

Newsletter – 24th November 2019



St. Mary the Virgin, Hartfield
Holy Trinity, Colemans Hatch

Welcome and Thank you to Diane Watts and Peter Francis this morning.

Next week is our first Sunday in Advent. In the morning we have our usual Holy Communion service. Rev Julie has purchased some lovely books for our children and young people to use during Advent and Christmas. These will be given out next week. It will also be our final Big Breakfast of the year.

In the evening at Holy Trinity is the Advent Carols service at 6.30pm, do come along and enjoy a service of music and readings.

The following week at St Mary's is our Christmas Praise service. Rev Julie reminds us this is a great opportunity to invite our families and neighbours. The school choir will be singing, and the Christmas Tree will be in place. Do pray about who you will be bringing over the next few weeks.

Lunchtime concert at Holy Trinity on Friday 6th December 12 noon.

The choir and orchestra of Ashdown House School will be coming to perform a lunchtime concert for everyone in the community.

The concert will take place in Holy Trinity Church. There will be refreshments served at 11am before the concert.

We look forward to welcoming you. ***Rev Julie***



Simple Things to Pray For During Advent:



1. Pray for attentiveness to what truly matters, without being distracted by trivial things.
2. Pray for opportunities to learn something new regularly.
3. Pray for discernment of how God would like you to set your priorities and the ability to focus on them consistently to fulfil His purposes in your life.
4. Pray for the grace to be able to rest, become aware of God's presence, and enjoy it.
5. Pray for strong relationships with other people in the bond of loving community.
6. Pray for peace in all situations, no matter what the circumstances.
7. Pray for an enlivened imagination that helps you contribute to the world in creative ways.
8. Pray for freedom from all that burdens you - past mistakes, fears, destructive habits, hurts other people have inflicted, and more.
9. Pray for joy and a sense of humour.
10. Pray for confidence in God's love for you and trust in His power to work things out for the best in your life.
11. Pray for a clear mind and the ability to clearly communicate what you value to others.
12. Pray for purity so you can grow as a person and encounter God more fully.
13. Pray for openness to the Holy Spirit's guidance.
14. Pray for a genuine awareness of God's grace in your life and the humility to extend grace to others.
15. Pray for a passion to pursue justice.

Edited from Whitney Hople's "Pray for Simplicity this Advent"

From Revd Julie

Dear Friends,

Thank you to everyone who has been praying for me over the past few weeks. It has been a great relief to have the operation and now take each day to do as I am told, keep up the rigorous exercise programme and make sure I am fit to come back in the New year. Trevor has been an amazing support. Do find out if there are any ways in which you can help. Pray for all who lead and preach at our services.

If you could pray for one thing it would be that the nerve ending muscle spasms I am experiencing at night, completely disappear.

The Horder Centre have been marvellous, we are so fortunate to have that facility so close. You might see me out and about trying to negotiate crutches on slippery leaves and potholes but I am making progress!

I am praying for all of you each day as we approach the season of Advent and Christmas.

We are approaching one of my favourite times of year, Advent. Advent gives us an opportunity to pray, to prepare our hearts and minds for the coming of the Lord Jesus. ***Revd Julie***

Bible Verses for Advent

[Isaiah 11:10](#) - "A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. The spirit of the Lord will rest on him - the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of might..."

[John 1:9-18](#) - "The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him..."

[Mark 1:1-3](#) - "The beginning of the good news about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God, as it is written in Isaiah the prophet: "I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare the way - a voice of one calling in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.'"

[Luke 1:14-17](#) - "He will be a joy and delight to you, and many will rejoice because of his birth, for he will be great in the sight of the Lord..."

Advent Prayer

Prayer of approach, longing and confession for the Advent season.

*God, with us,
As we enter this season of longing and waiting,
bear with us a little longer;*

Response: be patient with our impatience.

*You have journeyed alongside us from the beginning
of time,*

Response: yet still we miss the signs of your presence.

When we are blinded by the brashness of this season:

*Response: Open our eyes to the glimpses of your
glory.*

When we want simple answers:

*Response: Open our minds to the hints of
incarnation.*

When we are deafened by our own shouting:

*Response: Open our ears to the whispers of your
grace.*

*May we share with you in longing for restoration
and renewal
and may we be watchful for the light that breaks
through
the darkness of our world.*

Response: In Christ's name. Amen

*God says 'Be patient, watch and wait,
for the time is close at hand.'
Know that you are loved, forgiven and healed.*

Response: Amen. Thanks be to God.

*The Revd Michaela Youngson, President of the
Methodist Conference*

For Your Prayers

Please pray for all our children and young people.

Pray for the HYPE team as they lead our outreach youth group on Monday evenings. Give them vision and energy.

Pray for our Big Breakfast group and for leaders Andrea Johnson and Andrea McGlew. Give thanks for their commitment.

Pray that our young people would continue to grow in their love and knowledge of the Lord Jesus.

Pray for our musicians and choir this week. Barry Tilston; Frances Rowberry; Rachel Reid; Lucy McGlew; Sophia Kavanagh; Angela Ogle and Laurie Khurt.



Psalm 105: 1-5

1 Praise the LORD. Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens.

2 Praise him for his acts of power; praise him for his surpassing greatness.

3 Praise him with the sounding of the trumpet, praise him with the harp and lyre,

4 praise him with timbrel and dancing, praise him with the strings and pipe,

5 praise him with the clash of cymbals, praise him with resounding cymbals.

Administrator

If you have items for our newsletter please contact Trevor Sear tgsear57@outlook.com Working days Tuesday am and Thursday.

Forthcoming Services

December 1st – First Sunday in Advent

St Mary's 9:30am Holy Communion

Readings: Isaiah 2 v 1-5, Psalm 122, Matthew 24 v 36-44

Holy Trinity **11am Crib Service**

6:30 Joint Service of Advent Carols

December 8th – Second Sunday in Advent

St Mary's 9:30am Christmas Praise

Holy Trinity 11:00 Holy Communion

Readings: 1 Samuel 11: v 1-10, Matthew 3 v 1-12

December 15th – Third Sunday in Advent

St Mary's 9:30am Joint Service of Holy Communion

Readings: Isaiah 35 v 1-10, Matthew 11 v 2-11

No morning service at Holy Trinity

Holy Trinity **6:30 Joint Service of Nine Lessons and Carols**

December 22nd – Fourth Sunday in Advent

St Mary's 9:30am Quiet Reflective Service of Christmas Peace

Holy Trinity 11:00am Holy Communion

Readings: Isaiah 7 v 10-16, Matthew 1 v 18-25

Websites

www.hartfieldchurch.org

www.colemanshatchchurch.org