

Holy Saviour Church, Croydon

Second Sunday of Advent – 10th December 2023

Entrance Hymn: 484 – *Long ago, Prophets knew*

Hymn Before the Gospel: 30 – *Hark the glad sound*

Offertory Hymn: HHS 2– *People Look East*

Communion Hymn(s): 25– *The Advent of our King; Reflective music*

Final Hymn: 470–*Hills of the North Rejoice*

COLLECT FOR THE DAY

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING Isaiah 40: 1-11 – Pearl

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. ²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. ³A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. ⁵Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken." ⁶A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All flesh is grass; their constancy is like the flower of the field. ⁷The grass withers; the flower fades, [when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. ⁸The grass withers; the flower fades,] but the word of our God will stand forever. ⁹Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" ¹⁰See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him and his recompense before him. ¹¹He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms and carry them in his bosom and gently lead the mother sheep.

PSALM 85: 1-2, 8-13

Benedixisti, Domine

LORD, thou art become gracious unto thy land: thou hast turned away the captivity of Jacob. ² Thou hast forgiven the offence of thy people: and covered all their sins. ⁸ I will hearken what the Lord God will say concerning me: for he shall speak peace unto his people, and to his saints, that they turn not again. ⁹ For his salvation is nigh them that fear him: that glory may dwell in our land. ¹⁰ Mercy and truth are met together: righteousness and peace have kissed each other. ¹¹ Truth shall flourish out of the earth: and righteousness

hath looked down from heaven. ¹² Yea, the Lord shall shew loving-kindness: and our land shall give her increase. ¹³ Righteousness shall go before him: and he shall direct his going in the way.

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 2 Peter 3: 8-15a– Barbara

⁸ But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. ⁹ The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish but all to come to repentance. ¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be destroyed with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed. ¹¹ Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, ¹² waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and destroyed and the elements will melt with fire? ¹³ But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. ¹⁴ Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish, ¹⁵ and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation. So also our beloved brother Paul wrote to you according to the wisdom given him,

GOSPEL –Luke 1:39-55 - Marie

³⁹ In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, ⁴⁰ where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹ When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit ⁴² and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. ⁴³ And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? ⁴⁴ For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵ And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord." ⁴⁶ And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, ⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, ⁴⁸ for he has looked with favour on the lowly state of his servant. Surely from now on all generations will call me blessed, ⁴⁹ for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name; ⁵⁰ indeed, his mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. ⁵¹ He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. ⁵² He has brought down the powerful from their thrones and lifted up the lowly; ⁵³ he has filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty. ⁵⁴ He has come to the aid of his child Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, ⁵⁵ according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

INTERCESSIONS – Barbara

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, Margaret T, Rev'd Catherine Tucker and family, Hilary and Odion Ayotunde Edeki

We pray for the souls of Micheline Langlois, Janet Jeyes, Stacey's mother Debbie, Rev'd Catherine's sister Judith and Trudy Payne (priest).

May light perpetual shine upon them. May they rest in peace.

And rise in glory.

We pray for those who mourn

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Father in heaven, who sent your Son to redeem the world and will send him again to be our judge: give us grace so to imitate him in the humility and purity of his first coming that, when he comes again, we may be ready to greet him with joyful love and firm faith; 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.

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

Services this Week

Today	10am – Second Sunday of Advent: Parish Eucharist (Fr Tomos presiding with Wendy Piccanini of the Leprosy Society); Refreshments available after the Service; Sunday School
Tues 12 Dec	7:30 pm - Zoom Night Prayer and Bible Study in Advent. If you wish to join the group, please let Fr Tomos know.
Wed 13 Dec	10.00am – Midweek Eucharist
Fri 15 Dec	6.30pm – Choir Practice for the Carol Service
Sat 16 Dec	10:30am – Holy Dusters
Sun 17 Dec	10am – Third Sunday of Advent: Parish Eucharist (Fr Tomos Presiding and Revd Jeremy Clarke-King Preaching) 4:00pm – Traditional Family Carol Service

Other Notices

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! Instead of opening a door on an Advent Calendar, why not get a box, and put a small item in it each day, to donate to the food bank after Christmas?

Fri 15 Dec	6:30pm – Please come and join us for a choir practice for the Carol Service on Sunday afternoon 17 December. Everyone is welcome
Sun 17 Dec	4pm Family Carol Service – A service especially suitable for children in preparation for Christmas
Sun 24 Dec	10am Fourth Sunday in Advent; 11pm Midnight Mass
Mon 24 Dec	10am Christmas Day Eucharist

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