

Carols by Candlelight—4.30pm 18th December Traditional Service of readings and carols; with Queens Park Singers

Carols around the park (with Queens Park Singers)

All are welcome to come and sing:

Thursday 15th December, meet at corner of Kingswood Ave and Summerfield Ave at 7.30 pm

Tuesday 20th December, meet in front of 7, Kempe Road at 7.30 pm.

Vicar's Christmas Drinks—Tuesday 20th December

All are invited to join Mo C for a Christmas Drink on Tuesday 20th Dec from 7—10pm at the Vicarage. You are welcome to pop in for a few minutes or stay for the duration.



For our Prayers— John and Lucia, John, Trish, Liz, Florence, Rev. Jane, Cleo, Chief John, Fred, Floret, Bob and Marguerite, Lois, Paula, Alice and Ruth; **For those who have died recently and those whose anniversary of death falls at this time** including Cecil Nymn, Fredrick Slade, Lionel Patrick Salmon and Nora Sturges.

Services during the week 11th December 2016

Monday 8.30am Morning Prayer in Trinity Chapel

Tuesday 8.30am Said Mass in Trinity Chapel

Wednesday 8.30am Morning Prayer in Trinity Chapel

7.00pm Advent Meditation on the Nativity

7.30pm Said Mass in Trinity Chapel

Thursday 8.30am Morning Prayer in Trinity Chapel

Friday 8.30am Morning Prayer in Trinity Chapel

10am My Moves Christmas Party

2.30pm Tea and Chat Christmas Party

Sunday 18th 8.30am Morning Prayer in Trinity Chapel

9.30am Sung Mass with Sunday School

4.30pm Carols by Candlelight

Parish contact details

Vicar: Mo. Christine Cargil

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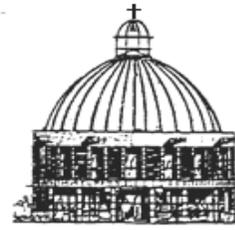
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St Anne with Holy Trinity, Brondesbury

Confidently sharing the love of Christ

Sunday 11th December 2016

Advent 3

HYMNS TODAY - 288 , 690, 692 and 638.

President Mo Christine **Preacher** Mo Christine
during communion we listen to

Welcome to worship today—it is great to have you with us. We hope that you will feel welcome in our worship today. If you are new, please do say hello—we would love to get to know you. If you are unsure where to find something, or about what is going on, please do ask and we will be happy to help. Our worship style is quite formal- but we hope relaxed-as we come to worship God in our midst. Please do join us for coffee after the service.

Isaiah 35 is a powerful poetic word of comfort for the mourning Judahite exiles, who lost their temple, land, and sovereignty. The good news is that the God of Jacob does not abandon God's people to their despair. Their sorrow will come to an end, and on a day when the sick body will find new life in God. Like so many other texts in Isaiah, and especially chapters 40-55, Isaiah 35 confronts fear with promise .

1st Reading— Isaiah 35: 1-10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus 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. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say 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.' Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then 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. A 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. No 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. And 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.

Our Second reading

Many scriptural texts can be read in isolation of their context

and still provide some meaning. However, some texts, like these verses from James, benefit greatly from reading what precedes it. James is looking forward, to the future, with hope. But what is this hope? The hope that James describes is not looking upwards to some heavenly salvation nor is it looking inwards to some spiritual illumination but it is looking the other, our neighbor, directly in the face.

2nd Reading— James 5: 7-10

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. You also must be patient.

Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Our Gospel reading today is Matthew 11: 2-11, and it is the strangest gospel we encounter during Advent as we visit with John in prison who is confirming that Jesus is the Messiah who is promised. And yet The question of John the Baptist to Jesus is one of the most important questions of Advent and of Christian theology more broadly. “Are you the one who is come, or are we to wait for another?” (Matthew 11:3). Much of the purpose of this passage is to confirm that John is not the promised one.

The struggle with our faith however is that we often live our lives like we continue to wait for another, more answers, another miracle. But the story of Jesus has proven to be a reliable guide to restoration. How are we participating with God in restoration? How are we living out the promise.

Our Community Life Together and Dates for your Diary

Finance—St Anne's

Our current monthly target for congregational giving is **£2180**. At present our average congregational giving is £2000—this means we a little short each month. If you are new to St Anne's, or have not previously thought about it, please consider setting up a Standing Order to manage your giving. Forms and information are available in the entrance, or you can speak with Michael or a member of the PCC.

Laurence's Larder and Food Bank

The Larder is open every Tuesday and Thursday from 10am-1.30pm. Volunteers are also to help with preparation between 10– 1pm on Wednesdays. We are still asked to bring in a can a week. We have also been asked to consider if we could choose one type of food. We have been asked if we might be the **'tinned fish'** church!

Rev Maggie's farewell

We have received a lovely card from Rev Maggie to thank us for her retirement gift and wishes. Thank you to all who assisted with last weeks LIFC farewell as well. For those who can, we are also invited to share a farewell lunch with St Andrew's for Rev Maggie after their service today.

Christmas Decoration event

A huge thank you to Rhona for running the wreath making yesterday—we had a lovely morning.

Giving Tree

Our Christmas Trees will go up this week, which will give you an opportunity to consider your charity giving this Christmas. There are two ways to give under our tree

1. Gift Box for St Mungo's—Fill a shoe box with items that would be useful for a homeless man. Warm socks, hats, gloves, toiletries, tea bags, cup of soups. Wrap the box and place under the tree.
2. Gift to St Anne's for its ministry -This Christmas you are invited to give a gift to St Anne's. We invite you to simply place your gift to St Anne's in the envelope provided, and post it under the tree.

Advent Events (Advent Sunday is 27th November)

Advent Reflections (30 minutes) - Meditation on the Nativity each Wednesday evening, starting the 30th November 7pm. This will be followed by usual Mass at 7.30pm.

We also have Christmas Cards to deliver throughout the parish