

Carols around the park (with Queens Park Singers)

All are welcome to come and sing:

Christmas and New Year Hours

My Move and **Tea and Chat** are now in recess until the 5th January.

From 26th December—31st January St Anne's and St Andrew's will be closed. The office will not be open.



For our Prayers— Maurice, 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, Lionel Patrick

Salmon, Kenneth Timbers, Thomas McNight, Milton McGregor, Fred Hogg, Morgan Johnson and Ed Anderson

Services during the week 17th 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

7pm Prayer in Trinity Chapel

7.30pm Said Mass in Trinity Chapel

Thursday 8.30am Morning Prayer in Trinity Chapel

6pm Evening Prayer in Trinity Chapel

Friday 8.30am Morning Prayer in Trinity Chapel

Sunday 24th 8.30am Morning Prayer in Trinity Chapel

9.30am Sung Mass

5pm Crib Service

11.30pm Midnight Mass

Monday 25th 10am Sung Mass with Carols



CHRISTMAS TIME

Parish contact details

Vicar: Mo. Christine Cargill

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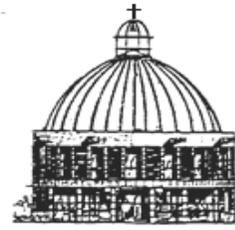
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St Anne with Holy Trinity, Brondesbury

Confidently sharing the love of Christ

Sunday 17th December 2017

Third Sunday of Advent

HYMNS TODAY - 399, 319, 66 692

President Mo Christine **Preacher** Mo Christine

*During communion we listen to In the Bleak Mid Winter—
Kings College Cambridge recording*

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.— Who am “I”? That sounds like a philosophical question, but in the case of Isaiah 61, it is also a literary one.

As contemporary audiences of ancient texts we often overlook the role of the narrator’s voice and how it shapes our own relationship to the text. The message in Isaiah 61 is clear enough: comfort and joy!

1st Reading— Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-end

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion— to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory. They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. For I the Lord love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants

shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed. 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. 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.

Our Second reading : The reading for this Sunday comes at the end of Paul's first letter to the Thessalonians. In fact, since most scholars believe 1 Thessalonians to be the first Pauline letter, these verses could be the closing exhortations of the earliest writing in our New Testament. How does Paul choose to end his first letter to the fledgling church at Thessalonica? The closing includes a series of easy to remember admonitions that, in reality, are hard to follow.

2nd Reading— 1 Thessalonians 5: 16- 24

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil. May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

Our Gospel reading today is John 1: 6-8, 19-28, another introduction to John the Baptist—though a quite different one to the account we received in Mark's Gospel last week. Whereas in the synoptic gospels, John is portrayed as John the Baptist who precedes Jesus, in the fourth gospel, although John does baptize, "the Baptist" will never be a title you hear for the man, John. John has a very focused role -- John witnesses to Jesus.

John's identity is crucial to how he is able to bear witness and what his character witness means. However, in the end, this passage isn't so much about John as it is about his testimony. John's witness lends credibility to Jesus' movement. Furthermore, in John's gospel, witness is the beginning of faith -- bearing witness to the Word, Jesus Christ is the foundation for the emergence of human faith in God. What are the qualities of a person whose witness you have believed?

John bore witness to Jesus. Who now has a story to tell of God's accompaniment in their life and what that means? Could John be right that faith grows from telling these stories? (*Reflection from exert by Jan Schnell Rippentrop, Lutheran School of Theology, Chicago.*)

Our Community Life Together and Dates for your Diary

Today Fr Laurence is covering at St Gabriel's Church in Cricklewood.

Finance—St Anne's

Our current monthly target for congregational giving is **£2180**. At present our average congregational giving hits this target. With gift aid—in October we did do this. *A huge thank you to all who have revised their giving already!!*

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**'. This coming Thursday Laurence's Larder will host a Giant Christmas Lunch for all their guests. Please pray for them all over the difficult time of the year. From Thursday 'Crisis at Christmas' will take over hospitality for Guest over the 2 week holiday period. We pray for all the volunteers too.

Advent Activities

Christmas Wreath Making

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

My Move Christmas Party; Tea and Chat Christmas Party

Friday was a very busy day here at St Anne's with both My Move and Tea and Chat Christmas parties—all of which were fantastic events. A huge thank you to Santa who visited, and to Henri and all our teams for all they did to make Friday a wonderful day for so many people.

Giving Tree—opens on Friday 15th!

Our Christmas Trees is now up and 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 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

Some helpers to welcomers and serve mulled wine would be greatly appreciated too!