



St. Mary's Church
Chiddingfold

15 November 2020

Second Sunday Before Advent

10:00 am Parish Communion webcast to St. Mary's YouTube Channel

Welcome to St. Mary's

If you are new, welcome! We'd love to keep in touch. Please email the Rector so we can get to know another and do sign up for our weekly e-newsletter (affectionately known as the E-pistle!). That way you can receive all the latest news and resources for prayer, worship and ways of getting involved in this wonderful community.

Collect

Heavenly Lord, you long for the world's salvation: stir us from apathy, restrain us from excess and revive in us new hope that all creation will one day be healed in Jesus Christ our Lord.

I Thessalonians 5:1-11

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, 'There is peace and security', then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labour pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Matthew 25:14-30

"For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

For our Prayers

Church

We give thanks for the promise of the kingdom of God, and pray that the Church may be a better sign and foretaste of it. We pray that our lives and witness may be shaped by the kingdom: that we may be a people marked by generosity, love, and reconciliation. We pray for those gifts in the life of the diocese, and we pray for grace for Andrew, our bishop, in his ministry.

World

We pray for all those seeking refuge from war and violence, and particularly those living in refugee camps or sleeping rough as winter approaches. We pray for wisdom, courage and imagination on the part of those with authority, as they seek to respond to the crisis. And we pray for the countries from which people have fled: for peace, justice, stability and reconciliation.

Our Neighbours

We pray for those who live and work in the parish, and this week especially for those who work at the R. G. Young & Son Butchers and S & E Hair. And we pray for the mission and ministry of St Mary's, giving thanks for all God has given us and asking his grace and guidance for the future.

Those in Need

We pray for those whose lives are dominated by fear or anxiety, and for those who feel trapped by circumstances beyond their control, that they may know freedom and peace in Christ. And we pray for all who are ill, especially for those who are waiting for test results and surgeries.

The Departed

We give thanks that, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's, and we pray for the departed, that they may come to the fullness of life Christ promises. We pray for those who have died recently, especially for Sara Rowe, and for those whose year's mind falls this week.

Post Communion Prayer

Gracious Lord, in this holy sacrament you give substance to our hope: bring us at the last to that fullness of life for which we long; through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Looking Ahead

This Tuesday the **PCC** meets at 7:45 pm over Zoom. Please pray for those who have recently been elected: Katherine Hylton, Richard Atkinson, Gerald Williams and Ken Lindup (elected to Deanery Synod).

Kingdom Season culminates in the Feast of Christ the King next Sunday. We hope you will join us for a special service of worship on St Mary's YouTube Channel: <https://tinyurl.com/stmarys-videos>

The **funeral of Sara Rowe** will be held on 20 November at 3:45 pm in Guildford Crematorium and taken by the Rev'd Sarah Brough, former Rector of St Mary's. The service will be live streamed so that as many people as possible can take part. The hearse will drive down Coxcombe Lane and will pause briefly in front of St Mary's church before turning and going up Petworth Road. Those wishing to pay their respects are encouraged to stand along the pavement as the hearse goes past at approximately 3:20 pm.

Please help support our local **Food banks** in Haslemere and Godalming, both of which provide emergency food parcels to those experiencing food scarcity in our parish. You can bring donations to St Mary's Church or to the drop off point in the Roberts Store.

We're here to help, if you or your family have been impacted financially by the COVID-19 pandemic and are struggling to make ends meet. Our Rector is able to refer individuals and families for food parcels from two local charities. Please contact her for confidential advice and support: rector.chiddingfold@gmail.com

St. Mary's is **open every day** of the week from 9.00 am – 5.00 pm for private prayer. So you have more time to lay down your concerns and enjoy its peace; to reflect, pray and light a candle.