

# CHRISTMAS SERVICES AT ST. JOHN'S

- Friday 24<sup>th</sup> December at 3:00 pm – Annual Crib Service (In-church and on Zoom).
- Friday 24<sup>th</sup> December at 11:15 pm – Midnight Mass of the Nativity.
- Sat 25<sup>th</sup> December at 10:00 am – Christmas Day Communion Service.
- Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> December at 10:00 am – Parish Communion Service.
- Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> December at 9:30 am – Said Parish Communion Service.

## *This Week you are Asked to Pray for:*

- Those in the parish and further afield who are sick or in need that they receive peace and healing, including: Irene Foord, Mary Mines, Helena Oecken, Ian Wilson, Ron Goodearl, Ian Goodearl, Phillipa King, Sally Zeybek, Doug Tilbury, Don White, John Roberts, Pat Syrett, Marina Deacon & Christopher Roberts. Also, Margaret Karstens and Motsansana Manyako of Kuruman.
- The recently departed, including Sally Smith, Beryl Palmer and Father Jonathan Vervant (Kuruman). May their souls rest in peace. We pray for their families and friends at this difficult time.
- All parts of the world affected by the Coronavirus (Covid-19), those who are ill with the virus and those caring for them. Particularly praying for countries where infection rates are very high and the hospitals are struggling to cope.
- For the country of South Africa, for the people of Cape Town and Diocese of Kimberly and Kuruman including our linked parish of St. Mary's Kuruman.

## FIRST AID COURSE

- Princes Risborough Baptists Church are planning to run a First Aid course in the New Year but don't currently have enough people to fill it. If anyone at St. John's wishes to do a First Aid course (particularly to support their Church role) please contact either Vanessa or Sheila at the Baptist Church Office if they would like to join. There is a charge for the course. More details from Vanessa / Sheila ([prbaptist@btconnect.com](mailto:prbaptist@btconnect.com))

### Key Contacts:

Vicar:	Rev. Canon Tony Bundock	01844 347741
Team Rector:	Rev. David Williams	01844 346984
Licensed Lay Minister:	Mr Graham King	01844 343910
Churchwardens:	Mrs Pat Rushmere	01494 562140
	Mrs Margaret Gray	01844 347094
PCC Secretary & Pew Sheet editor:	Mr Mark Roberts	01296 437345

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# PARISH CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, LACEY GREEN



Coming to Faith, Growing in Faith

Week Commencing  
**SATURDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2021**  
**CHRISTMAS**

## WELCOME TO TODAY'S WORSHIP

You are warmly welcomed to St. John's Church, particularly if you are new to our congregation or are a visitor. You are wished a Merry Christmas on behalf of all at St. John's.

## WORSHIP AT ST. JOHN'S

Recent UK Government Guidance has been reviewed and at this stage few changes are going to be required for in-church worship at St. John's. These will remain in place for the immediate future:

- Wearing masks in church, apart from for the choir when singing and for those leading worship, is now mandatory. Also, during actual receipt of Holy Communion. The congregation are requested to wear masks in Church, maintain social distancing and sanitise their hands.
- Singing of hymns in Church during the sung services will continue. As before, the congregation are invited to join in the singing of hymns but are requested to do so wearing their masks.
- Holy Communion will continue in one kind only for the time being and will be administered from the area in front of the chancel step.
- The Peace will continue for the time being to be observed discreetly and following social distancing protocols.
- The congregation are asked to observe social distancing as far as possible and the Lady Chapel area will be set aside as a mandatory social distancing area for those who feel they need to socially distance themselves from others. Please respect this.

### Weekly Services:

#### SUNDAY

- 8:00 am In-church Said BCP Communion Service (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sun)  
10:00 am In-church Parish Communion Service with Hymns

#### TUESDAY

- 9:30 am In-church Said Parish Communion Service

## FOCUS ON..... CHRISTMAS JOY

The song of the angels; the star of Bethlehem; the obedience of Mary and Joseph; the humility of the Shepherds; the perseverance of the Wise Men; sheep and cattle and camels, an ox and a faithful ass! These are the familiar elements to the great Christmas story of the birth of Christ which continues to engage and excite the imagination and the faith of people of all ages and across the whole world. It is like gold dust trickling through our fingers!

On behalf of everyone at Saint John's Church, and as we complete our Advent journey of yearning hope and expectation, I do invite you in whatever way you are able to join with us in the Church's great festival of the celebration of the 12 Days of Christmas. It is a time of the year when the veil between earth and heaven rolls back once more as we join again in the song of glory and in proclaiming the holy message of peace and joy to the world so wonderfully expressed in the familiar carol written in 1719 by the English minister and hymn-writer Isaac Watts:

*Joy to the World, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare Him room,  
And Heaven and nature sing,  
And Heaven and nature sing,  
And Heaven, and Heaven, and nature sing.*

May the Lord grant to you and your loved ones a truly blessed and joyful Christmas.

Canon Tony Bundock

## COLLECT FOR CHRISTMAS EVE MIDNIGHT

Eternal God, who made this most holy night to shine with the brightness of your one true light: bring us, who have known the revelation of that light on earth, to see the radiance of your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever, Amen.



## POST COMMUNION PRAYER FOR

### READINGS FOR CHRISTMAS EVE MIDNIGHT MASS (SET III)

Isaiah Ch. 52 VV. 7 – 10  
Hebrews Ch. 1 VV. 1 –12

John Ch. 1 VV. 1 – 14

## CHRISTMAS EVE MIDNIGHT MASS

God our Father, in this night you have made known to us again the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ: confirm our faith and fix our eyes on him until the day dawns and Christ the Morning Star rises in our hearts. To him be glory both now and for ever, Amen.

### PRAYER CHAIN PRAYERS

(The MIDNIGHT MASS Intercessions will be led by PAT RUSHMERE)  
(The CHRISTMAS Day Service Intercessions by GRAHAM KING)



May the light of the Christ child penetrate the darkest places, May the peace of the Christ child heal those who are in conflict and may the joy of the Christ child be with each of us and those we love in this festive season, Amen.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us evermore, Amen.

## COLLECT FOR CHRISTMAS DAY

Almighty God, you have given us your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him and as at this time to be born of a pure virgin: grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever, Amen.

### READINGS FOR CHRISTMAS DAY (SET I)

Isaiah Ch. 9 VV. 2 – 7  
Titus Ch. 2 VV. 11 – 14

Luke Ch. 2 VV. 1 –20



### POST COMMUNION PRAYER FOR CHRISTMAS

God our Father, whose Word has come among us in the Holy Child of Bethlehem: may the light of faith illumine our hearts and shine in our words and deeds; through him who is Christ the Lord, Amen.