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'THE LOOKOUT'

SUNDAY 6TH DECEMBER 2020 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SUNDAY EUCHARISTS AT 1000 AND 1130 EUCHARIST ON THURSDAYS AT 1000

The church building is open for private prayer: Monday - Saturday 1400 – 1500

Our Lady of Lourdes R. C. Church is open for private prayer:

MONDAY 0830 - 1000 TUESDAY 0830 - 1100

WEDNESDAY 1830 - 2000 FRIDAY 0830 - 1000

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 and all those affected by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Opening Hymn (recorded service) Lo, he comes with clouds descending

The Collect (Opening Prayer) for the Second Sunday of Advent

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Reading from the New Testament - 2 Peter 3:8-15a

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

The Gospel Reading - Mark 1:1-8

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

"Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,""

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.'

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, Betty Zachariah

The recently departed:

Anniversaries of death this week: John Wrapson (6th); Shirley Sheppard (7th); Susan Stevens (7th); Caroline Ellis (8th); Peter Hampton (8th); Arthur Renaut (10th); Frederick Fearman (11th); Harold Milne (11th); Eddie Bell (11th); Ronald Field (11th); Nellie Openshaw (12th)

Post-Communion Prayer

Father in heaven,

who sent your Son to redeem the world and will send him again to be our judge: give us grace so to imitate him in the humility and purity of his first coming that, when he comes again, we may be ready to greet him with joyful love and firm faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS - ADVENT 3

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28 Related readings – Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11; Psalm 126

SUPPORTING THE FOODBANK - UPDATED SHOPPING LIST

Leave your donation in the porch on Sunday mornings or 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: tinned vegetables (mixed, potatoes, carrots, peas); breakfast cereal, tinned meatballs, biscuits, tinned curry and chilli, Fray Bentos pies, toilet roll, tinned hot dogs, coffee, soup. You can 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/. Please pray for the Foodbank and for the increasing number of people who rely on its services.

Christmas Services - booking up quickly!

Please contact Heather Butler, Churchwarden, to book your place. Services are open to regular congregation and local residents alike. *Fr Anthony*

CHRISTMAS EVE

Eucharist with organ music at 1700 – fully booked

CHRISTMAS DAY

Holy Communion at 0800 (Book of Common Prayer) Eucharists with organ music at 1000 (almost full) 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*

Vicarage Honey

Members of the congregation may want to buy this year's honey from St Margaret's Vicarage where Chris Davidson keeps his bees. This will be on sale at the Grange Gallery next week, with half the proceeds for the Church and half for the Preservation Society.

DEVELOPING OUR PARISH CHURCH

Some 'frequently asked questions' answered

Last week's announcement was a lot to take in and there are all sorts of questions you may have so we have tried to answer some of them. If we haven't answered the one you have, then contact one of the Churchwardens with your question, or e-mail one of us and we will try to answer your question next week in the Lookout. *PTO*

You said that the plans have been developed over the past three years: when can we see them?

We had been hoping to share the plans with you during this year but because of COVID-19 we have not been allowed to have big meetings. We have asked our Architect (who redeveloped Wakefield Cathedral) to develop the design so that it can be shared through our website. We will also have the actual plans which we will share as soon as it is possible and safe for us to do so.

When the Cottage is sold does all of the money come to St Margaret's Church?

The Cottage is owned by St Margaret's Church so when it is sold the total amount raised by the sale will be spent on the redevelopment of the church.

Why can't the Vicarage be sold or the flat that Mthr Lucy lived in instead of selling the Cottage? The Vicarage and the Flat belong to the Diocese of Chichester and if they were sold the money would go to central church not St Margaret's. Mthr Lucy's flat is already being sold by the Diocese.

Where will we go for coffee if we haven't got the Cottage?

We are planning to take out the pews in the Lady Chapel and make the floor in that area level so that we can put out tables and chairs. We are then going to convert the flower room into a small temporary kitchenette so that we can make coffee and serve it through the hatch at the back of the church.

What about the women's group, book club, Knit & Natter and Singing Kettle?

The space created in the Lady Chapel will be larger than the hall in the Cottage and means that these and other groups can still meet if they wish to but in the church instead of the Cottage.

How long will the church be closed for and when?

At the moment we can't be sure how long or when but it will probably be for about 6 months hopefully during 2022. There is a lot of work that needs to be done but until we have had the surveyors in to assess exactly how much we cannot be sure about timings. The preliminary survey work will begin very soon, probably before Christmas.

Where will we hold church services when the church is closed?

We are hoping that we can move the services to the Village Hall as it's easy to access and is central in the village. We will also be able to have coffee in the hall after the service so whilst it may be a bit strange at first we're sure that we will be happy there. There will obviously be further news closer to the time.

If the Cottage is sold to a developer how much control will the church have over what goes on the site?

The Cottage is in a conservation area so building regulations will control what can be put there. We can also put stewardship clauses into the selling contract so that the PCC and Churchwardens can input into the plans for the site. We are very conscious of the need to ensure that the site is dealt with sympathetically with regard to the Church, The Green and surrounding properties.