

Holy Saviour Church, Croydon

First Sunday of Christmas – 31st December 2023

Entrance Hymn: HHS 18 – *See amid the Winter's Snow*

Hymn Before the Gospel: HHS 22 – *The Holly and The Ivy*

Offertory Hymn: 33– *Of the Father's Love Begotten*

Communion Hymn(s): HHS 13– *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly: HHS 16*—*The Rocking Carol*

Final Hymn: HHS 11—*God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen*

COLLECT FOR THE DAY

Almighty God, who wonderfully created us in your own image and yet more wonderfully restored us through your Son Jesus Christ: grant that, as he came to share in our humanity, so we may share the life of his divinity; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen

FIRST READING : Isaiah 61:10-62-3 – Sarah

¹⁰ I will greatly rejoice in the Lord; my whole being shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. ¹¹ For as the earth brings forth its shoots and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations. For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn and her salvation like a burning torch. ² The nations shall see your vindication and all the kings your glory, and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give. ³ You shall be a beautiful crown in the hand of the Lord and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

PSALM 148: 7-13

⁷ Praise the Lord upon earth: ye dragons, and all deeps;

⁸ Fire and hail, snow and vapours: wind and storm, fulfilling his word;

⁹ Mountains and all hills: fruitful trees and all cedars;

¹⁰ Beasts and all cattle: worms and feathered fowls;

¹¹ Kings of the earth and all people: princes and all judges of the world;

¹² Young men and maidens, old men and children, praise the Name of the Lord: for his Name only is excellent, and his praise above heaven and earth.

¹³ He shall exalt the horn of his people; all his saints shall praise him: even the children of Israel, even the people that serveth him.

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 Galatians 4: 4-7– Murnell

⁴ But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵ in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. ⁶ And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” ⁷ So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir through God.

GOSPEL – Luke 2: 15-21 - Marie

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” ¹⁶ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child, ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them, ¹⁹ and Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as it had been told them. ²¹ When the eighth day came, it was time to circumcise the child, and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

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, 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, 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 those who mourn

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

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

And rise in glory.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son shared at Nazareth the life of an earthly home: help your Church to live as one family, united in love and obedience, and bring us all at last to our home in heaven; 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 – First Sunday of Christmas: Parish Eucharist (Fr Tomos presiding and preaching)
Tues 2 Jan	7:30 pm -Zoom Night Prayer and Bible Study will return in January
Wed 3 Jan	10.00am – Morning Prayer
Sat 6 Jan	10:30am – Holy Dusters
Sun 7 Jan	10am – Epiphany Sunday: Parish Eucharist (The Reverend Canon Angela Gbebikan preaching and presiding)

Other Notices

Miriam Kolandawal RIP – Regular worshippers at Holy Saviour will have very fond memories of Miriam who died on Tuesday, 12 December. Please keep her and her family in your prayers. Miriam's funeral will take place at Croydon Crematorium East Chapel on Friday 12 January 2024, beginning at 2.15pm.

Trudy Payne RIP – Trudy's funeral will take place on Thursday 11 January 2024. There will be Requiem Mass at St Barnabas' Church Mitcham at 11.30am followed by Committal at Croydon Crematorium East Chapel at 1.30pm. For those wishing to travel by public transport, the 264 bus from West Croydon Bust Station passes close to the church.

January Mix and Mingle Event: Saturday 13 Jan 2-4pm in the Hall; this month's event will involve a quiz and games. All are welcome!

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!

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