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# **'THE LOOKOUT'**

**SUNDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2019**

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

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

<b>Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> ADVENT 3</b>	0800	Holy Communion
	1000	Parish Eucharist with Holy Baptism of Grace
	1600	Children's Church in St Margaret's Cottage
<b>Monday 16<sup>th</sup></b>	0910	Morning Prayer
	1800	Evening Prayer
<b>Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> O Sapientia</b>	0910	Morning Prayer
	1000	Eucharist
	1030	Singing Kettle in St Margaret's Cottage
	1800	Evening Prayer
<b>Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup></b>	0910	Morning Prayer
	1800	St Margaret's School KS2 Christmas Service
	1930	Knit and Natter in St Margaret's Cottage
<b>Thursday 19<sup>th</sup></b>	0910	Morning Prayer
	1000	Eucharist
	1300	Funeral of Susan Stevens RIP
	1800	Evening Prayer
<b>Friday 20<sup>th</sup></b>	No public services today	
<b>Saturday 21<sup>st</sup></b>	1000	Morning Prayer
	1900	Rottingdean Mummers Play (free entry)
<b>Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> ADVENT 4</b>	0800	Holy Communion
	1000	Parish Eucharist
	1500	Festival of 9 Lessons and Carols

**BEFORE THE PARISH EUCHARIST**

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

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

**HYMNS THIS MORNING**

<b>ENTRANCE</b>	<b>620</b>
<b>GRADUAL</b>	<b>563</b>
<b>OFFERTORY</b>	<b>513</b>
<b>COMMUNION</b>	<b>418 &amp; 360</b>
<b>FINAL</b>	<b>416</b>

**The Collect (Opening Prayer) for the Third Sunday of Advent**

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. **Amen.**

**The Reading from the Old Testament – Isaiah 35: 1-10**

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, 'Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you.' Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveller, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

**The Gospel Reading – Matthew 11: 2-11**

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?' Jesus answered them, 'Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me.' As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you." Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

**Prayers of Intercession**

***The sick and those who care for them:*** John Leech, Esmé von Habsburg, Andrew West, Jenny Edwards, Margaret Montagu, Deirdre West, Barbara Webb, Beryl Scott, Elizabeth Perkis, Pippa, Jill Crossland, Susan Wiltshire, Ian Aslett, Michael Moore, Issam Geib, Phil Gervait,

Anne Smith, Gwendoline Lee, Chloe Grenier, Sarah Neve, Jean Talbot, Patrick Mills, Brian Doo, Alison Mason, Kate, Nikki Redman, Maureen Blakey, Martina Hallinan, Jill Brice, Jean Hughes.

**The recently departed:** Majorie Limpus, Susan Stevens

**Anniversaries of death this week:** Doreen Rowe (15<sup>th</sup>); Sheila Elliott (15<sup>th</sup>); George Shepherd (16<sup>th</sup>); Reginald Hewson (16<sup>th</sup>); Vicki Kristi (16<sup>th</sup>); Bernard Darlow (17<sup>th</sup>); Doris Cordy (17<sup>th</sup>); Marjorie Woollard (18<sup>th</sup>); Bill Izzard (19<sup>th</sup>); Dennis Johnson (19<sup>th</sup>); Peter Stringer (19<sup>th</sup>); Wilson Broom (19<sup>th</sup>); Alfred Arkell (20<sup>th</sup>); John Kuchmy (20<sup>th</sup>); Leslie Kristi (20<sup>th</sup>); Dorothy Snudden (21<sup>st</sup>); Ivy Nichols (21<sup>st</sup>)

### **Post-communion Prayer**

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts; kindle in us the fire of your Spirit that when your Christ comes again we may shine as lights before his face; who is alive and reigns now and for ever. **Amen.**

### **NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS – FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Isaiah 7: 10-16; Matthew 1: 18-end *Related readings – Psalm 80: 1-8, 18-20; Romans 1: 1-7*



**Desperately needed this week:** washing-up liquid, tinned potatoes, razors, shaving foam, tinned meat, cereal, tuna chunks, chicken curry, nappies (size 3, 4,5 and 6). You can now make your donation through online supermarket shops. More details can be found here -

<https://thewhitehawk.foodbank.org.uk/2019/06/21/ordering-food-delivery-foodbank/>. Many thanks for your ongoing support of the Foodbank. Please pray for its work and volunteers, and for the increasing number of people who rely on its services.

### **Christopher Stringer Funeral Directors**

Many thanks to Christopher, his team and all who supported the open morning on the 30<sup>th</sup> November a fantastic £175 was raised towards church funds.

### **Christmas Tree Festival**

A huge thank-you to all who supported the festival last weekend. We estimate that we welcomed around 500 people to the church across the three days to see the 45 trees that celebrated many areas of our community life together. Well done! *Mthr Lucy*

### **Christmas Raffle**

Tickets for the Christmas Raffle are on sale, with the draw taking place on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December. Pamela now has enough raffle prizes so thank you very much for your generosity.

