**: the non-Christian partners, spouses, relatives of Holy Saviour's current congregation. Those who come to us only for weddings, baptisms and funerals.

Local people in the community with whom we have little contact.

People in a crisis: For example, dealing with family illness or bereavement.

People with a special joy: For example, planning to get married, newly married, first baby, new house, celebration of graduation or work success. Keeping on board our ‘older young people’. And the ‘**how**’:

advertise on website, social media and street leafleting. In the advertising, offer ‘**something they want**’, for example, company, new friends, meeting new local people.

Hospitality: food, drink, love and a warm welcome. A chance to talk and explore feelings, a chance to be listened to. Issues that link with their lives: environment/creation; relationships; faith/healing; belonging; daily pattern and rhythm of good living, the spiritual side of life.

3. Responding to human need by loving service: The team focussed on ‘**loving your neighbour as yourself**’ especially those who are unwell in, body, mind or spirit, and offering both corporate aid and personal help. Especially to groups such as children, the elderly, single parents and refugees.

4. Seeking to transform unjust structures of society, challenging violence of every kind and pursuing peace and reconciliation: ‘Say it out



loud’ was the feeling of the team, **when injustices in the world are brought to light.** Building awareness and lobbying on issues especially bringing to light how relating the political state of things to the theological outlook can bring about

change. Focussing on the results of poverty, violence, theft, gender inequalities, racial, cultural and faith differences.

5. Safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth: Promoting and applying good environmental and health practices by caring for the beautiful creation God has given us and our neighbours in respect of nature, the built environment and our bodies. Focussing on the state of our local streets, our church grounds, the area’s waste collection system, ethical approaches to burial/cremation, our own lifestyle and that of our young people.

The discussion was really lively, heartfelt and theologically reflective.

I would like to thank all our teams and the PCC for all their input.

Now we just have to do it!

Blessings Rev C.