



Notices for 1st of December 2024

A warm welcome to everyone

The First Sunday of Advent

We welcome Revd. Sue Curtis who will be taking our 8am BCP
Please come into the hall for refreshments after the 09:30 service.

Collect:

Almighty God,
as your kingdom dawns,
turn us from the darkness of sin to the
light of holiness,
that we may be ready to meet you
in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Advent 1 - THE ADVENT HOPE

Jesus said, 'Keep awake,
for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming.'

Amen. Come soon, Lord Jesus!

The first candle is lit:

Jesus is the light of the world.

A light no darkness can ever put out.

We sing:

Advent candles tell their story
as we watch and pray,
longing for the day of glory,
'Come, Lord, soon,' we say.
Pain and sorrow, tears and sadness,
changed for gladness on that day

Hymns:

- 24** Come thou long expected Jesus
27 Hark the glad sound the Saviour comes
507 Lord of all hopefulness
309 Let all mortal flesh keep silence
32 O come, O come, Emmanuel

Readings:

1 Thessalonians 3.9-end

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Luke 21.25-36

‘There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see “the Son of Man coming in a cloud” with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.’

Then he told them a parable: ‘Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.’

‘Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you

unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.'

Post-communion prayer:

O Lord our God,
make us watchful and keep us faithful
as we await the coming of your Son our Lord;
that, when he shall appear,
he may not find us sleeping in sin
but active in his service
and joyful in his praise;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

VACANCY NEWS We are keeping our advert open in Dec/Jan for a closing date of 29th Jan. Shortlisting on 4th Feb for formal interview on 4th March. Mat Ineson (Guildford Mission Enabler Lead) leads our worship at 09:30 on 15th Dec. *Enquiries Peter & Dan*

8am SERVICES will be held only once a month on the first Sunday of each month. Any questions please talk to Dan or Peter.

CHRISTMAS FAIR – Well done to everyone raising approximately 1800 towards church funds, as well as a very enjoyable occasion to all.

CHURCH CHRISTMAS TREE

Many thanks to Hazel Trowse, a former member of the church family who has kindly donated the Christmas tree in memory of her husband Martin. Purchased from the Old Moat Garden centre, this also supports the Richmond Fellowship, a local mental health charity. ***Thank you Hazel for the beautiful tree.***

Dates for your diary

TODAY: Sunday 1st Dec – Gift Day for Quinquennial Expenditure

Please take the Gift Day flyer which explains our financial needs around our current repairs to the Church Roof

Enquiries: Peter Harvey and David Eames.

TODAY: Sunday 1st December 7pm Epsom and Ewell Silver Band Christmas

concert at St. Mary's Church, Tickets are £10, free for under 16's, including tea/coffee and a mince pie. *Tickets are available from the Vale Rd G&A Express Newsagent or Wendy.*

2nd December Knit and Natter in The Leverton Room at 7.30pm please join us for a knit, a natter and a mince pie! *Enquiries Kate Nowak.*

Sunday 8th December from 6.00 pm to 7.00 pm in the Hall 'Cloth for the Cradle' - an Advent Reflection - All are welcome to come to this gentle time of reflection as we prepare for the coming of Christmas. **For more details please see Joan or Maggie**

Sunday 15th Dec @6:30pm, Carol Service

Service of Readings and Carols. Come and hear the familiar Christmas story, some choir anthems and join in some popular carols. Followed by mulled wine and mince pies. *Karl as guest conductor for the choir.*

Christmas Eve @4pm, Christingle Crib Service

Christingle and Blessing of the Crib. This service is particularly suitable for children. We tell the story of Christmas, sing favourite carols and learn the meaning of the Christingle

Christmas Eve at 11.30 pm Midnight Service of Holy Communion

Christmas Day at 10 am

*Family Communion Service with many favourite carols. Children are invited to bring their favourite present. **Breaking News: Bishop Paul** will lead our 10:00am worship on Christmas Day*