

HOLY SAVIOUR CHURCH CROYDON

Fourth Sunday of Advent

18th December 2022

HYMN 1: 53 – Songs of Thankfulness

*During the lighting of the Virgin Mary's
Advent Candle we sing:*

*Mary's gift beyond all telling
We recall today;
Son of God within her dwelling,
Born to show the way.
Who could guess the final story?
-cross and glory; Easter Day!*

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**

OLD TESTAMENT READING –Isaiah 7:10-16: Sheri

¹⁰ Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying,
¹¹ Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.
¹² But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. ¹³ Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also?
¹⁴ Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. ¹⁵ He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows

how to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶ For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.

Psalm 80 vv 1-8 -Qui regis Israel

Hear, O thou Shepherd of Israel, thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep: shew thyself also, thou that sittest upon the cherubims.

² Before Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasses: stir up thy strength, and come, and help us.

³ Turn us again, O God: shew the light of thy countenance, and we shall be whole.

⁴ O Lord God of hosts: how long wilt thou be angry with thy people that prayeth?

⁵ Thou feedest them with the bread of tears: and givest them plenteousness of tears to drink.

⁶ Thou hast made us a very strife unto our neighbours: and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

⁷ Turn us again, thou God of hosts: shew the light of thy countenance, and we shall be whole.

⁸ Thou hast brought a vine out of Egypt: thou hast cast out the heathen, and planted it.

***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 – Romans
1:1-7 - Sue**

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, ² which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, ³ the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh ⁴ and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, ⁵ through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, ⁶ including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, ⁷ To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Hymn 2 360 – For Mary Mother

**GOSPEL READING - Matthew 1:18-25
- Marie**

¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit.

¹⁹ Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰ But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²² All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

²³ "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." ²⁴ When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, ²⁵ but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.



INTERCESSIONS – Marie

We Pray Especially This Week:

-For those lost at sea this week

-For the homeless

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

Rev Peter's wife Jennifer, Brandon, Claudine, Billy's Uncle Richard, Barbara G, Margaret L, Janine H, Janet & John J, Stephen Mc, Geraldine, Sandra, Kat's sister Christine, Jean, Sarah's mother Fedora, Veronica F's friend, Matt, Tabitha's aunt, Brenda, Stephanie, Cyril, Minnie, Alexander, Cousin Zen, all at 44 Kimberley Road & Christopher, Miriam, Denise M, Ernestine, Simon & Samantha, Girish, Pat & Enid, Bridget, Adrian, Ron and all those we know and love

✠ We pray for the souls of Rose's brother, Lorraine Cresswell and Janet Titus

✠ May light perpetual shine upon them

May they Rest in Peace

And Rise in Glory

We Give Thanks and Praise:

-For volunteers caring for people alone at Christmas

-For Christmas Carols

Prayer for our new Incumbent

*Heavenly Father, we joyfully thank you for answering our prayers. With the appointment of our new incumbent, Revd Tomos Reed, we are now beginning a new stage of our journey. Help us to be united in support, as we extend a warm and godly welcome. Keep your call fresh in his heart and constantly renew his spirit as he prepares for the work within the church and the wider community. Strengthen and guide him too for the challenges that lie ahead. Lord, as we rely on you, we have that re-assurance knowing that we have a future filled with hope. **Amen***

Offertory Hymn: 40 – O Little Town

Communion Hymns

Reflective Music

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**

Final Hymn: 28 – Lo He Comes

NOTICES FOR THE COMING WEEK

Please stay at home if you have cold or flu-like symptoms.

- Today** **10.00am-11.15am** – Holy Communion Service – Advent 4
Revd Peter Jones presiding and preaching
Refreshments in the hall after the service
5pm-6pm – Traditional Carol Service – Nine Lessons and Carols – All are welcome.
- Tues 20 Dec** No Night Prayer (returns 17 January 2023)
- Weds 21 Dec** **10am-10.45am** Midweek Service in church
- Thurs 22 Dec** No Bible Study
- Sat 24 Dec** **11pm-12.30am** – Midnight Mass. Revd Ada presiding, Reader James preaching
- Sun 25Dec** **10am-11.15am** – Holy Communion – All Together Christmas Day Service.
Revd Peter Jones presiding and preaching
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THOUGHTS FOR THE WEEK

“Everything comes to he who waits”

—Anon

“I will honour Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year. I will live in the Past, the Present, and the Future. The Spirits of all Three shall strive within me. I will not shut out the lessons that they teach.”

— **Charles Dickens, A Christmas Carol**



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