

## NOTICES

**ST JOHN'S CHRISTINGLE SERVICE TODAY at 4pm, followed by a Children's Tea in the Centre.** This is the 50th Anniversary of the Christingle Service. Do come and celebrate with us. Do fill a candle for The Children's Society if you can. Candles can be handed in at the Service or later.

**LAST CALL FOR CHRISTMAS GIFTS** from St John's - small luxury items are needed to give to various parishioners. A box will be at the back of church today for your donations of luxury biscuits, chocolates, preserves, chutneys, sweet/savoury items. Savoury items are particularly welcome for diabetics. Donations needed by Thurs this week or I can collect from you. Rosanne 579462.

**BBC FILM 'THE NATIVITY' TiC Event** - Fridays 7th (7-8.15pm) & 14th (7-8.30pm) December. We will be showing the first hour of the film on the 7th, followed by the second hour on the 14th. Both will be followed by a short act of worship then a discussion on our response to this powerful film. Refreshments will be provided.

**VOUCHERS FOR OLDER CHILDREN OF PRISONERS IN HMP SEND** - thank you to everyone who gave. We raised an amazing £320.

**POPPY APPEAL** - £204.70 was raised at St John's. We have been thanked by the local organisers.

**CHRISTIAN AID** - please contact Sara England on 504025 if you can spare an hour to stand with a collecting tin by the Tunsgate Arch in Guildford **NEXT** Friday 7th Dec between 10am-4pm.

**CHRISTMAS CHOIR** - anyone who has joined the Choir for Christmas, please come to Choir Practice on Friday at 7pm.

**CAROLS ON THE GREEN on Sat 15th Dec at 4pm** - do come along to this community event. Bring your friends/family and a torch. Mince pies and mulled wine will be served afterwards in Bushy Hill Centre.

**MERROW COMMUNITY GOSPEL CHOIR** - meets every Mon, 5-6pm in Merrow Hall, St John's Centre. It is not too late to join! Cost £5/person/session, £7 for two family members, £3 for students. **Do join us now to be involved in the Christmas Concert on Saturday 22nd Dec in St John's Centre.**

**100 MINCE PIES** needed for Carols on the Green and our Carol Service. Please hand to Jean Spencer or leave in the Centre kitchen with a note. Thank you.

**EASYFUNDRAISING** - please do use this site when browsing or buying Christmas presents. [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk)

**LODESTAR** - a funny, quirky Christmas Musical for all the family at Christ Church on the 6th & 7th Dec at 7.30pm and 8th Dec at 5.30pm. Please see information at the back of church.

**DEDICATION OF NEW HYMN BOOKS** - we have now sourced bookplates for our new hymn books. If you would like to dedicate a hymn book to a particular person, please let Helen C know. We would suggest a donation of £12.50 or £20 for a large print copy. Thank you.



# St John the Evangelist Merrow 2nd December 2018 ADVENT SUNDAY Today's Services



## 8.00am Holy Communion *BCP*

*President & Preacher: Margaret Dean*

## 10.00am All Age Communion Service with Silent Eucharist *CW*

*Led by: Rev Rona Stuart-Bourne & The Ven Paul Davies*

### **HYMNS:**

**45 O come, O come, Emmanuel**

**42 Longing for light**

**27 Colours of Day**

**39 Hills of the North, rejoice**

*Unfortunately Dermot is unable to join us this morning, but he will be participating in the Silent Eucharist at the same time at home.*

*You will be in our thoughts and prayers Dermot.*

## 4.00pm Christingle Service

*(Followed by a Children's Tea in the Centre)*

*Led by: Rona Stuart-Bourne & Natasha Quinn-Thomas*

Rector: Revd Rona Stuart-Bourne ☎ 572207 [revrona@gmail.com](mailto:revrona@gmail.com)

**Day off Thursday**

Curate: Revd Dermot Verschoyle ☎ 533449

**Day off Friday**

Parish Office: ☎ 454621 [stjohns.merrow@btconnect.com](mailto:stjohns.merrow@btconnect.com)

Churchwardens: Helen Chambers 846574

Barry Dickinson 07917 598742

## TODAY'S COLLECT & READINGS

### 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.

### First Reading Jeremiah 33.14-16

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfil the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: 'The LORD is our righteousness.'

### Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 3.9-13

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.

### Gospel Luke 21.25-36

Jesus said to his disciples: '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 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.

## PRAYERS:

**ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER:** Pray for The Reformed Episcopal Church of Spain (E-P to the Archbishop of Canterbury), The Rt Revd Carlos López-Lozano

**DIOCESE CALENDAR OF PRAYER:** Pray for the Bishop of Guildford's Foundation (Bishop of Guildford, Chairman; Hugh Bryant, Vice-Chairman). for their work in helping the most disadvantaged in Surrey and North East Hampshire

**IN AND AROUND THE PARISH AND DEANERY:** Pray for those who live and work in North Epsom Road and for St Mary the Virgin, Shalford.

**OUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR:** Alan Purser Linda & Paul Ratnieks  
Penny Evans John Higgins Joan Ashbee Elizabeth Jordon Barbara White  
Yvonne Tarrant Margaret Heale Winifred Twidell Brenda Mansey Meah Paterson  
Sarah Donoghue

### FOR THE DEPARTED AND THOSE WHO MOURN:

We are sad to report that Tom Brooks died on the 11th September.

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### This week at St John's

Saturday only	9am	Morning Prayer
Saturday only	5pm	Evening Prayer
Mon	9-10am	Contemplative Prayer in the Centre
	9.45-11.30am	Baby & Toddler Gp in the Centre
	5-6pm	Gospel Choir in the Centre
Tues	7.30pm	Bell Ringing practice
Wed	10.30am	Holy Communion in the Centre.
		Wed Coffee Club in the Centre
Fri	6.30pm	Choir Practice

### Next Sunday - 9th December - 2nd Sunday of Advent

8am	Holy Communion	<i>BCP</i>
10.00am	Service of Holy Communion	<i>CW</i>
6.30pm	Evening Prayer	

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### CHRISTMAS SERVICES AT ST JOHN'S

<i>16<sup>th</sup> December</i>	<i>6.30pm</i>	<i>Carol Service - followed by mince pies and mulled wine in the Centre</i>
<i>22<sup>nd</sup> December</i>	<i>6.30pm</i>	<i>Merrow Community Gospel Choir Concert (in Centre)</i>
<i>23<sup>rd</sup> December</i>	<i>8am</i>	<i>Holy Communion BCP</i>
	<i>10am</i>	<i>Service of Holy Communion CW</i>
	<i>4pm</i>	<i>Crib Service</i>
<i>24<sup>th</sup> December</i>	<i>11.30pm</i>	<i>Midnight Mass</i>
<i>25<sup>th</sup> December</i>	<i>8am</i>	<i>Holy Communion BCP</i>
	<i>10am</i>	<i>Service of Celebration for all the family (with Communion)</i>
<i>6<sup>th</sup> January</i>	<i>10am</i>	<i>All Age Communion for Epiphany</i>