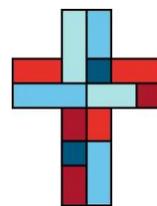


Sunday 18th December 2016
4th Sunday of Advent

08.00	BCP Holy Communion – <i>St Andrew's</i>
09.15	Family worship – <i>St Mark's</i>
11.00	Choral Eucharist with Sunday Club – <i>St Andrew's</i>
18.00	Carol Service– <i>St Mark's</i>



**St Andrew
& St Mark**
Surbiton

Sunday 11th December 2016
3rd Sunday of Advent

NOTICES:

Evening service tonight: As part of our Evening Prayer, we'll have a Q&A with Marc Crank, about life with neurofibromatosis.

Christmas is coming! We need teams of people to welcome to help before and during the extra services, especially the Christingles at 3.30pm and 5pm at St Andrew's on Christmas Eve, Midnight Mass at St Andrew's and then the 10am service at St Mark's on Christmas Day. Please contact Anne Miller (020 8398 8206 / a.miller573@ntlworld.com) if you can volunteer and/or have any questions.

Christmas Cards. The Christmas post box is at the back of St Andrew's and ready to receive your cards. Please make use of this for cards to regular members of the congregation and ensure that all cards are clearly marked with a full name.

Christmas Flowers. It's the time of year for us to ask if you would like to make a donation towards the cost of decorating both churches with flowers for the Christmas celebrations. Contributions should be given to Anne Barker / Jackie Page or any of the Church Wardens. Thank you all for continuing to support the decorating of both churches.

Today 'Parish Lunch' .The meeting time for lunch on the **11th December** at Ravens Ait is 12.45 pm on the tow path opposite Ravens Ait

Delivering Christmas leaflets We have some brilliant leaflets to deliver to roads around the parish with our Christmas services on. Please take a bundle for a street near you and deliver them!

Parish Advent Quiet day on "God of Christmas surprises" on **Saturday 17th December** at The House of Prayer, East Molesey, KT8 0PB from 10.30 – 3.30pm. So often Christmas is about the unexpected.....The cost will be £10 for the day not including food. Please speak with Carole Bourne if you would like to attend or sign the sheet at the back of church.

1966 was an important year for two members of the congregation in a way unrelated to football. On December 17th of that year, **John and Jackie Page** were married in St Andrew's Church. They are giving thanks for this by commissioning and giving a new chasuble for Christmas. At 12 midday on Saturday 17th December we have a short service at St Andrew's to bless the chasuble and also gives thanks for their marriage followed by cake and fizz. All welcome.

Mothers Union Christmas service at St Mark's church on Wednesday 21st December at **8pm**. All are welcome, followed by seasonal refreshments.

Christmas Day lunch at the YMCA. We are in need of volunteers to drive guests to and from the lunch. Please see Carole Bourne or call her on 02083998438.

Christmas carols at Coombe Hill nursing home. We've been asked to help with a carol service at Coombe Hill nursing home. At present, plans are completely open (i.e. no date and time yet!) but we'd hope to gather some singers together to sing carols. If interested, see John Kelly or Robert.

St Andrew's Day service and supper raised £365 for Firs Court Amenity Fund. Thank you to all those who supported this charity.

Services Today

08.00	BCP Holy Communion – <i>St Mark's</i>
09.15	Family worship – <i>St Mark's</i>
11.00	Choral Eucharist with Sunday Club and baptism – <i>St Andrew's</i>
18.00	Evening service including interview with Marc Crank – <i>St Andrew's</i>

Monday Parish Sabbath Office Closed

Open normal hours the rest of the week.

Monday

Tuesday 08.50 Morning Prayer – St. Mark's

Wednesday 08.30 Morning Prayer – St. Andrew's

Thursday 08.30 Morning Prayer – St. Mark's
10.30 Holy Communion– St Mark's

Friday 08.30 Eucharist – St Andrew's
10.00 Friday Coffee for Charity- St Andrew's

Saturday 19.30 Kingston Choral Society – St Andrew's

Sunday

A very warm welcome to our Church today. We especially welcome family and friends of Georgia who is being baptized at St Andrew's this morning. We hope that you will find something of the presence of God in our worship and among those you meet.

