

NOTICES FOR THE WEEK

Today	10:00am- 11:30am – Advent 3 – Holy Communion + Sunday School Nativity and Christingle 5:00pm – Traditional Carol Service – Come and sing your favourite carols
Tues 19 Dec	7:00am – Morning Prayer 7.30pm-8.30pm Night Prayer with mindfulness mediation
Weds 20 Dec	10am-10.45am Holy Communion peaceful & prayerful 4:00-5:00pm – Carols around Elmwood Care Home Please meet at 3:45 outside 32 Elmwood Road
Thurs 21 Dec	7:00pm-8:00pm – Carols around the wards at CUH meet at 6:45pm at the church
Friday 22 Dec	8.30am-3.30pm Community Payback Gardeners
Sat 23 Dec	10am-11am Parish Office Cover for baptisms (Christenings), Weddings and all bookings
Sun 24 Dec	10:00am- 11:30am – Advent 4 / Christmas Eve– Holy Communion +Sunday School 11:30pm – Midnight Mass – with incense – James preaching

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

“John (the Baptist) stands as prophets do to this very day, as an unyielding presence unsettling us and leaving us not quite sure of how we feel about him.

...

And yet John seems hard to know, hard to like even though we stand back in admiration of him. We react the same way to most absolute figures.”

— **Eugene Kennedy, Joy of Being Human**

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HOLY SAVIOUR CHURCH CROYDON

Third Sunday of Advent + Nativity-Christingle

Sunday 17th December 2017

HYMN 1- 32 – Sleepers awake

COLLECT FOR THE DAY

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at thy first coming didst send thy messenger to prepare thy way before thee: grant that the ministers and stewards of thy mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready thy way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at thy second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in thy sight; who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

The Service will now turn to the Nativity-Christingle sheet.

These readings are to give you Advent Continuity in your own Bible reading.

OT Reading – Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; ²to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; ³to provide for those who mourn in Zion— to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory. ⁴They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many

generations. For I the Lord love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. ⁹Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed. ¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. ¹¹For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

Psalm 126:

In convertendo

When the Lord turned again the captivity of Sion : then were we like unto them that dream.

² Then was our mouth filled with laughter : and our tongue with joy.

³ Then said they among the heathen : The Lord hath done great things for them.

⁴ Yea, the Lord hath done great things for us already : whereof we rejoice.

⁵ Turn our captivity, O Lord : as the rivers in the south.

⁶ They that sow in tears : shall reap in joy.

⁷ He that now goeth on his way weeping, and beareth forth good seed : shall doubtless come again with joy, and bring his sheaves with him.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen

NT Reading – 1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24

¹⁶ Rejoice always, ¹⁷ pray without ceasing, ¹⁸ give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹ Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰ Do not despise the words of prophets, ²¹ but test everything; hold fast to what is good; ²² abstain from every form of evil. ²³ May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴ The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

Gospel – John 1: 6-8, 19-28

⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸ He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹ The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" ²⁰ He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." ²¹ And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not."

"Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." ²² Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" ²³ He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said. ²⁴ Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. ²⁵ They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" ²⁶ John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, ²⁷ the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." ²⁸ This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

Prayers will be said during the Nativity- Christingle part of the Service.

You may wish to use the following Intercessions during your own prayers at home this week.

INTERCESSIONS FOR THIS WEEK

We Pray Especially This Week:

- For Peace in the Middle East
- For those who are homeless and alone
- For those who will spend Christmas away from their families
- For those who cannot afford presents for their children and families
- For Rose Lawrence and her family
- For those having to work over Christmas

We Pray for those Unwell in Body, Mind or Spirit:

Jignasha Patel, Natalie, Adam, Claudine – Lyn's daughter, Edit, Christopher, Jennifer, Sheila Richardson, Girish, Tiku Amin, Brenda, baby Teddy, Enid Jackson, Ethel Miller, Pat & Enid Robinson, Sam Barker, Mrs Trotman, Bradley, Bridget Alvin, Josephine & Daniel Walters, Coleen, Christine C, The Mendez family, Tessa Carter, Ina Parkinson, Tony, Noel Scarlett, Irene Myton, Ron Thurgood, Avril Ward, & and all those known to us

+ for the soul of Patrick Lawrence– Rose's son, for the soul of Jose Sobrinho – Waleria's father (Elmwood Care Home), the soul of Zericha – Mitzi's grand niece and for all who are mourning at this time

We Give Thanks and Praise :

- For our Sunday School teachers and children
- For our winter weather
- For our Servers and Choir
- For all those we love

The service will re-join the Eucharist for the Peace

Offertory Hymn: 484 Long Ago, prophets knew

Communion Hymns.

233 – O Thou who camest

23 - Creator of the starry height

Post Communion Prayer

We give thee thanks, O Lord, for these thy heavenly gifts; kindle in us the fire of thy Spirit that when our Saviour Christ shall come again we may shine as lights before his face; who liveth and reigneth now and for ever. **Amen**

Prayer of St Francis of Assisi

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
Where there is injury, pardon
Where there is doubt, faith
Where there is despair, hope
Where there is darkness, light
Where there is sadness, joy
O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;
to be understood as to understand;
to be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive;
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Hymn 6 – 28 – Lo He comes with clouds descending