

Holy Saviour Church, Croydon

2nd Sunday Before Advent – 19th November 2023

Entrance Hymn: 201 – *Stand up and Bless The Lord*

Hymn Before the Gospel: 243 – *Come O Thou Traveller Unknown*

Offertory Hymn: 156 – *Come Down O Love Divine*

Communion Hymn(s): 129–Lord Jesus Think On Me ; **272**– O God Unseen

Final Hymn: 219–*Soldiers of Christ Arise*

COLLECT FOR THE DAY

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son was revealed to destroy the works of the devil and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life: grant that we, having this hope, may purify ourselves even as he is pure; that when he shall appear in power and great glory we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

FIRST READING Zephania 1: 7, 12-18 – Sue

¹ Be silent before the Lord God, for the day of the Lord is at hand! The Lord has prepared a sacrifice; he has consecrated his guests. ¹² At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who settle like dregs in wine, those who say in their hearts, “The Lord will not do good, nor will he do harm.” ¹³ Their wealth shall be plundered and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them. ¹⁴ The great day of the Lord is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter; the warrior cries aloud there. ¹⁵ That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, ¹⁶ a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements. ¹⁷ I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the Lord, their blood shall be poured out like dust and their flesh like dung. ¹⁸ Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the Lord’s wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed, for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

PSALM 90: 1-8

Domine, refugium

LORD, thou hast been our refuge : from one generation to another.

² Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever the earth and the world were made : thou art God from everlasting, and world without end.

³ Thou turnest man to destruction : again thou sayest, Come again, ye children of men.

⁴ For a thousand years in thy sight are but as yester-day : seeing that is past as a watch in the night.

⁵ As soon as thou scatterest them they are even as a sleep : and fade away suddenly like the grass.

⁶ In the morning it is green, and groweth up : but in the evening it is cut down, dried up, and withered.

⁷ For we consume away in thy displeasure : and are afraid at thy wrathful indignation.

⁸ Thou hast set our misdeeds before thee : and our secret sins in the light of thy countenance.

We remain seated for the concluding doxology:

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

SECOND READING 1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11– Pearl

¹ Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. ² For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³ When they say, “There is peace and security,” then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! ⁴ But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; ⁵ for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. ⁶ So, then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober, ⁷ for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. ⁸ But since we belong to the day, let us be sober and put on the breastplate of faith and love and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹ For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰ who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. ¹¹ Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

GOSPEL – Matthew 25:14-30

¹⁴ “For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; ¹⁵ to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. At once ¹⁶ the one who had received the five talents went off and traded with them and made five more talents. ¹⁷ In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. ¹⁸ But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. ¹⁹ After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰ Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’ ²¹ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ ²² And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’ ²³ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ ²⁴ Then the one who had received the

one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow and gathering where you did not scatter,'²⁵ so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.'²⁶ But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow and gather where I did not scatter?'²⁷ Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest.²⁸ So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents.²⁹ For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance, but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away.³⁰ As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

INTERCESSIONS – Marie

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

Amy, Milton Findlay, Clifford, Finn, Tony, Julie and her father, Billy, Jacob, Ellie and her mother, Jean and Roger, Trudy's sister Sally, Rev Peter's wife Jennifer, Brandon, Billy's Uncle Richard, Barbara G, Margaret L, Janine H, John J, Stephen Mc, Geraldine, Sandra, Kat's sister Christine, Jean, Sarah's mother Fedora, Vilma Morgan, Matt, Brenda, Stephanie, Cyril, Minnie, Alexander, Cousin Zen, Christopher, Miriam, Denise M, Enid, Simon & Samantha, Girish, Pat, Adrian, Ron, Cleveland, Britt and Barry and Margaret T, Rev'd Catherine Tucker and family, Hilary

We pray for those who mourn

We pray for the souls of Christine Coughlan, Robbie, The Revd. Roger Harley, Bishop Karowei, Elianne Andam, Micheline Langlois, Janet Jeyes, Stacey's mother Debbie, Rev'd Catherine's sister

May light perpetual shine upon them. May they rest in peace. **And rise in glory.**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Gracious Lord, in this holy sacrament you give substance to our hope:
bring us at the last to that fullness of life for which we long;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **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.

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For Baptisms (Christenings) and Weddings, please speak to or contact the Vicar

Services this Week

- Today** **10am – 2nd Sunday before Advent: Parish Eucharist (Fr Charlie preaching and presiding)**
- Tues 21 Nov** **7.30pm – No Zoom Night Prayer this week. Night Prayer returns in Advent**
- Wed 22 Nov** **10.00am – Midweek Eucharist**
- Sat 25 Nov** **10.30am - Holy Dusters**
- Sun 26 Nov** **10am – Christ the King: Parish Eucharist (Fr Tomos presiding and Reader James Preaching);** In celebration of Maria and Pablo gaining British citizenship, Maria and James have kindly donated wine and cake for refreshments after the service!
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Other Notices

Oct & Nov **In October and November we will be welcoming a final year curate on an eight week placement.** Fr. Charlie Bell is a non-stipendiary priest, working as a Forensic Psychiatrist in South London.

Mission Action Planning Questionnaires – Please take one of these from the back of church; your thoughts and opinions are essential in helping the PCC formulate our new Mission Action Plan (MAP).

Food Bank - New donations are always welcome. Thank you for your generosity!

Sat 2 Dec
10am-3pm **New Beginnings - A Quiet Day for Advent based on the opening lines of the Gospels** (10am Morning Prayer with address; 12.30pm Eucharist; 3pm Evening Prayer with address; church open for silent prayer and reflection). All are welcome for the whole day or to drop in for parts. Bring a packed lunch if attending for the whole day.

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