



Parish of Fleet  
All Saints  
St Philip & St James

**News Sheet for Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2018**  
**First Sunday of Advent**

**Welcome** in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to our worship today. It is a great joy to have you with us as we worship God together. If you are here for the first time we pray that your visit will be a time of blessing. Please make yourselves known to us after the service and, if you can, join us for coffee and a chat in the hall.

**TODAY IN THE PARISH**

**All Saints (FPCC)**

10.00am All Age Eucharist (CW)

**Ss Philip and James**

8.00am Holy Communion (1662)  
10.00am Sung Eucharist (CW) with  
Junior Church and Crèche  
2.30pm Pantomime Rehearsal  
4.00pm Housegroup Celebration Service

**TODAY'S COLLECT** 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.

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION** O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear, he may not find us sleeping in sin but active in his service and joyful in his praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

The Coffee Bar is open Monday - Saturday 10.00am - 12.30pm

### Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> December

FPCC	9.00am Morning Prayer
FPCC	7.00pm Craft Group
Ss Philip and James Hall	7.00pm Advent Reflection

### Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December

FPCC	10.00am Praise and Play
Ss Philip and James	11.00am Prayer Group
Ss Philip and James	7.30pm Christian Aid Carol Concert

### Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> December

Ss Philip and James	9.30am Eucharist followed by Coffee
Ss Philip and James	2.30pm Thanksgiving for the Life of Len Waller

### Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December

Ss Philip and James	9.00am Coffee and Play
FPCC	12.30pm Midweek Concert followed by lunch at approx. 1pm.
Ss Philip and James	4.30pm Hot Potato Youth Group
Ss Philip and James	7.30pm Choir Practice

### Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December

FPCC	10.00am Dribbles and Giggles
FPCC	8.00pm Choir Practice

## SUNDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER - SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### All Saints (FPCC)

10.00am Sung Eucharist (CW) with Junior Church and Crèche

### Ss Philip and James

8.00am Holy Communion (1662)  
10.00am Sung Eucharist (CW) with Junior Church and Crèche  
12.00pm Baptism Service  
2.30pm Pantomime Rehearsal

## **PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK . . .**

**Those in urgent need of our prayers including...** Chris Butterfield, Colin Eagle, Ian Passfield, John Pridmore, Erica Taylor and Jennette Wickes.

**Members of our extended church family in need of our continuing prayers...** Beverley, Patricia Bull, Fiona Guy, Alwynne Hallam, Jon Harrow, Mollie Hayes, Dexter Heard, Bonnie Lewis, Gill Page, Peter Pimm, Louise Purton, Peter and Suzanne Rogers, Barbara Simson, John Stocks, Tyler Thompson and Molly Wilson.

**Those who have died recently...** Len Waller.

**Those from our two memorial books whose anniversaries fall at this time...** George Ockmore, Graeme Peacock, John Lewis, John Crayden, Madge Cross, Robert Smith-Moon, Mabel Goddard, George Shuttler, Patricia Aldridge, Robert Lewis, John Richardson, George Baker, Pamela Stewart, William Hayes, Ruth Warner and Joy Holmes.

## **PRAYER DIARY FOR WEEK BEGINNING 3<sup>RD</sup> DECEMBER 2018**

**Meditation:** 'Happiness consists in finding out precisely what the "one necessary thing" may be, in our lives, and in gladly relinquishing all the rest. For then, by a divine paradox, we find that everything else is given us together with the one thing we needed.' - *Thomas Merton, "No Man is an Island"*

**We give thanks for** our Advent hope.

**Please pray....**

**Mon** - For Churches Together in Fleet and Church Crookham.

**Tues** - For the people and government of the Ukraine.

**Wed** - For all who work in retail.

**Thurs** - (St. Ambrose, Bishop) For the people and churches of Spain.

**Fri** - For those who suffer from stress and anxiety.

**Sat** - For those who are homeless. For winter shelter and homelessness charities.

**Sun** - (Advent 2) For our Bishops – Andrew and Jo.

**All Week** - those who live in Bromfield place, Brook Close, Brookly Gardens, Broomhurst Lane, Broomrigg Road and Buchanan Mews.

## PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

Please note that items with headlines underlined are new this week.

**ADVENT REFLECTIONS** - Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 7.00pm - please note that this week will be in P&J Hall (not church). Journeys into Prayer - come and learn different ways to pray.

