

VICAR: THE REV'D DR ANTHONY MOORE

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'THE LOOKOUT'

SUNDAY 29TH NOVEMBER 2020

ADVENT SUNDAY

After 2 December, despite us being in Tier 2, we may resume

SUNDAY EUCHARISTS AT 1000 AND 1130

EUCCHARIST ON THURSDAYS AT 1000

The church building will continue to be open for private prayer:

MONDAY - SATURDAY

1400 - 1500

**IT IS A LEGAL REQUIREMENT THAT YOU MUST WEAR A FACEMASK
WHEN COMING TO CHURCH FOR PRIVATE PRAYER OR SERVICES**

By 1000 each Sunday there is a pre-recorded Service of the Word
on our website www.stmargaret.org.uk

This will include the week's readings, a homily and intercessions.

Do share with those who do not have internet access that they can listen to the service
on the 'phone by dialling **01273 92 12 32** at a standard call rate.

The service is also available on Alexa

First time: **"Alexa, enable St Margaret's Church, Rottingdean"**

Thereafter: **"Alexa, open St Margaret's Church, Rottingdean"**

*Do join us by listening at 1000 on Sundays or at some point in the week and encourage your friends
and neighbours to listen too. And please pray for our church congregation, the wider community*

Opening Hymn (recorded service) O come, O come, Emmanuel

The Collect (Opening Prayer) for Advent Sunday

Almighty God,
give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light,
now in the time of this mortal life,
in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility;
that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty
to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal;
through him 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 New Testament – 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Gospel Reading – Mark 13:24-end

Jesus said to the disciples: 'But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in clouds" with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

'From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

'But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.'

Prayers of Intercession

The sick and those who care for them: John Leech, Esmé von Habsburg, Andrew West, Jenny Edwards, Margaret Montagu, Deirdre West, Beryl Scott, Elizabeth Perkis, Pippa, Jill Crossland, Susan Wiltshire, Ian Aslett, Phil Gervait, Anne Smith, Sarah Neve, Chloe Grenier, Jean Talbot, Patrick Mills, Kate, Martina Hallinan, Jean Hughes, Terry Bourne, Anne Prout, David Crofts, Jim Heath, Kathleen Williams, Ann Hayes, Giles Henry, Anthony Matthews

The recently departed:

Anniversaries of death this week: Beryl Davies (30th); Thelma Stefani (30th); Harry Baker (2nd Dec); Kenneth Baigent (2nd); Philip Wells (3rd); George Chesher (4th); Jean Hilder (4th); Reg Grant (4th); Stephanie Patterson (4th); Diane Ingram (5th); Ronald Money (5th)

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS – ADVENT 2

2 Peter 3:8-15a; Mark 1:1-8

Related readings – Isaiah 40:1-11; Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

SUPPORT FOR THE FOODBANK IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER

Leave your donation in the porch during private prayer opening hours:

Monday – Saturday 1400-1500

Financial donations can be made here:

<https://thewhitehawk.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-money/>



Desperately needed this week: rice pudding, tea, tinned vegetables, tinned fruit, carbonara sauce, long-life juice, meatballs, curry sauce, tinned curry (chicken/vegetable), toilet roll. **They have plenty of baked beans and tuna!**

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 Services – booking up quickly!

All being well, we will offer 4 celebrations of the Eucharist to allow for 120 people to attend church and receive Holy Communion over Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. We will not celebrate a Midnight Mass this year. We will ask you to book places in advance for one of the following services: please contact Heather Butler, Churchwarden, to book your place. *Fr Anthony*

CHRISTMAS EVE

Eucharist with organ music at 1700

CHRISTMAS DAY

Holy Communion at 0800 (Book of Common Prayer)

Eucharists with organ music at 1000 and 1130

Call for volunteers

It would be good to have the church looking its best for our Christmas services. We invite volunteer cleaners, sweepers, brass polishers (and a tea/coffee maker!) to join us, please, on Wednesday 16th December from 1030. Please let me know if you can help. *Dawn Davidson*

