



**St Nicolas Church, Cranleigh**  
**WORSHIPPING AT HOME**  
**Advent Sunday**  
**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

**WELCOME . . . .** to our Worshipping at Home resources for this week, provided for us by Canon Roy Woodhams and Revd Tim Clifford Hill.

Rules and regulations in connection with COVID-19 are changing fast at the moment – we will make every effort to keep you up to date with what’s happening, but there may be times when the information we have given you has gone out of date before it happens!

**THIS WEEK . . . .** (*Events in red will be online events*)

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November – Advent Sunday:**

**10.00 (Zoom):** Church at Home

**11.15 (Zoom):** SEA Church (for young people)

*(the Zoom joining code is ID: 148-785-166)*

**11.00am (Livestreamed):** Holy Communion (*Common Worship*).

**3.00pm Onwards (Youtube):** Advent Service with Words and Music.

3<sup>rd</sup> DECEMBER AND BEYOND . . . . as the one month lockdown ends, we are able to reopen for public worship from this Thursday onwards.

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> December**

**10am: Advent Reflection: ‘Love’**

*(Words and Music as we prepare for Christmas)*

## Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December – St Nicolas:

**8.00: Holy Communion (CW) (Also Livestreamed to Youtube)**

**10.00 (Zoom): Church at Home (with Bishop Jo)**

**11.00: Holy Communion (CW) (Also Livestreamed to Youtube): We Celebrate 850 years of St Nicolas Church, when the President and Preacher will be Bishop Jo Bailey Wells (Bishop of Dorking). If You intend to come to this service, you MUST book a place with Nicolas at the Church Office (See below)**

**11.15 (Zoom): SEA Church (for young people)  
(the Zoom joining code is ID: 148-785-166)**

**11.00am (Livestreamed): Holy Communion (Common Worship).**

If you know of anyone who does not have internet, and who would like a written communication from us each week, please email:

[nicola@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk](mailto:nicola@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk) or call the Parish Office on 01483

273620. I am aware tat this is going to be another very challenging and difficult time for everybody, so please feel free to contact either Nicola, or myself ([roy@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk](mailto:roy@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk) 01483800655), if you have, or are aware of, any particular pastoral or practical needs during this time.

## **ADVENT SUNDAY:**

### **COLLECTS:**

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.

Almighty God,  
as your kingdom dawns,  
turn us from the darkness of sin to the light of holiness,  
that we may be ready to meet you  
in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

**FIRST READING: *1 Corinthians 1:3-9***

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**GOSPEL READING: *Mark 13:24-end***

‘But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened,  
and the moon will not give its light,  
and the stars will be falling from heaven,  
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

Then they will see “the Son of Man coming in clouds” with great power

and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

‘From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

‘But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.’

### **SERMON (written by Revd Tim Clifford Hill):**

Those who listen to Sunday morning’s service on Youtube, or the Advent Carol Service available in the afternoon, will have the opportunity to hear a lovely anthem by Michael Fleming, and will hear these words:

*‘Kindle a light to lighten the darkness. Kindle a light with hope in it’s flame. Christ is coming. Meet him and greet him, and share his embrace.’*

Today is of course Advent Sunday. The beginning of the Season of Advent. You will have noticed last week that Roy, Rutton and I were standing in a church that was clad in white and gold. The frontal on our

high altar was white and gold. Your Curate's were wearing white and gold stoles. Roy had donned a glorious white and gold chasuble. Looking like a fashion model for Wippells, the famous clerical outfitters in London. Yet today we stand before you surrounded by the colour purple. The colour the church uses for sombre moods. The colour of penitential seasons. The colour of darkness. Advent is a season of darkness. We are now in liturgical darkness, looking towards the light that comes with Christmas day.

And even though we are in a new season, I hear myself repeating words that I used in my first sermon to you all. Yet again the liturgical life of the church is strongly aligning with what we are actually experiencing as a nation. We are in the darkness of a second national lockdown, looking towards the light that will come in the next few days, when the lockdown eases. To borrow a phrase from today's Gospel reading, we may have had days during this lockdown when we feel like 'the sun has darkened and the moon will not give out it's light.'

I have to admit that I have had dark days this month. I have missed standing in a church full with people for our livestreamed Sunday Eucharists. I have deeply missed being able to offer worship to Almighty God every morning with my clergy colleagues and our Morning Prayer regular attendees in this beautiful, ancient and holy space.

But alongside the darkness of this advent season, we have something most wonderful – Hope.

Hope is expectation expressed in faith, patience and endurance. Hope can help us carry on when we are in dark times. Hope can give us freedom. And for Christians across the world it is God who is our hope.

The light that comes with Christmas reminds us of the light of Easter and the Resurrection. And with that comes the hope that we have for heaven and for the coming of God's kingdom on this earth. Our faith looks forwards and is fuelled by hope. As St Paul wrote, in his first letter to the Corinthians, God 'strengthens us to the end.' God keeps us looking forward and 'three things will last forever – faith, love and hope.'

