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'THE LOOKOUT'

SUNDAY 30TH DECEMBER 2018 THE FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS



Our parish Nativity Crib - with thanks to Ann-Marie Newman for the photograph

HYMNS THIS MORNING

ENTRANCE	573
GRADUAL	393
OFFERTORY	318
COMMUNION	631 & 227
FINAL	130

BEFORE THE PARISH EUCHARIST

Quiet, please, from 0955 (a bell will be rung)

"Talk to God before the service, and to one another afterwards"

The Collect (Opening Prayer) for the First Sunday of Christmas

Almighty God,

who wonderfully created us in your own image and yet more wonderfully restored us through your Son Jesus Christ: grant that, as he came to share in our humanity, so we may share the life of his divinity; 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 – 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26

Samuel was ministering before the Lord, a boy wearing a linen ephod. His mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year, when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, 'May the Lord repay you with children by this woman for the gift that she made to the Lord'; and then they would return to their home.

Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favour with the Lord and with the people.

The Gospel Reading - Luke 2:41-52

Every year the parents of Jesus went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travellers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, 'Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety.' He said to them, 'Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?' But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favour.

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, Jean Johnson, Elizabeth Perkis, Sarah Neve, Pippa, Jill Crossland, Lily, Yvonne Goddard, Susan Wiltshire, Heather

The recently departed: Wilson Broom, Wendy Francis, John

Anniversaries of death this week: Laurel Lloyd (30th); Matthew Gamba (30th); Naomi Cross (1st); Ted Smith (1st); William Grant (1st); Spencer Roberts (4th); Walter Simpson (4th); Kay Morvan-Toone (5th); Yvonne Lewis (5th)

Post-communion Prayer

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son shared at Nazareth the life of an earthly home: help your Church to live as one family, united in love and obedience, and bring us all at last to our home in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS - THE EPIPHANY

Isaiah 60:1-6; Matthew 2:1-12 Related readings - Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14; Ephesians 3:1-12



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.

Holy Baptism

Please pray for Holly Crawley and Libby Coleman who are to be baptised during the Family Parish Eucharist next Sunday, the Feast of the Epiphany. They will each be confirmed by the Bishop of Lewes next month.

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 19th 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 to join the group, please speak with Mthr Lucy today.

Singing Kettle

There will be no Singing Kettle this Tuesday (New Year's Day). We resume after our Christmas break on Tuesday 8th January. All are welcome!

Knit & Natter

We resume our meetings after the Christmas break this Wednesday at 1930 in St Margaret's Cottage. All are welcome!

Floodlighting

The church is being floodlit at night in the month of January by Fidelma Romer-Ormiston in memory of Michael RIP. If you would like to sponsor the floodlighting, we suggest a minimum donation of £30 for a month.

CHURCH SERVICES & EVENTS THIS WEEK

Sunday 30 th CHRISTMAS 1	0730 0800 1000 1700	Morning Prayer Holy Communion Parish Eucharist Evening Prayer	
Monday 31 st	0830 1800	Morning Prayer Evening Prayer	
Tuesday 1 st THE NAMING & CIRCUMCISION	No public services today (New Year's Day/ Bank Holiday) & CIRCUMCISION OF JESUS		
Wednesday 2 nd St Basil the Great & St Gregory of Nazianzus	0830 1800 1830	Morning Prayer Evening Prayer Eucharist & Bible Study/Discussion	
Thursday 3 rd	0830 1000 1800	Morning Prayer Eucharist Evening Prayer	
Friday 4 th	No public services today		
Saturday 5 th	1000 1700	Morning Prayer Evening Prayer	
Sunday 6 th THE EPIPHANY	0730 0800 1000 1700	Morning Prayer Holy Communion Family Parish Eucharist & Holy Baptism Evening Prayer	

SAVE THE DATE!

Sunday 20th January - The Deans Ecumenical Service for The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Friday 1st February – Film Night in Church – Sing-along Mamma Mia!

Saturday 2nd February - Christingle craft morning

Saturday 23rd February – Theatrical Storytelling by Dirty Footprints Theatre

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

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

Saturday 27th July – Recital by Dan Phelps

Saturday 3rd August – Village Fair

Thursday 19th – Saturday 21st September – The Great Harvest Village Show