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# **'THE LOOKOUT'**

## **SUNDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> DECEMBER 2019**

### **FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

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

<b>Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	0800	Holy Communion
<b>ADVENT 4</b>	1000	<b>Parish Eucharist</b>
	1500	Festival of 9 Lessons and Carols
<b>Monday 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	0910	Morning Prayer
	1900	'In the Bleak Midwinter': a quiet, reflective carol service
<b>Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup></b>	0910	Morning Prayer
Christmas Eve	1700	Crib Service <i>Come dressed as a Nativity character</i>
	2330	<b>Midnight Mass</b>
<b>Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup></b>	1000	<b>Family Eucharist</b>
<b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b>		
<b>Thursday 26<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>No public services today</i>	
St Stephen		
<b>Friday 27<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>No public services today</i>	
St John the Evangelist		
<b>Saturday 28<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>No public services today</i>	
The Holy Innocents		
<b>Sunday 29<sup>th</sup></b>	0800	Holy Communion
<b>CHRISTMAS 1</b>	1000	<b>Parish Eucharist</b>

**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

ENTRANCE	166
GRADUAL	444
OFFERTORY	748
COMMUNION	436 & 609
FINAL	400

### **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 – Isaiah 7:10-16**

Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. Then Isaiah said: 'Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.

### **The Gospel Reading – Matthew 1:18-end**

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.' All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: 'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel', which means, 'God is with us.' When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

### **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:*** John Wrapson

***Anniversaries of death this week:*** Jean (Jill) Dogherty (22<sup>nd</sup>); Reg Renaut (22<sup>nd</sup>); 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 – FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

Isaiah 63: 7-9; Matthew 2: 13-end *Related readings – Psalm 148; Hebrews 2:10-end*



**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.

### 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. **We are pleased to announce that the festival raised £3,047 to be shared between the church and the Four Deans Stroke Club.**

### Christmas Raffle

£255 has been raised for Church funds, many thanks to all those who donated prizes and bought tickets. The draw will take place today (22<sup>nd</sup>) in The Cottage during coffee. Many thank to Pamela and Peter Wright for organising this fundraiser.

### 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. Reopens at 1030 on Tuesday 31st December again to begin our 14th year - can you believe it?

### Knit and Natter

Resumes on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at 1930.

### 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.

### Children's Church Pantomime Trip

On Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at 1400 the Children's Church will be having an exciting afternoon at the Rottingdean Drama Society pantomime *Robinson Crusoe*. The afternoon begins with a lunch at the Cottage and continues with the Matinée performance. Last year a group of young people and those who are young at heart came along so if you would like to join us please pick up a letter from the back of church or contact Mthr Lucy.

### 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!

**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 being sponsored by Sally Phillips and Jean Talbot.*

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> April - Ensemble Nova (Oxford University) Concert for Holy Week**

*Ash Wednesday to Easter in one evening. Sponsorship is sought for this event.*

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