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# **'THE LOOKOUT'**

SUNDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> DECEMBER 2018 THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

HYMNS THIS MORNING

ENTRANCE	436
GRADUAL	444
OFFERTORY	612
COMMUNION	166 & 620
FINAL	399

BEFORE THE PARISH EUCHARIST Quiet, please, from 0955 (a bell will be rung) "Talk to God before the service, and to one another afterwards"

Image: The Embrace of Elizabeth and the Virgin Mary (1191) St. George Church, Kurbinovo, Macedonia

#### The Collect (Opening Prayer) for the Fourth Sunday of Advent

God our redeemer, who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son: grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour, so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our judge; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.** 

#### The Reading from the Old Testament – Micah 5:2-5a

The Lord says to his people: 'But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time

when she who is in labour has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord,

in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.

And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace.'

#### The Gospel Reading – Luke 1:39-55

Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.'

And Mary said, 'My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,

for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant.

Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name.

His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.

He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.

He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly;

he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty.

He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy,

according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.'

#### **Prayers of Intercession**

**The sick and those who care for them**: John Leech, Brian West, Esmé von Habsburg, Jenny Edwards, Margaret Montagu, Deirdre West, Barbara Webb, Beryl Scott, Heather Elizabeth Perkis, Sarah Neve, Pippa, Jill Crossland, Lily, Yvonne Goddard, Susan Wiltshire

The recently departed: Wilson Broom, Wendy Francis, John

**Anniversaries of death this week**: Leslie Palmer (23<sup>rd</sup>); Peggy Evans (23<sup>rd</sup>); Ann Smith (24<sup>th</sup>); Ernest Wallace (24<sup>th</sup>); Muriel Mears (25<sup>th</sup>); David Bennett (27<sup>th</sup>); Lily Cumming (27<sup>th</sup>); Albert Hancock (27<sup>th</sup>); Eileen Myers (28<sup>th</sup>); William Blunt (28<sup>th</sup>)

#### **Post-communion Prayer**

Heavenly Father, who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of the promised saviour: fill us your servants with your grace, that in all things we may embrace your holy will and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

#### **NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS – CHRISTMAS 1** 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26; Luke 2:41-52 *Related readings – Psalm 148; Colossians 3:12-17*



**Urgently needed this week:** Washing tablets, tinned potatoes, carbonara sauce, men's deodorants, women's deodorants, shaving foam, curry sauce. Many thanks for your ongoing support of the Foodbank. Please pray for its work, and for the increasing number of people who rely on its services and our donations.

#### **Christmas pastoral Visits**

If you know of anyone who is likely to be alone in Christmas week, please be in touch with Fr Anthony, Mthr Lucy, Marie Freeman or Joyce Bourne (contact details on the front page). They will be happy to make a visit and/or take Christmas Communion. Perhaps it is you?

#### Are you ready to #FollowtheStar?

This year the Archbishops of Canterbury and York have published a short book of reflections, meditations and images to help us journey through the 12 days of Christmas. The daily readings reflect on the different ways we choose to celebrate Christmas and the varying emotions of this time of year, from joyful expectation for some to incredible loneliness for others. If you would like to join the 'journey' you can buy one of the #FollowtheStar books from Mthr Lucy for £1.50. Alternatively, you can sign up to receive the same information in daily emails.

#### **Children's Church Pantomime Trip**

On 19<sup>th</sup> January 2019 the Children's Church will be having an exciting afternoon at the Rottingdean Drama Society pantomime *Robin Hood*. The afternoon begins with a lunch at the Cottage and continues with the Matinée performance. If you would like more information, please pick up a letter from the back of church or contact Mthr Lucy.

#### **Singing Kettle**

Many thanks to Elaine Eardley for organizing the Christmas lunch at The Trellis last Thursday, and to Joyce Bourne and all the volunteers who run Singing Kettle throughout the year. Please note that there will be no Singing Kettle on Christmas Day or New Year's Day.

#### Knit & Natter

We are not meeting this week. We reconvene after a Christmas break on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January.

#### Floodlighting

The church is being floodlit at night in the month of December by John and Jackie Blackman in memory of Richard Harry Faulkner. If you would like to sponsor the floodlighting, we suggest a minimum donation of £30 for a month.

## **CHRISTMAS SERVICES**

**TODAY!** SUNDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> DECEMBER AT 1500 FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS

CHRISTMAS EVE – MONDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER AT 1700 FAMILY CRIB SERVICE – come as a Nativity character!

CHRISTMAS EVE – MONDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER AT 2330 MIDNIGHT MASS

CHRISTMAS DAY – TUESDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER AT 1000 FAMILY PARISH EUCHARIST

Please note, no public services on 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> December. No public services on New Year's Day. No Singing Kettle on Christmas Day or New Year's Day.

## **CHURCH SERVICES & EVENTS THIS WEEK**

Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	0730	Morning Prayer
Advent 4	0800	Holy Communion
	0915	Choir practice
	1000	Parish Eucharist
	1500	Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup>	0830	Morning Prayer
Christmas Eve	1700	Family Crib Service – come as a Nativity character!
	2330	Midnight Mass
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup>	1000	Family Parish Eucharist
Christmas Day		

#### The church will be open in Christmas week but there are no public services

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> Christmas 1

0730	Mornii
0800	Holy C
1000	Parisl
1700	Evenii

Morning Prayer Holy Communion **Parish Eucharist** Evening Prayer

### **SAVE THE DATE!**

#### Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> January - The Deans Ecumenical Service for The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> February – Film Night in Church – Sing-along Mamma Mia!

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> February - Christingle craft morning

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> February – Theatrical Storytelling by Dirty Footprints Theatre

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> May – Recital by John Mann and Cream Tea (N.B. change of date)

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup>/Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> July – St Margaret's Day celebrations

Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> July – Recital by Dan Phelps

Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> August – Village Fair

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> – Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> September – The Great Harvest Village Show