Monthly Ecumenical Prayer Group on Zoom – Monday 30th November at 2000 (40 minutes)

Everyone is welcome, especially members of local churches and anyone is welcome to lead the group if they want to - just let me know. It can include Ignatian Meditation, Lectio Divina, and any other ideas around prayer. This time the Rev'd Kate Lawson from St Nicholas' Church, Saltdean will be leading us in an Examen. If you would like to join us please email me for a Zoom link at tracy.stickland@gmail.com. Please feel free to join as and when you can, no commitment required. *Tracy Stickland is a member of the congregation at Our Lady of Lourdes Church.*

Rottingdean Community

The Rottingdean Community website is up and running: www.rottingdeancommunity.org.uk. The Village Helpline has been reinstated: 01273 036 783. This time we're running a voicemail system - users may leave a message which will be responded to within 48 hours. We know that many people got organised during the previous lockdown but we're keen to make sure no-one slips through the gaps. If you think someone who doesn't use the internet might like to have the number, please drop a note through their door. Keep safe and stay positive - we've done it all before!



Rottingdean Community is a project jointly run by St Margaret's Church, Our Lady of Lourdes Church,

DEVELOPING OUR PARISH CHURCH

A letter from the Churchwardens

Hello,

We wanted to share with you the steps we are taking to help ensure that St Margaret's Church fulfils our vision of being 'open to all'.

Our vision is a church at the centre of the community – a church serving as a cultural centre available for a variety of community activities as well as a house of prayer and worship; a church with a modern mission, accessible and welcoming to everyone.

Over the past three years, a plan has been developed that fully respects the historic importance of our beautiful church. The plan involves 're-ordering' the church interior and providing new facilities fit for church and community use in the 21st century. We aim to create a splendid open and flexible space that will transform the use of the interior. A new floor with underfloor heating is proposed (so dealing with the serious ongoing damp problems) and a kitchen, meeting rooms, improved office and fully accessible toilets and baby-change facilities are part of the plan.

The St. Margaret's Church estate includes the 'Cottage' which has for the past 32 years provided overflow accommodation for after-service coffee, Sunday School, Parochial Church Council (PCC) meetings, and a wide variety of social and group activities. Because these activities will be significantly better accommodated in the developed and more spacious church building, and because the Cottage is itself in need of very costly refurbishment, the PCC has unanimously decided that St Margaret's Cottage should be sold. The proceeds will be reinvested into the charity to enable the church development project without the need for substantial fund raising.

Other than the addition of the office/toilet block in the 1970s, this project is the most significant church building development since the 19th century – it will, we believe, ensure that St Margaret's is a truly sustainable Church serving the whole community for the generations to come. We invite you to share our vision and support us as best you can.

We would take this opportunity of wishing you a blessed Christmas – please do visit www.stmargaret.org.uk for details of our services. This year, of course, numbers are restricted because of the pandemic, and you will need to book a place in advance. Details can be found by clicking on the link to The Lookout, our weekly bulletin. You can also access our weekly recorded services via the website; there will be a special service for Christmas Day for those unable to attend in person.

Sincerely,

Dawn and Heather

Dawn Davidson and Heather Butler, Churchwardens, St Margaret's Church, Rottingdean
on behalf of the Parochial Church Council and Fr Anthony

This letter is being read out by Heather on our recorded audio service for Advent Sunday, so that all members of the congregation have the same information at the same time. The letter is being sent out as an insert in the next edition of Rottingdean Village News to all residents of the village. Thank you to those who responded earlier in the year to the request for ideas and comments. The Parochial Church Council received four written submissions from members of the congregation and an e-mail to Dawn Davidson from a village resident was noted by the PCC. Others have volunteered helpful suggestions verbally.

The matter was discussed very fully and the decision was finally taken at the special PCC meeting via Zoom on 18 November, and not before then.