

# **C**hrist **C**hurch, **Erith**



**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2018 – First of Advent**  
**08.30 Holy Communion**  
**10.00 All Age Service**

## **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. Amen**

## **First Reading: Jeremiah 33.14-16**

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. 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. 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.'

## **Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 3.9-end**

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

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. 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. 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.

## **Gospel: Luke 21.25-36**

‘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. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world,

for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see “the Son of Man coming in a cloud” with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.’

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

‘Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. 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.’

## NOTICES

**Beryl Abrahams**, who was a member of this congregation, died peacefully on Thursday evening, we pray for her family who will let us know about the funeral arrangements in due course. We pray for Beryl that she will rest in peace and rise in glory.

**HOSPITALITY** Thank you to all who give of their time talent and resources to make others feel loved and welcome in our midst. Our church is known in the dioceses to be a hospitable church and this is very good. As we continue to share of what we have the Lord will continue to bless us. If you have any special celebration you want us to be a part of please let us know.

**PILGRIM GROUP** is going very well meeting on Wednesdays 1 30pm at 25, Lesney Par k Road (Doreen's house). The group is on the last book of the pilgrim course, (number 6), and will be looking at and discussing "The Church and The Kingdom". This is a wonderful group opportunity for growing in fellowship. If you would like to join or know more, please speak with Heather Taylor or Doreen Ives

**ADVENT GROUP** the next meetings will be on 4, 11 and 18 December, meeting in the Vicarage at 7.30pm. The sessions are about 1hour and 15 minutes. Please let the clergy or Church wardens know if you will be able to take part, whether by sharing thoughts or just listening.

**MOTHER'S UNION** On Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December at 1.30pm. The Deanery Mothers Union Advent service will be held at St Martins' Church Barnehurst, Erith Road, It be will be a communion service – Fr Paul Prentice from St Paulinus is celebrating. The service will be in the Maxim room followed by Tea/ coffee and cakes. All are invited, men and women.

**CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL** is approaching fast, and we need to have some volunteers so please put the following dates in your diaries, to help in any way that you can. There is a sign-up sheet at the back of Church.

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> December (am)

Volunteers required to put trees into bases and put into church in position.

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2pm – 5pm

Tree decorating. 2+ volunteers to welcome the sponsors, direct them to their trees and decorate any trees as necessary.

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December 11am – 7pm

Tree decorating. 2+ volunteers to welcome the sponsors, direct them to their trees and decorate any trees as necessary. Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> January

Assistance with tree stripping / removal after the 10am service

**KIDS CLUB** normally meets every 2<sup>nd</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday for age 6-11, for younger children there are books and activities available in the Children's corner. First Sunday each month is All Age Service and the children remain in Church sitting with their families. Any adults or

teenagers would like to explore helping with Kid's Club, is invited to speak with Jacki Clement or Tasha Archer

**INTERCESSIONS** is the time during our service when we pray for the world, the Church and for us and our Community. Please refer any pastoral concerns for members of the congregation or members of the local community to any member of the Ministry team. Please pray for the sick, frail, housebound, those in care and for those who are homeless. Requests left in the book at the back of the North Aisle will be offered each week at the Parish Communion.

This week we pray specially for the residents of **Alexandra Road**, and **Aperfield Road**.

**Cloakroom facilities** are available in the Church Hall during church services.

**GIFT AID DONATIONS:** We welcome all donations and there are Gift Aid envelopes at the back of church. If you pay tax we can reclaim 25p for every pound you donate to the Church at no cost to yourself, if you have completed the declaration on the envelope. For information, please speak to a Churchwarden or Sides person.

**CHOR** singing is a wonderful way in which we can take part in serving God. If you would like to join the choir or would like to find out more about opportunities to sing, please do not hesitate to speak with Ed or with Mthr Monica. Rehearsals will be on alternate Thursdays at 7.30pm and alternate Sundays after the 10am service.

**ROTAS** If you would like to join the Rota for coffee, readers, becoming an altar server, a crucifer, or joining the choir please let us know.

**BELLRINGING** if you or anyone you know would be interested in learning about this please speak with Natalie Slator.

### **This Week**

Mon to Fri 9.05am-9.30am in Christ Church  
**Morning Prayer**

Tues 10.30am  
**Coffee Morning at the Ark Café, Pier Road**

Wednesday 12 noon  
**Holy Communion in St John's**

Thursday 9.30am  
**Holy Communion in Christ Church**

**Readings for Next Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> December**

**Second Sunday of Advent**

Malachi 3.1-4, Philipians 1.3-11, Luke 3.1-6

## Contact Details

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### **For Hall bookings:**

Visit our website [www.christchurchhall.org.uk](http://www.christchurchhall.org.uk) to check availability before contacting Ayodeji ("DJ") Akande on 07415071932 or emailing: [bookings@christchurchhall.org.uk](mailto:bookings@christchurchhall.org.uk)

*contact details of other office holders and more information can be found in the parish magazine at the back of church so do buy a copy **only 50p***