



## News Sheet for 21 December - 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

### WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP



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 with us for the first time, please do make yourself known to us after the service. We welcome in the name of our Lord all who wish to worship with us, regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, sexuality or gender orientation. We rejoice in the fact that we are a very diverse Christian community and see this as our calling under Christ. We work hard in this parish to ensure the safety and safeguarding of all who join us for worship, if you have any concerns in this area, please do let us know immediately. If you have any special needs or would like to speak to a pastoral minister or have someone pray with you, please mention it to a welcomer or member of the ministry team.

There will also be coffee with fellowship available after the service, please do join us for this - you will receive a warm welcome there too.

Today is the Fourth Sunday of Advent. May I wish all of you a very happy and blessed Christmas!

### Our special Christmas services will be as follows:

- |                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| <b>Sunday 21st December -</b>    | <b>P&amp;J - 10.00am Christingle Service</b>                   |
|                                  | <b>All Saints - 10.00am Parish Eucharist</b>                   |
|                                  | <b>All Saints - 6.30 pm Service of Readings and Carols</b>     |
| <b>Wednesday 24th December -</b> | <b>P&amp;J - 5.00pm Crib Service</b>                           |
|                                  | <b>All Saints - 5.00pm 'Come to the Stable' (Crib Service)</b> |
|                                  | <b>P&amp;J - 7.30pm - Early Midnight Mass</b>                  |
|                                  | <b>All Saints - 11.30pm Midnight Mass</b>                      |
| <b>Thursday 25th December -</b>  | <b>P&amp;J - 8.00am BCP Holy Communion</b>                     |
|                                  | <b>All Saints - 10.00am Parish Eucharist for Christmas Day</b> |

### TO ALL THOSE COMING TO THE CAROL SERVICE

This is usually a very well attended event, to which we welcome many people from our community who are not always with us week by week. Do by all means come early to get a seat, but could I ask you if you would kindly fill up from the outside aisles, allowing visitors to sit in the better seats? This would be very good hospitality, and in accordance with Jesus words in Luke 14: 8. 'When you are invited to a wedding feast, do not take the highest place, but take the lowest place'. This would be a special and lovely thing to do, and I'm sure would mean a lot to our visitors.

May God bless you all,

*Mark*

## SUNDAY SERVICE SLIDES

If you would like to access the slides for this Sunday's service, you can do so on your smartphone or tablet by pointing your camera at this QR code or by clicking on this QR code.



### THE WEEKS AHEAD

- Sunday 21 Dec ALL SAINTS CHURCH:** 8.00am BCP Holy Communion  
10.00am Parish Eucharist  
6.30pm Service of Readings and Carols
- Ss PHILIP & JAMES:** 10.00am Christingle Service
- Wednesday 24 Dec/Christmas Eve**
- Ss PHILIP & JAMES:** **NO 9.30am Holy Communion Service, Ss Philip & James Church**  
5.00pm Crib Service  
7.30pm Early Midnight Mass
- ALL SAINTS CHURCH:** 5.00pm 'Come to the Stable' (for all ages)  
11.30pm Midnight Mass
- Christmas Day**
- Ss PHILIP & JAMES:** 8.00am BCP Holy Communion  
**ALL SAINTS CHURCH:** 10.00am Christmas Morning Eucharist
- Sunday 28 Dec Ss PHILIP & JAMES:** 10.00am Parish Eucharist (No Godly Play)  
**ALL SAINTS CHURCH:** No Service
- Wednesday 31 Dec** 9.30am Holy Communion Service, Ss Philip & James Church
- Sunday 4 Jan Ss PHILIP & JAMES:** 8.00am BCP Holy Communion  
**ALL SAINTS CHURCH:** 10.00am Parish Eucharist with Godly Play

### READINGS FOR 21 DECEMBER

[Isaiah 7:10-16](#)

[Romans 1:1-7](#)

[Matthew 1:18-end](#)

**TODAY'S COLLECT:** Eternal God, as Mary waited for the birth of your Son, so we wait for his coming in glory; bring us through the birth pangs of this present age to see, with her, our great salvation in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER:** Heavenly Father, who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of the promised saviour: fill us your servants with your grace, that in all things we may embrace your holy will and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

**Those in urgent need of our prayers including:** Anne Amos, Ethan, Patricia Greenway-Quintero, Michael Heard, Sylvia Honiwell, Janice Jose, Graham Kitts, Andrew Stone, Tyler Thompson, Victoria Willis.

**PLEASE NOTE – THIS LIST IS FOR USE IN PRIVATE PRAYER AND IS NOT TO BE INCLUDED IN INTERCESSIONS IN PUBLIC WORSHIP**

**Members of our extended church family in need of our continuing prayers:** Annegret, Matthew Allen, Gladys Barber, Alan Beckett, Brian Biffin, Marion Brown, Martine Dyer, Diana, Joan Hall, Dexter Heard, Jack, Jonah, Bonnie Lewis, Gill Page, Phillip, Peter Rogers, Anne Richardson, John Simson, Violet Slade, Dee Stephenson, Michael Standen, Eileen Taylor, Erica Taylor, Clare and family, Karen W, Barbara Willis.

**Those from our two memorial books whose anniversaries fall at this time:**

**21 December Week**

Keith Jones, Gwen Loveseed, Donald Brodie, Ivy Cox, Leslie Wigg, Lorna Anderson, Charles Marsh, Bert Atkinson Doreen Suter, Robert Stannard (Bishop), Hugh Lindsay, Peter Duckworth, Keith Clubley, Christopher Stock.

