

NOTICES FOR THE WEEK

Today	10:00am-11:30am – Advent 3 + Sunday School with YPIG 12.30-1.30pm Public Spirit Action at Croydon Police Station 71 Park Lane CR9 1BP 5:00pm –6.00pm Our wonderful Traditional 9 lessons and Carols Service followed by mulled wine and mince pies.
Tues 17 Dec	8.00am-8.30am – Morning Prayer 7.30pm-8.30pm Night Prayer with mindfulness mediation
Weds 18 Dec	10am-10.45am Holy Communion peaceful & prayerful 12 noon – Funeral in church of Merle Edwards-Maye 7:00pm Carol Singing at Croydon University Hospital - meet either 6.45pm at church – or 7pm sharp at St Barnabas Chapel Woodcroft Rd entrance.
Thurs 19 Dec	6:00pm-7:00pm – Evening Prayer
Friday 20 Dec	Please note there will be no choir practice
Sat 21 Dec	10am-11am Parish Office for baptisms (Christenings), Weddings and all bookings
Sun 22 Dec	10:00am-11:30am – Advent 4 HC + Sunday School + Baptism of Ishmael & Mayfair's baby Jacob

THOUGHTS FOR THE WEEK

"Life in a prison cell may well be compared to Advent; one waits, hopes, and does this, that, or the other- things that are of no real consequence- the door is shut, and can be opened only from the outside."

,Letters from Prison - November 21, 1943"

— Dietrech Bonhoeffer

John the Baptist never performed any miracles. Yet, he was greater than any of the Old Testament prophets.

Leonard Ravenhill

Next Sunday's Readings Advent 4

OT -	Isaiah 7 vv 10-16	NT -	Romans 1 vv: 1-7
Gospel -	Matthew 1 vv 18-25	Psalm-	80 vv 1-8

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HOLY SAVIOUR CHURCH CROYDON

3rd Sunday of Advent

Sunday 15th December 2019

HYMN 1: 27 – On Jordan's bank

During the lighting of the John the Baptist Advent Candle we sing:

*John the Baptist, by his preaching,
And by water poured,
Brought to those who heard his teaching,
News of hope restored:
'Keep your vision strong and steady,
And be ready for the Lord'.*

COLLECT FOR THE DAY

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**

OLD TESTAMENT READING – Isaiah 35:1-10 Sue

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus ² it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God.

³Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. ⁴Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you."

⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; ⁶then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. ⁸A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveller, not even fools, shall go astray. ⁹No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. ¹⁰And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Psalm 146 vv 4-10

4 Blessed is he that hath the God of Jacob for his help : and whose hope is in the Lord his God;

5 Who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that therein is : who keepeth his promise for ever;

6 Who helpeth them to right that suffer wrong : who feedeth the hungry.

7 The Lord looseth men out of prison : the Lord giveth sight to the blind.

8 The Lord helpeth them that are fallen : the Lord careth for the righteous.

9 The Lord careth for the strangers, he defendeth the fatherless and widow : as for the way of the ungodly, he turneth it upside down.

10 The Lord thy God, O Sion, shall be King for evermore : and throughout all generations.

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

NEW TESTAMENT READING – James 5:7-10 -Christine

⁷ Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸ You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. ⁹ Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! ¹⁰ As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Hymn 2: 316 – Lo, from the desert homes

Gospel –Matthew 11: 2-11 -Marie

² When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples ³ and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?”

⁴ Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵ the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. ⁶ And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.” ⁷ As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸ What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. ⁹ What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰ This is the one about whom it is written, ‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.’ ¹¹ Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.



INTERCESSIONS – Marie

We Pray Especially This Week:

-For our country since the General Election result.
- For our Carol Service later today
-For those worried about their children being bullied at school.
-For couples trying to conceive.
- For all who work at Croydon University Hospital.

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

Gordon, Cousin Abisha, The Lyle family, Feyemi, Murleen, Pamphilia, all those at 44 Kimberley, Ishmael, Mayfair & baby Jacob, Feodora, Lauren, Maria, Alison, Mother Jean Y, Miriam, Brenda, Denise, Denise, Mia & Ernestine, Simon and Samantha, Pat, Mona, Vida & Alexander, Tinashe, Girish, Enid, Ethel, Pat & Enid, Bridget, Ina, Tony, Noel, Irene, Ron, Avril. And all those we love.

† The souls of Muriel, Uncle Tony, Cousin Hector, Rose Lawrence, Maurice, Joyce P, Marsha daughter of the Woodhouse family. We pray in loving memory of Dennis T., and we pray for all those mourning.

We Give Thanks and Praise :

-For bright winter sunshine
-For friendly new neighbours
-For good health and doctors and nurses who help
-For the yesterday's Mix & Mingle & Carol Singing
- For the love and support of friends and family members

Offertory – 345-Christ is the King

Communion Hymns.

254– Thee we adore
258– Author of life divine

Post Communion Prayer

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts; kindle in us the fire of your Spirit that when your Christ comes again we may shine as lights before his face; who is alive and reigns 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.

Final Hymn: HHS 28- Shine, Jesus, Shine