

**Sunday 31st December 2017**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas**

08.00 BCP Holy Communion – *St Andrew's*  
11.00 Eucharist with Carols – *St Andrew's*

**NOTICES:**

**Thank you** to so many people for helping. Before we reached Christmas Eve, 3,000 people have come to St Andrew's and St Mark's for carol services, often linked to schools. Hosting this has been done by a brilliant team of volunteers, coordinated by Anne Knowles and the other churchwardens. Anne and Valerie as sacristans have put in a great effort too, and so many people have helped. Thank you.

**Please pray for the Christmas lunch today** happening at the YMCA from midday or so onwards. Much organisation has gone into it, but much still has to happen: from cooking a turkey (happening right now) to driving people to and from the location.

**Prayers for Joshua and Emily**, who are getting married at St Andrew's church on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> December.

**NEXT SUNDAY: Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> December**, 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas.

For this, 8am BCP communion will be at St Andrew's, and then there will be just one further service at 11am at St Andrew's. No services at 9.15am or evening service.

**Notice of services in the week after Christmas Day:**

No midweek services between Boxing Day and Wednesday Jan 3<sup>rd</sup> inclusive.

**Friday Coffee for charity** at St Andrew's there will be no coffee on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> December, starting again on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January.

**The parish office** will be closed from the afternoon of Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2017 until the morning of Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2018, reopening at 9.30am.

The vicar is on annual leave from Boxing Day until Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January inclusive. During this time, please call the vicarage in emergencies only.

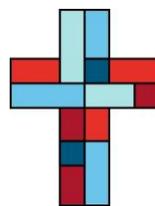
In association with Kingston Action Against Homelessness (KCAH) St Andrews and St Marks Church has agreed to host the **Night Shelter** which runs from 1 February to the middle of March 2018 on Sunday nights at St Mark's church. We will need enough volunteers to cover the three shifts- Evening shift: open by 7.45pm. Night shift: usually from 10pm +/- handover period. Morning shift: flexible - to be agreed by volunteers. Please contact Jane Kosa via the parish office if you can volunteer.

**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:** Richard Davies Sue Paine Rosa Panton  
Iain Jones Mary Rice Matthew Woods Jo Norman  
Theodore Shah Keith Kirby Tracy Calviou Michael Naylor  
Nancy Vlasto Gail Reed Daniel White Lucy-May Watson  
Stefka Dimitrova John Whelan Moira Frau

**Years mind:** Florence Roberts Muriel Larsen  
Gwyneth Thomas Jean Wrench Sandra Gorvett  
Morwenna Gough

**Birthdays:** Nigel Parker Susan Airey Harry Gilmore



**St Andrew  
& St Mark**  
Surbiton

**Sunday 25th December 2017**  
**Christmas Day**

**Services Today**

08.00 BCP Holy Communion – *St Mark's*  
10.00 All Age Eucharist – *St Andrew's*

*Happy Christmas!*

*Thank you to all who have helped over the Christmas time- hosting at our Carol services, flower arranging, moving a Christmas tree, decorating, making oranges for Christingle, helping at the Christmas Day lunch, singing in the various choirs across Surbiton town – we wish you all a happy Christmas.*

*Please pray for the success of the Christmas lunch which happens today, as people who might be on their own otherwise join us at the YMCA for a fabulous lunch. Pray especially for safe journeys to and from their homes.*

***A very warm welcome to our Church today. We hope that you will find something of the presence of God in our worship and among those you meet. We wish you all a very happy Christmas.***

**Contacts**

**The Rev'd Robert Stanier** 020 8399 0639  
Vicar [robertstanier@btinternet.com](mailto: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](mailto:sasms@btinternet.com)  
**[www.surbitonchurch.org.uk](http://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**      **Mass of St Thomas –THORNE**  
**Introit**              **Ding dong, merrily on high - WOOD**  
**Introit hymn**        **26** Hark! The herald angels sing (v1-3)

## Collect

Almighty God,  
you have given us your only-begotten Son  
to take our nature upon him  
and as at this time to be born of a pure virgin:  
grant that we, who have been born again  
and made your children by adoption and grace,  
may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever

## Today's themes

Paul's letter to Titus is arguably a commentary on the meaning of Christmas, so is entirely appropriate here. Luke's story is so familiar to most of us that it is hard to appreciate just how revolutionary the idea of this kind of Messiah is.

**First Reading**      **Titus 3.4-7**  
Reader                Celia O'Neill

But when the goodness and loving-kindness of God our Saviour appeared, he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Saviour, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

**Gospel**                      **Luke 2.8-20**

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!' When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

**Address**                      Rev'd Robert Stanier

**Intercessions**              John Wickenden

**Offertory Hymn**              **32** O little town of Bethlehem

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 Anthem**      **Sans day carol – RUTTER**

**Communion Hymn**        **22** Away in a manger

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**              **30** O come, all ye faithful (v1,2,6,7)