

Sunday 17th December 2023

8 am BCP Holy Communion at St Andrew's
Also livestreamed on Facebook
9.15 am Family Worship at St Mark's
11 am Choral Eucharist at St Andrew's
Also livestreamed on Zoom and Facebook
6 pm Service of Nine Lessons and Carols at St Mark's
Also livestreamed on Zoom and Facebook

Mid-week services

Morning Prayer will be said and livestreamed on Facebook Live:

- Tuesday(9:00am) at St Mark's
- Wednesday(9:00am) at St Andrew's
- Thursday (9:00am) at St Mark's

Thursday 10:30 am BCP Communion at St Mark's **Friday** 8:30am The Eucharist at St Andrew's and online on Facebook.

Notices:

Tuesday 19th December – 7.30-8.30 pm – St Andrews "A Not So Merry Christmas"

A time of prayer and quiet reflection for those whose celebration will be tinged with sadness for whatever reason. Join us for as long or short a time as you wish

Wednesday 20th December – 12.30 Mothers' Union will join with the Monthly Charity Soup Lunch, followed by their Christmas Eucharist at 2.00 pm at St Marks. Please join us for either/both of these and invite family and friends – all are welcome. There will be a collection at each – one for the charity and one for the MU. Note – the monthly lunch has been brought forward one week due to Christmas

Any donations for **Christmas flowers** will most gratefully be accepted, please contact Anne or the parish office if you want to make a contribution.

Christmas Day lunch 2023 Preparations are being finalised and we are looking forward to a great party. If you want to volunteer to help in any way contact Janice on sasmsdeacon3@qmail.com. Donations of presents (labelled Male, Female or Neutral) would be welcomed. We are looking for toiletries, things to eat and items to keep our guests warm in this cold weather. These can be left at the back of the church.

Sunday 17th December 2023 Advent 3

Staying Connected

With St Andrew and St Mark Church

How can I get in touch?

Robert and Janice can be contacted via email or phone. Please use the details below.

The Rev'd Robert Stanier 020 8399 0639

or 07507231192

Vicar <u>robertstanier@btinternet.com</u>

The Rev'd Janice Price 07908852474
Curate sasmsdeacon3@gmail.com

Parish Office

Jay TurlandOperations ManagerJanene OlivierParish Administrator

The parish office is open at St Mark's Church on Tuesday till Friday mornings 9am – 4.30pm. Please make an appointment or get in touch by phone 02083909129 or email surbitonchurchoffice@gmail.com

How can I stay in touch?

The best way to know what is happening at St Andrew & St Mark is to receive the weekly parish email sent on a Friday afternoon. It contains all you need to know about our Sunday services with online codes, plus information about our midweek services and events.

To receive these emails please contact the parish office.

Parish website: www.surbitonchurch.org.uk
Parish Facebook:
www.facebook.com/SurbitonChurch
Twitter @Surbiton Church

Christmas Services:

24th December - Sung Eucharist

11am at St Andrew's

24th December - Christingles

3:30pm & 5pm at St Andrew's

24th **December –Midnight Mass with carols** 11pm for 11:30pm start at St Andrew's

25th December – BCP Holy Communion

25th December – BCP Holy Communion 8am at St Mark's

25th December -All Age Christmas Eucharist 10am at St Mark's

31st December - BCP Holy Communion 8am at St Andrew's

31st December - Sung Eucharist

11am at St Andrew's

To donate to church funds you can set up a regular or one-off payment using the following details:

Payee: The PCC of St Andrew and St Mark, Surbiton. Sort code: 40-52-40. Account number: 00028530. Alternatively, you can send a cheque to the Parish Office payable to the 'PCC of St Andrew and St Mark, Surbiton'. You can also make a one-off donation or a regular donation on our website through the Donate button. Please visit: https://surbitonchurch.org.uk/about-us/qiving/

Opening Hymn

468 Through the night of doubt and sorrow

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.

Reading: Isaiah 61:1-4,8-end Reader: June Pearson

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 Zionto 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.

Psalm 126

Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 Reader: Rod Pearson

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.

Gospel John 1:6-8, 19-28

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, 'I am not the Messiah.' And they asked him, 'What then? Are you Elijah?' He said, 'I am not.' 'Are you the prophet?' He answered, 'No.' Then they said to him, 'Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?' He said, 'I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, "Make straight the way of the Lord" ', as the prophet Isaiah said.

Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, 'Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?' John answered them, 'I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal.' This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

Sermon Rev'd Janice Price

Intercessions Celia O'Neill

Offertory hymn 338 At the name of Jesus

Anthem: Gabriel's Message –

Arr PETTMAN

Communion Hymn 14 The advent of our God

Notices and banns

Final Hymn 466 Thou whose almighty word

For your prayerGod of compassion,

be close to those who are ill, afraid or in isolation. In their loneliness, be their consolation; in their anxiety, be their hope; in their darkness, be their light; through him who suffered alone on the cross, but reigns with you in glory, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

For prayer: Sadie Beesley Nancy Vlasto Sue Paine Margaret Parker David Gerrard Ray Nelson

This week please pray for:

Carol services, choirs and organist, sacristans, servers, flower arrangers, parish lunch, families who cannot be together, users of our church spaces, for a determination to curb impulse buying

These prayers are taken from our monthly prayer card which you can access on our website under Pew Sheets tab or collect a copy from church

Next week' readings

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16; Romans 16:25-end; Luke 1:26-38