**FLEET CHORAL SOCIETY CHRISTIAN AID CAROL CONCERT** - Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> December, 7.30pm, St Philip and St James Church. With Revd Roy Woodhams at the organ, and special guests Quintessentially Wind, this is the perfect start to Christmas. £5 on the door, free mince pie and coffee included.

**LEN WALLER** - The Thanksgiving for the life of Len Waller will be on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> December at 2.30pm in Ss Philip & James Church followed by light refreshments in the hall afterwards. All welcome.

**GIFT DAYS 2019** - The PCC are to decide the Gift Days for 2019 at their January meeting. If you have a charity you would like to nominate for a gift day, please e-mail Claire with details of the charity by 20<sup>th</sup> December. We are particularly looking for a national charity. E-mail [clholt@ntlworld.com](mailto:clholt@ntlworld.com)

**VICAR'S LETTER** - Please read the attached letter regarding the FPCC.

**BATTLEFIELDS TRIP** - Bernard Tinker has advised that he is aiming to organise another trip to the Battlefields of Ypres and the Somme in 2019 and would like to extend the invitation to anyone in the Fleet area who might like to join and visit or revisit these sites. Anyone interested should please contact Bernard direct (tel 01305 213405) or email [btinker@live.co.uk](mailto:btinker@live.co.uk)

**ADVENT REFUGEE SERVICE** - Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> December, 4pm, Holy Trinity Church, Aldershot Rd, Church Crookham GU52 8JU. A time to pray and support refugees. We will be collecting gifts such as sets of dominoes, playing cards, ready to inflate footballs, travel chess sets plus packets of dried dates and pull-top tinned fish to distribute in the Calais area on 17<sup>th</sup> December.

**MIDWEEK CONCERT & LUNCH** - Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December, Crookham Handbell Ringers will be performing for us at 12.30pm. Lunch will be at approx. 1.00pm, please sign the list on the noticeboard if you would like lunch.

**CATHEDRAL COFFEE CONCERT** - Please note that the Guildford Cathedral Coffee Concert with Carols organised by Age UK will be on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> December at 11.00am, not 29th December as mistakenly typed into the parish magazine.

**CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT** - Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> December, 5.30pm, Church of Our Lady, Concert in aid of Phyllis Tuckwell, tickets £12 from the Hospice Shop.

## READINGS FOR SUNDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> DECEMBER

### First Sunday of Advent

#### First Reading

#### Jeremiah 33.14-16

<sup>14</sup>The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfil the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>15</sup>In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. <sup>16</sup>In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: 'The LORD is our righteousness.'

**Comment** *Both Israel and Judah had been overpowered and destroyed by Babylon. Jeremiah now looks to the future. In ancient Hebrew the names of people and cities like Jerusalem tend to merge.*

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#### Psalm 25.1-9

#### Refrain: To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

- <sup>1</sup> To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;  
O my God, in you I trust;  
let me not be put to shame;  
let not my enemies triumph over me.
- <sup>2</sup> Let none who look to you be put to shame,  
but let the treacherous be shamed and frustrated.
- To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.**
- <sup>3</sup> Make me to know your ways, O Lord,  
and teach me your paths.
- <sup>4</sup> Lead me in your truth and teach me,  
for you are the God of my salvation;

for you have I hoped all the day long.

5 Remember, Lord, your compassion and love,  
for they are from everlasting.

6 Remember not the sins of my youth  
or my transgressions,  
but think on me in your goodness, O Lord,  
according to your steadfast love.

**To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.**

7 Gracious and upright is the Lord;  
therefore shall he teach sinners in the way.

8 He will guide the humble in doing right  
and teach his way to the lowly.

9 All the paths of the Lord are mercy and truth  
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

**To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.**

**Comment** *This is a lament in which the psalmist admits his sin and asks for mercy.*

## Second Reading

### 1 Thessalonians 3.9-13

<sup>9</sup>How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? <sup>10</sup>Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

<sup>11</sup>Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. <sup>12</sup>And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in

love for you. <sup>13</sup>And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

**Comment** *This was written within 20 years of the Passion when Christian teaching and dogma had barely been established hence the simple exhortation to love all mankind and not just one's friends. In those early days the Second Coming was thought to be imminent.*

## Gospel Reading

### Luke 21.25-36

Jesus said to his disciples: <sup>25</sup>‘There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. <sup>26</sup>People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. <sup>27</sup>Then they will see “the Son of Man coming in a cloud” with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup>Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.’