**28 December Week**

Carolyn Greig Woodcock, Doris Wilman, Peter Jaynes, Gillian Martel, Jack Townsend, John Stocks, Lilian Buck, Connie King, Brian Duke, David Healey, Vera Joy.

**4 January Week**

Francis Roark, Rev Ronald Dyer, Beatrice Gribble, Alice Loader, Gladys Neville, Eileen Mander, Vic Makepeace, John Gulliver, Peggy Clarke, Pearl Draper.

**PRAYER DIARY FOR WEEK BEGINNING 22 DECEMBER**

**Meditation:** 'We are not grains of sand upon the shore buffeted by sea and storm, we are individuals loved by God more intimately than we could ever know. Though from a distance we seem insignificant and frail the creating breath that formed us now lives in and sustains us'.

**We give thanks for ...** Jesus, the Saviour of the World, God's gift to us all.

**Please pray....**

**Mon** - for the people of Bethlehem, and all Palestinian people.

**Tues** - for modern day Shepherds, and all who work in agriculture in these uncertain times.

**Christmas Eve**

- for all who are busy, travelling, overwhelmed or alone.

**Christmas Day**

- for the homeless, the refugee, and all who reach out to them.

**Fri** - (S. Stephen) for all imprisoned or endangered for speaking out for their faith or for justice.

**Sat** - for midwives, obstetricians, and those who work in neonatal care.

**Sun** - for St. John Ambulance, the Red Cross, and all who offer first aid to others.

**ALL WEEK** for those who live in Chertsey St, Chestnut Close, Cheviot Drive, Chineham Close, Cholsley Drive, Church Grove.

**PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS**

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

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS** - This week the Parish Office will be open 10am-12pm Monday - Wednesday.

**PARISH POST BOX FOR CHRISTMAS CARDS** – Please drop Christmas cards to church family in this box and please do collect cards that have been left by others for you to collect.

**COFFEE BAR CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS BREAK** - The Coffee bar at FPCC will be closed for the Christmas break from 22 December - Fri 2 January. Will reopen on Tue 6 January 2026.

**PARISH OFFICE CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS BREAK** - The Parish Office will be closed for the Christmas break from 29 December - Fri 2 January. Will reopen on Monday 5 January 2026.

**PARKING AT FPCC** - Please note that parking space at FPCC and All Saints Church is very limited. There are no reserved spaces and parking cannot be guaranteed for anyone (even the Vicar). The layby outside All Saints is for dropping off those who have mobility issues and for deliveries. Drivers should then park in the public car park. If you are a regular worshipper, you can get a permit to do this for free (only on Sundays) from the Parish Office. Parking at FPCC is on a first come, first served basis and cannot be policed. Sorry parking is so limited, but it is all we have! Mark

**WEDNESDAY MORNING SERVICES AT P&J** –Please note that there will **NOT** be a 9:30am service on Wednesday 24 December. The next Wednesday service will be on Wednesday 31 December.

**THANK YOU** - Our Christmas fund raiser for Christian Aid on November 30, raised £1,272.28p for those who most need our help. Thank you so much to everyone who contributed.

**PRAYER GROUP AT ALL SAINTS** - will not be meeting on Tuesday 23 December and Tuesday 30 December. Will resume the weekly meetings on Tuesday 6 January 2026.

**LITTLE SAINTS** - Will resume meeting every Wednesday morning at FPCC, 10.00am – 12.00pm on 7 January 2026. If you have or care for preschool children we'd love to see you.

**NEW YEAR TEA AND CHAT** - Tuesday 6 January from 2pm at FPCC. All are welcome!

**HART FOODBANK DONATIONS** - Thank you for your gifts to the Foodbank. This week there is an urgent need for nappies - size 5, 6 & 7, longlife milk, fruit squash, savoury biscuits, household cleaning items, coffee. Currently we do **not** need any water, pasta, sugar, flour or cereals. Items can be left in the Foodbank containers in the narthex at Ss Philip & James Church and in FPCC. Thank you, as always, for your donations to the foodbank, they are all very much appreciated.

**STEP BY STEP** - Please leave your donations to Step by Step in the collection boxes, for P&J in the Narthex and in the Coffee Bar at All Saints. They welcome donations of the following items: toothbrushes, toothpaste, shower gels and creams, soap, shampoo and conditioners. No bath products please as the centre only has showers.

**STAMPS** - Thank you for all your support with used stamps. Please do continue to drop off your used stamps into the bag on the notice board at FPCC.

**PRAYER BOARD AT ALL SAINTS CHURCH** - What would you like us to pray for? Please write down your prayer requests and the prayer group will check it weekly before their Tuesday prayer meetings. Alternatively, you may use this link <https://wpapp.parishoffleet.org.uk/tuesday-prayer-group/> to send your prayer requests via the website.

**GIVING OPTION** - You can now donate to parish funds by scanning this QR code with any smart phone with a QR reader on it or by clicking on this QR code - it takes you directly to a web page where you can make your donation.



## **PARISH CONTACTS**

Vicar, Revd Mark Hayton ☎ 01252 219281 📧 vicar@parishoffleet.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding Officer, Dick Fawn ☎ 07974 155957

📧 safeguarding@parishoffleet.org.uk

Diocesan Safeguarding ☎ 01483 790329 📧 safeguarding@cofeildford.org.uk

Administrator, Rebecca Ratnasamy *Office hours: Monday - Friday, 10.00am - 12.00pm*

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)

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