### **Christmas cleaning**

To give our excellent weekly cleaners an extra hand I'm calling on the goodwill of any able bodied helpers to be in Church on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December from 12.30pm for the annual pre-Christmas scrub & polish. Bring your marigolds & elbow grease. We will provide everything else. Thank you. *Joyce*

### **Singing Kettle**

On Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December Mince pies & mulled wine will be served as well as tea/coffee and we might try a few carols too. We will be CLOSED on 24<sup>th</sup> December for our annual day off. We will OPEN at 10.30 on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> December again to begin our 14<sup>th</sup> year - can you believe it? *Joyce*

### **Knit and Natter**

Continues as normal this week but there will be no meeting on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> December or 1<sup>st</sup> January. Resumes Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2020.

### **Christmas Flowers**

If you would like to make a donation towards the Christmas flowers in memory of a loved one, please mark your donation 'Christmas Flowers', and please include any dedication e.g. 'In Memory of ...', etc. Any donations will be gratefully received. Thank you.

### **Martin and Sue Leaney**

"Thank you to all who have given us Christmas cards. We have decided this year to give a donation to St Anne's instead of sending cards. We wish you all a happy and healthy Christmas & New year"

## **Floodlighting – suggested donation £32.50 for a month**

*The church is being floodlit at night in the month of December in by John and Jackie Blackman in memory of Richard and Ethel Faulkner, by Audrey Renault in loving memory of her husband Reg Renault RIP, and in memory of John Edwards by Josephine Caruana.*

## **Church Flowers**

For some time now, and after previous appeals in The Lookout, we have been trying to identify a volunteer to take over from Bernie Baldock as flower teams coordinator. Bernie, who has done a fantastic job for us for six years, is stepping down at the end of this year with our gratitude. Unfortunately, no-one has yet come forward to take over the role. It doesn't need to be done by a flower arranger, but someone who can organise the rotas and take responsibility for ordering fresh flowers. With great sadness, we have decided that if a volunteer cannot be found we will need to stop having flower arrangements in church from the New Year, and allow florists in to arrange for weddings. I sincerely hope that someone might be moved to come forward to take on this task. If you might be interested, please have a word with me or Bernie. *Fr Anthony*

## **GIVING TO ST MARGARET'S**

If you are new to our church and are planning to become a regular worshipper with us – **welcome!** Our members give generously of their time, their talents and their wealth. If you have a particular **skill or interest** that you might be able to offer, please speak with Fr Anthony. Please consider signing up to the **Parish Giving Scheme** of regular donations to support our day-to-day activities: forms are available at the back of church. Please also consider leaving a **legacy** to St Margaret's when writing your Will, and help to secure the building and our resources for future generations. You might also be interested in **sponsoring a concert** in our [Music at St Margaret's](#) series – sponsorship covers the cost of performers' fees and expenses and ensures that all monies raised from ticket sales can support the life and upkeep of our church. Thank you!

## **SAVE THE DATE!**

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> December at 1900 - The Rottingdean Mummers Play**  
**and ringing of the parish handbells by the Copper Family. Free Entry, refreshments available.**

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December at 1500 – FESTIVAL OF 9 LESSONS & CAROLS**

*Including poetry reading by local poet, Violet Simpson as her book is launched.*

*With mulled wine and mince pies*

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December at 1900 – 'IN THE BLEAK MIDWINTER'**

*Quiet, low-key carol service especially for the bereaved and anyone who is feeling fed up*

**CHRISTMAS EVE - Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December at 1700 – FAMILY CRIB SERVICE**

**CHRISTMAS EVE - Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December at 2330 – MIDNIGHT MASS**

**CHRISTMASDAY - Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> December at 1000 – FAMILY EUCHARIST**

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> January at 1900 – Brighton Early Music Festival (BREMf) Concert**

**The Feast of Fools** *This community performance combines medieval music performed by some of the country's best exponents, with spirited performances by local schoolchildren and dancers. There is a special 25% discount on tickets for St Margaret's congregation, which can be booked online at [www.bremf.org.uk/2019/eventpage/ne29.htm](http://www.bremf.org.uk/2019/eventpage/ne29.htm) using the code **Andromed@3** This gives 25% off adult/full price seats and is valid for up to 4 tickets per booking. It expires at midnight on 4 Jan 2020.*

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> January at 1900 – 'Fount & Origin' Early Music Choir from Oxford University**

*This concert is generously sponsored by Sally Phillips and Jean Talbot*

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> April- Ensemble Nova Concert**

*Music for the season- Ash Wednesday to Easter. Sponsorship is sought for this event.*

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June – Flower Festival**