Contacts

The Rev'd Robert Stanier 020 8399 0639
Vicar robertstanier@btinternet.com

Clare Chesterman, Parish Administrator
St Mark's Church, St Mark's Hill, Surbiton, Surrey, KT6 4LS
Office Hours: Tues-Thurs 9.30 am -12.30pm and 1.30pm-3pm Fri 9.30am – 12.30pm: *please note closed in the afternoon.*
Telephone: 020 8390 9129 e-mail: sasms@btinternet.com
www.surbitonchurch.org.uk

There is an induction loop in both churches - please turn your aid to the 'T' setting.
You can follow the service in the Liturgy Service Booklet; this pew sheet will give you information about the readings and hymns; you will also need a New English Hymnal

Hymns NEH

Music Setting IRELAND in C

Introit Ferguson- People, look east

Introit hymn 443 Rejoice the Lord is King

Collect

O Lord Jesus Christ,
who at your first coming sent your messenger
to prepare your way before you:
grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries
may likewise so prepare and make ready your way
by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of
the just,
that at your second coming to judge the world
we may be found an acceptable people in your sight;
for you are alive and reign with the Father
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Today's themes

I often feel one of the verses in the Isaiah reading should be the motto for the Southwark clergy cricket team ("Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees") but it has other implications. Isaiah is describing what will happen when the Messiah comes. When John the Baptist, now in prison, hears about Jesus, he sends word: he wants to know if Jesus is the Messiah. Jesus answers him using the words of Isaiah 35. This is the first coming; the second coming is yet to happen but foretold in the James reading.

First Reading Isaiah 35.1-10

Reader Del Gadd

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,
the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall
blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing.
The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of
the Lord, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak
hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of
a fearful heart, 'Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will
come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come
and save you.' Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like
a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become
a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of
jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds
and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the
Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for
God's people; no traveller, not even fools, shall go astray.
No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on
it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk
there. And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to
Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their
heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and
sighing shall flee away.

Gradual Psalm 72. 1-7,18

1 Give the king your ¹ judgements, O ¹ God,
and your righteousness ¹ to the ¹ son of a ¹ king.
2 Then shall he judge your ¹ people ¹ righteously
and your ¹ poor ¹ with ¹ justice.
3 May the mountains ¹ bring forth ¹ peace,
and the little hills ¹ righteousness ¹ for the ¹ people.
4 May he defend the poor among the ¹ people,
deliver the children of the ¹ needy and ¹ crush • the op¹pressor.
5 May he live as long as the sun and ¹ moon endure,

from one generation ¹ to another.

6 May he come down like rain upon the ¹ mown ¹ grass,
like the ¹ showers that ¹ water the ¹ earth.

7 In his time shall ¹ righteousness ¹ flourish,
and abundance of peace
till the ¹ moon shall ¹ be no ¹ more.

18 Forsake me not, O God,
when I am ¹ old and grey-headed,
till I make known your deeds to the next generation
and your power to ¹ all that ¹ are to ¹ come.

Second Reading

Reader

James 5. 7-10

Mavis Innes

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Gospel

Matthew 11.2-11

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?' Jesus answered them, 'Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me.' As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you." Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

Address

Janice Price, Reader

Intercessions

Margie Lindsay

Offertory Hymn

415 O for a thousand tongues to sing

During the offertory hymn a collection is taken for the work of the church: please give generously. If you are moved to do so, please ask for info about planned giving, if you do not do so currently.

Communion Hymn

14 The advent of our God

Communion Anthem

**How beautiful upon the mountains
-STAINER**

Please come forward for Communion if it is your custom, or for a blessing as directed by the Churchwardens. We will receive in two lines, as usual.

Notices

At the dismissal

12 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry

FOR YOUR PRAYER: Requests for Healing Prayer to be made to the parish office; names will remain on the list for one month unless a new request is made.

For healing: Sue Paine Rosa Panton Iain Jones
John Barnes Moira Frau Richard Davies David Joel Jill Joel
Jo Norman Harry Cornell Mary Rice Theodore Shah
Tracy Calviou Michael Naylor Daniel White Robin Pellatt
Lucy-May Watson Nancy Vlasto Jean Wrench Susan Hagar

Year's Mind: Nina Mursel Jean Barker Samantha Fisher

Birthdays: Joan Larkin Margaret Parker