<sup>29</sup>Then he told them a parable: ‘Look at the fig tree and all the trees; <sup>30</sup>as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. <sup>31</sup>So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. <sup>32</sup>Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. <sup>33</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

<sup>34</sup>Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, <sup>35</sup>and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who

live on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup>Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.’

**Comment** *When Christ pondered the future He was using the language and imagery of the day. Moreover as the gospel was written over half a century later there would have been an element of hindsight in the recalling of His words. Nevertheless this does not lessen the message conveyed.*

## KEEPING IN TOUCH

**Visitors and Newcomers:** Welcome! We'd love to keep in touch with you so please fill in your contact details, tear off this section and give it to the vicar or one of the wardens/sidespersons on the door.

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email/phone number** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please let us know why you'd like us to get in touch** (e.g. add to mailing list/ prayer request/visit request/information about services)

We will not use your details for any other purpose without your consent and we do not sell or pass on information to third parties.

**Hospital and home visits:** If you know of anybody who is in hospital or housebound and would appreciate a visit, please use the above section giving your details and we will contact you for information. Please give to the duty warden at church or the Parish Office.

**Pastoral Assistants:** Should you have a pastoral need or any other kind of a problem and wish for a listening ear, there is a Pastoral Assistant available after the 10.00am service. Please ask the duty warden at the door for more information.

**For any other need, suggestion or query, see contacts below:**

### PARISH CONTACTS

**Vicar, Revd Mark Hayton** ☎ 01252 219281

✉ vicar@parishoffleet.org.uk

**Revd Carol Dunk** ☎ 01252 444872

✉ carol@parishoffleet.org.uk

**Safeguarding Officer, Sheila Buller** ☎ 01252 629346

✉ s.m.buller@btopenworld.com

**Administrators, Chantelle Gardner & Elly Wilson**

*Office hours: Monday - Friday, 9.30am - 1.00pm*

✉ Parish Office, Parish Community Centre, Church Road, GU51 4NB

☎ 01252 812114 ✉ office@parishoffleet.org.uk

**website: [www.parishoffleet.org.uk](http://www.parishoffleet.org.uk)**



Dear Friends,

As a parish, over the last few years, we have become rather good at facing challenges. I believe that we have grown through each fresh challenge, and by the grace of God we will continue to do so, no matter what may lie ahead.

In recent weeks a new challenge has come along, which I am quite sure we will deal with in the same faithful and positive way.

A short time ago we discovered a small separation between the wall and the floor in the parish office at FPCC. We called in the company who built the Church centre, they investigated and found that there was some subsidence in the church centre due to some rotting beams appearing under the FPCC floor.

This is not dangerous for now, but obviously needs dealing with. To cut a long story short, the builders propose to replace the entire floor of the Parish Centre, under guarantee, with concrete blocks and beams instead of wooden.

This will mean that the Church centre will be out of use for 4 to 6 weeks beginning on the 4<sup>th</sup> January.

Obviously, this is a big blow for the parish, our hirers, and all who use the church centre. However, the work is necessary, and we will do all we can to work together to minimise the effect upon all concerned.

- 1) We will relocate Sunday worship and keep the FPCC congregation worshipping together as much as we can. Our friends at the Baptist church in Clarence Road do not use their building on a Sunday morning and are very open to us relocating our worship there. There will obviously be some services we will have together at P&J during this time also.
- 2) The Parish office will relocate to a mobile unit in the Churchyard.
- 3) The contents of FPCC will be removed and stored in storage units.

- 4) We will work with our hirers in trying to find alternative locations for them during this time. This might be at P&J, at All Saints School, or in one of the other churches in the town.
  
- 5) The Coffee bar, Parish Lunches, Toddler Group and Praise and Play will sadly not be able to operate during this time, and we will let everyone know about this and about when these activities will restart.

The builders of the centre regret very much that this problem has arisen, and the work will be completed without any cost to us. They have been most helpful in all of this and we are very grateful to them that the work is to be done so promptly.

We apologise to all who will be affected by this essential work. If you have further questions or worries please do speak to me, Carol, or the Church Wardens – we will be happy to talk it over with you.

Please commend this new challenge to God in your prayers. Thank you in anticipation to you all, I know the whole parish family will work together to overcome this latest challenge as we have done for all those that have gone before.

Mark