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'THE LOOKOUT'

SUNDAY 29TH DECEMBER 2019

FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

CHURCH SERVICES & EVENTS THIS WEEK

Sunday 29th
CHRISTMAS 1

0800 Holy Communion
1000 **Parish Eucharist**

Monday 30th

No public services today

Tuesday 31st

1000 Eucharist with renewal of wedding vows
1030 Singing Kettle in St Margaret's Cottage

Wednesday 1st January
Naming and Circumcision

No public services today

Thursday 2nd
St Basil the Great and
Gregory of Nazianzus

0910 Morning Prayer
1000 Eucharist
1800 Evening Prayer

Friday 3rd

No public services today

Saturday 4th

No public services today

Sunday 5th
THE EPIPHANY

0800 Holy Communion
1000 **Parish Family Eucharist**
1700 Evening Prayer

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	573
GRADUAL	313
OFFERTORY	318
COMMUNION	631 & 227
FINAL	130

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 – Isaiah 63: 7-9

I will recount the gracious deeds of the LORD, the praiseworthy acts of the LORD,
because of all that the LORD has done for us, and the great favour to the house of Israel
that he has shown them according to his mercy, according to the abundance of his steadfast love.
For he said, 'Surely they are my people, children who will not deal falsely'; and he became their
saviour in all their distress. It was no messenger or angel but his presence that saved them;
in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

The Gospel Reading – Matthew 2: 13-end

Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.' Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, 'Out of Egypt I have called my son.' When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah: 'A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.' When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead.' Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, 'He will be called a Nazorean.'

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, Terry Bourne, Les Bower.

The recently departed: John Wrapson

Anniversaries of death this week: Laural Lloyd (30th); Matthew Gamba (30th); Naomi Cross (1st January); Ted Smith (1st); William Grant (1st); Spencer Roberts (4th); Walter Simpson (4th)

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: 1-15; Ephesians 3:1-12



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.

Thank you

Many thanks indeed to all who have contributed so generously of their time, talents and other resources to make our celebration of Advent and Christmas so meaningful and joyful. The church has been looking beautiful thanks to flower arrangers, Crib builders and cleaners, and there has been a lot of very positive feedback about the welcome that visitors and newcomers have received, as well as the quality of readings, serving and music at our services. It has been good to see such encouraging numbers, especially on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Well done all!

Many thanks too for the cards, gifts and good wishes we have received. We wish a blessed and happy New Year to all. *Fr Anthony and Mthr Lucy*

Singing Kettle

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

Knit and Natter

Resumes on Wednesday 8th January 2020 at 1930.

Children's Church Pantomime Trip

On Sunday 19th 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.

Floodlighting – suggested donation £32.50 for a month

The church is being floodlit at night in the month of December 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. And in the month of January by Lynn White in loving memory of her husband Chris RIP, by Liz and Chris & Dawn Davidson in memory of Chris and Liz's parents, and Carolyn Colpitts in treasured memory of her husband Philip and son Pip, always remembered with love everyday.

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 5th 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 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 18th January at 1900 – 'Fount & Origin' Early Music Choir from Oxford University

This concert is generously being sponsored by Sally Phillips and Jean Talbot.

Wednesday 8th April - Ensemble Nova (Oxford University) Concert for Holy Week

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

Friday 12th – Sunday 14th June – Flower Festival