

## Christmas Services and Holiday Time

### Christmas Eve

Children's Crib Service at 5pm lasting about 40 minutes

Midnight Mass at 11:30pm lasting about 60 minutes.

### Christmas Day

10am Eucharist and Carols

**Then from 26th Dec—3rd January** there will be no Morning Prayer however there will be a Said Mass on Tuesday 27th at 8.30am and Wednesday 28th at 7.30pm. Normal pattern resumes Tuesday 3rd.



**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** including Ann Maseman **and those whose anniversary of death falls at this time** including Cecil Nymn, Lionel Patrick Salmon Kenneth

Timbers, Thomas McNight, Milton McGregor, Fred Hogg, Morgan Johnson, Ed Anderson, Marylou Renault, Albert Beauchamp, Richard Killick and Gerry Clist

### Services during the week 18th December 2016

**Monday 8.30am** Morning Prayer in Trinity Chapel

**Tuesday 8.30am** Said Mass in Trinity Chapel

*7pm Vicar's Christmas Drinks*

**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

**Christmas Eve 5pm** Crib Service

**11.30pm** Midnight Mass

**Christmas Day 10 am** Sung Mass with Carols

### Parish contact details

**Vicar:** Mo. Christine Cargill

**email:** motherchristinenw6@gmail.com

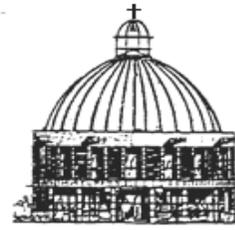
**Assistant Priest:** Fr Laurence Hillel

**email:** laurence.hillel@londoninterfaith.org.uk

**Office:** 020 7372 6864

**Vicarage:** 020 7624 5306

**website:** www.st-annes-brondesbury.org.uk



# St Anne with Holy Trinity, Brondesbury

*Confidently sharing the love of Christ*

**Sunday 20th December 2016**

## Advent 4

**HYMNS TODAY** - 349, 395 (sung 3 times), 451, 535 and 140

**President** Mo Christine **Preacher** Mo Christine

*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.*

**Today as we come to the final Sunday of Advent when our final advent candle symbolises the annunciation of Mary. We now have Christmas in our sights, so sometimes it is hard to be patient and not launch into an early celebration, but we are encouraged to continue in our season of active waiting and watching for the coming of the Messiah.**

**Our** first reading comes from Isaiah 7:10-16 which is the second movement in a larger “sermon” offered by Isaiah to king Ahaz of Jerusalem. In this section God offers yet another sign to the distressed king, only this time, one of Ahaz’s own choosing: “Ask a sign ...” The statement is stunning, for in it God makes divine power available to Ahaz in a seemingly limitless manner. Ahaz, however, refuses this opportunity (verse 12), and in the process wears down God’s patience. So rather there is the promise of a child—Immanuel—God is with us!

### 1st Reading— Isaiah 7: 10-16

*Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. Then Isaiah said: ‘Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary*

*my God also? 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. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. 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.*

### **Our Second reading**

The second reading is from the letter to the Romans. The opening of the letter to the Romans contains, in seven tightly packed verses, a summary of the themes that will be discussed in the rest of the letter. It describes who Paul is and how he gets his authority. It presents the content of the gospel and its implications for Paul's audience. It is a good introduction to some of the main elements of Paul's thought. Some have said it contains 'the whole letter'.

### **2nd Reading— Romans 1: 1-7**

*Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh 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, 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, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,*

*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.*

**Our Gospel reading today** is from Matthew 1:18-25 and is Matthew's version of the Nativity. There is no stable, no journey and hardly any mention of the baby. What there is, however, are the complex human issues which face the young couple at the beginning of their relationship. There is the hint of fear, anger and isolation which face Mary and Joseph when they should be filled with joy. Matthew presents Joseph as a model for all who encounter the message of Jesus through the church. Joseph was face to face with an unlikely manifestation of the Realm of God. Matthew wants those who encounter this message and this movement in similar fashion to do as Joseph did: To believe the message is of God and to become part of its movement.

## **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 are 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!

### **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.

**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:

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.