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.

Carols by Candlelight—4.30pm 17th 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 14th December, meet at corner of Kingswood Ave and Summerfield Ave at 7.30 pm Tuesday 19th December, meet in front of 7, Kempe Road at 7.30 pm.



For our Prayers— Maurice, Margot, Rev. Jane, Gale, Yaa, Estelle, John Q, Floret, Trish, Cleo, Bob, Marguerite and Ruth For those who have died recently Lois Romain 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 10th December 2017

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

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

6pm Evening Prayer in Trinity Chapel

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

No evening service this Wednesday

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

6pm Evening Prayer in Trinity Chapel

Friday Saturday

Sunday 17th

8.30am Morning Prayer in Trinity Chapel8.30am Morning Prayer in Trinity Chapel8.30am Morning Prayer in Trinity Chapel

9.30am Sung Mass

4.30pm Carols by Candlelight

#### Parish contact details

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# St Anne with Holy Trinity, Brondesbury

Confidently sharing the love of Christ

## Sunday 10th December 2017

## **Second Sunday of Advent**

**HYMNS TODAY** - 140, 451, 589, 499 and 307 **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. Large Print Service books available.

**Our first reading.—** This poem opens the second part of the book of Isaiah, which contains poems reflecting the impact of Persian expansion under Cyrus the Great on the peoples living in exile after the Babylonian destruction of Jerusalem.

## 1st Reading— Isaiah 40: 1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak 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. A voice cries out: 'In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every 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. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.' A voice says, 'Cry out!' And I said, 'What shall I cry?' All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, 'Here is your God!' See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his

recompense before him. He 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.

**Our Second reading**: Apocalyptic language is used in 2 Peter 3:8-15a to express the seriousness of Christian holiness and divine judgment.

#### 2nd Reading— 2 Peter 3: 8-15a

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. 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. 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 dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed. Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation. So also our beloved brother Paul wrote to you according to the wisdom given to him,

Our Gospel reading today is Mark 1: 1-8. This is the open passage to Matthew's Gospel and it isn't the story of the nativity, rather it is the story of John the Baptist. There is probably not a better text for the second Sunday of Advent than Gospel of Mark's version of the John the Baptist story. It is not because Mark's take on the story is necessarily better than the others, but because Mark's way of telling it is so thoroughly apocalyptic in nature. Other gospels may want to start with hoary genealogies or charming birth narratives before they get to John by the Jordan, but not Mark. Mark's Gospel jumps right into the Jordan with John once the purpose of his writing has been announced in verse 1: the gospel of Jesus Christ (Son of God) -- that is, Advent-appropriate apocalyptic good news. John announces that one is coming who is more powerful and that he (John) is not even worthy to untie his sandals. With the good news of Jesus Christ, God has already entered the struggle. He is himself "gospel," good news from the front, as it were. The words of Second Isaiah help us to perceive the voice that commands that we prepare a way in the desert/wilderness. But the way is not ours. The way is the Lord's. And that's good news for the struggle. (Reflection is an exert on this

passage written by David Schnasa Jacobsen , Professor at Boston University School of Theology

## 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 hits this target. With gift aide—in October we did do this. A huge thank you to all who have revised their giving already!!

#### St Anne's PCC

The PCC met last Tuesday evening, we discussed plans for celebration 20th anniversary of this building, mission activities, finance and preparations for Christmas.

#### 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. While all non-perishable goods are welcome, we have agreed to focus as a church on providing 'tinned fish'

#### **Advent Activities**

#### **Christmas Wreath Making**

A huge thanks to Rhona for facilitating our Christmas Wreath Making yesterday. It was great morning and very successful!

#### My Move Christmas Party

Friday 15th December from 10am—12noon in the Rotunda.

#### Tea and Chat Christmas Party

Friday 15th December from 2.30-4.30pm in the Rotunda. If you know members of our community who would enjoy this, please do invite them.

**Vicar's Christmas Drinks** – 15th December from 7.30pm to 10pm. This is an invitation to members of the parish to come and join in a glass of mulled wine and share a nibble. Pop in for a little all while, or come for the evening. Please do come if you are able.

#### **Christmas Card Distribution**

We still have nearly 1000 Christmas Cards we need to distribute to households across the parish. We need lots of helps please!

### Giving Tree—opens on Friday 15th!

Our Christmas Trees will go up this week, which will give you an opportunity to consider your charity giving this Christmas.

1. Gift Box for St Mungo's—Fill a shoe box with items that would be