

NOTICES FOR THE WEEK

Today	10:00am- 11:30am – Advent 4 / Christmas Eve– Holy Communion +Sunday School 11:30pm - Midnight Mass - the loveliest service of the year James Lewis Preaching
Mon 25 Dec	10:00am – Christmas Day Service – Family Friendly Holy Communion – Altogether – Refreshments at back of church After the service
Tues 26 Dec	No Services
Weds 27 Dec	No Service
Thurs 28 Dec	3:00pm-6:00pm – Come and help disassemble the 150 th Exhibition for storage 8:00pm- 9.00pm – Compline and Cocoa – gentle service with Reflection by Paul Parmenter – for that strange time between Christmas and New Year.
Friday 29 Dec	8.30am-3.30pm Community Payback Gardeners
Sun 31 Dec	10:00am- 11:30am – Christmas 1 – Holy Communion + Sunday School – James Lewis Preaching 11:30pm – New Year Night Watch – Come and see in the New Year - Holy Communion, Taize singing, Live TV of London Fireworks and some bubbly.

THOUGHTS FOR THE WEEK

“Only a Woman, divine, could know all that a woman can suffer.”

— **Willa Cather, Death Comes for the Archbishop**

“Love will cost you dearly.

And it will break your heart.

But in the end, it will save the world.”

— **Sarah Thebarge**

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HOLY SAVIOUR CHURCH CROYDON Fourth Sunday of Advent/ Christmas Eve Sunday 24th December 2017

HYMN 1- 26 – O Come, O Come Emmanuel

COLLECT FOR THE DAY

God our redeemer, who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son: grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour, so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our judge; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

OT Reading – 2 Samuel 7: 1-11, 16 – Efu

Now when the king was settled in his house, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, ²the king said to the prophet Nathan, “See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent.” ³Nathan said to the king, “Go, do all that you have in mind; for the Lord is with you.” ⁴But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: ⁵Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the Lord: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? ⁶I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. ⁷Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, “Why have you not built me a house of cedar?” ⁸Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the Lord of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; ⁹and I have been with you

wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. ¹⁰And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, ¹¹from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. ¹⁶Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

Magnificat

My soul doth magnify the Lord :
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
For he hath regarded : the lowliness of his hand-maiden.
For behold, from henceforth : all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me : and holy is his Name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him : throughout all generations.
He hath shewed strength with his arm : he hath scattered the proud, in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat : and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things : and the rich he hath sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel :
as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed, for ever.

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 – Romans 16: 25-27
Sylvia

²⁵ Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages ²⁶ but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith— ²⁷ to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

Hymn 2: 360 – For Mary Mother



Gospel – Luke 1: 26-38

²⁶ In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹ But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰ The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. ³¹ And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³² He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³ He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴ Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" ³⁵ The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁶ And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. ³⁷ For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸ Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

INTERCESSIONS – Christine B
We Pray Especially This Week:

-For all parents and grandparents throughout the world.
- For Carers and Guardians of children
-For those who are pregnant at this time
-For those who have lost a child at birth
- For those who are grieving the loss of a beloved son or daughter

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

Margaret Davies, 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, the soul of Jose Lopez – Valeria's father, for the soul of Mitzi's grand- niece and for all who are mourning at this time

We Give Thanks and Praise :

-For the wonderful Carol Service last Sunday and the work of our Choir, Choir co-ordinator Barbara and organist Richard
- For our families and relatives in the country and across the world
- for our favourite Christmas time films
- For Christmas spirit all around u

Offertory Hymn: 33 – Of the Father's love

Communion Hymns.

309 – The God who earth and sea
311 - Virgin-born, we bow before thee

Post Communion Prayer

Heavenly Father, who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of the promised saviour: fill us your servants with your grace, that in all things we may embrace your holy will and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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 – 422 – Tell out my soul