Here in Cranleigh we are doing what we can to let light shine into the darkness of this time, particularly with Alison Hendy's 'Cranleigh Shines' initiative, encouraging us all to put a light or star in our windows, to light up our village this Advent. Alison's idea started here and has spread as far as parishes in the United States of America. It also serves as a reminder that although we may have been confined to our homes this month, unable to see our friends and family, we are not alone in this lockdown, even though we might feel it. God's love surrounds us. God is our hope and strength. God can light up our lives. And as the great cry of 'Emmanuel' draws closer at Christmas, God is with us. Now.

In our Gospel today, Jesus tells his Disciples three times to 'keep awake and alert.' Fuelled by hope, in the darkness of this Advent season, let us not fall asleep dismayed by the darkness that surrounds us. Let us keep awake with hope. And let us meet Christ – who is the light of the world - with prayer, let us greet him with worship and let us share his embrace. Amen.

### **POST COMMUNION PRAYER:**

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.

## **SEASONAL PROVISION (to be used at the Live-streamed Communion)**

### **ADVENT CANDLE LITURGY**

#### **FIRST WEEK OF ADVENT: Waiting for Hope**

**SCRIPTURE:** “Stay awake, for you do not know the day or the hour when your Lord will appear.”

**LITANY:** *Leader:* Our response is “O God, we place our hope in you.”

: God of our mothers and fathers, R

*Leader:* Give life to people who are weary; fill us with hope in You. R

*Leader:* Healer of souls, renew our joy in you. Turn to us again, O God of Hosts. R

*Leader:* Make your dwelling among us, Giver of Life; Hear our cries; we call out to you in hope. R

*Leader:* We anxiously hope for the joy you alone can bring us. R

*(The first Advent Candle is lit)*

**PRAYER:** God of light, as we wait through the long winter nights for the birth of Christ, help us to keep watch. Help us to tend the tiny flame of hope. Make us alert until your gift of joy arrives. We ask this through Christ, our Lord.

**Amen.**

### ***Invitation to Confession:***

When the Lord comes,  
he will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness,  
and will disclose the purposes of the heart.  
Therefore, in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

### ***Introduction to the Peace:***

In the tender mercy of our God,  
the dayspring from on high shall break upon us,  
to give light to those who dwell in darkness  
and in the shadow of death  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

### ***Extended Preface for use with the Eucharistic Prayer:***

It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise,  
almighty God and everlasting Father,  
through Jesus Christ your Son.  
For when he humbled himself to come among us in human flesh,  
he fulfilled the plan you formed before the foundation of the world  
to open for us the way of salvation.  
Confident that your promise will be fulfilled,  
we now watch for the day  
when Christ our Lord will come again in glory.  
And so we join our voices with angels and archangels  
and with all the company of heaven  
to proclaim your glory,  
for ever praising you and *saying:*

## ***Blessing:***

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you,  
scatter the darkness from before your path,  
and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory;  
and the blessing . . . .

## **WEEKLY PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:**

### **Church and Christian Ministry:**

- For all churches in the United Kingdom, as we prepare for Christmas, in these unusual and unsettling times, we pray that we may bring hope to those who are suffering, and the Light of Christ to the dark places of our communities.
- For our own Ministry Team during this Advent season.

### **National and World Affairs:**

- For the people of America during this time of political transition.
- For our own government and for guidance in the making of difficult decisions.
- For research scientists working on vaccines, and for all affected by Coronavirus, and those whose livelihoods are at risk.

### **Community and Family:**

- For those who live in Queensway.
- For all carers and care agencies working in the Village.

## The Sick and those in Need:

- Jane Bloss, Ray Corver, Mike Ford, Stefan Godier, Stella Goldsmith, Michael Hart, Amy and Dennis Loveless, Libby O'Brien, Brian Pettyfer, Jean Quallington, Jean Sandow, Jack Sieber, Bert and Eileen Steed, Maureen Steele, Dennis and Rosemary Talbot, Marion Tomkins, Mac Walker, Frances Webb, Angela Wild, Henry Young and Nicholas (*and from Dunsfold and Hascombe: Amanda and Hugh, Tim Bailey, Barbara Crabb, William Mason, Sally Rivett, Jacky Williams, Bill and Tracy Wood, Alli, Judy Bolt, Sue and Dennis Evans, Lorna Thompson, Sami Bennewith, Dru Ridley*).

## The Departed:

- All we have known and loved, and especially Alan Hoad.

## WEEKLY NOTICES:

[NEXT SUNDAY \(6<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER\)](#) . . . . We now know that we will be back in Church together, when the Preacher and President will be Bishop Jo Bailey-Wells, the Bishop of Dorking, who will be joining us to celebrate **St Nicolas Day** and especially this year the **850<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the foundation of St Nicolas Church!** As usual for St Nicolas Day we will be collecting new, unwrapped toys for Eagle Radio Toy Appeal. If you are unable to come to church that day, toys can still be left in The Rectory porch at any time that week or the week after! **\*\*\*\*Due to the limitation on numbers, and the expectation of a lot of people wanting to come, we will need everyone who wishes to come to register in advance through Nicola at the Church Office. There are unlikely to be any places for anyone who hasn't registered!\*\*\*\***

**ST NICOLAS ADVENT CALENDAR** . . . . We have created a beautiful 'virtual' Advent Calendar for the Church Website this year. You will see familiar faces and hear familiar carols along with beautiful pictures and verses to help you prepare for Christmas. There is something to be found for all ages as the days of December unfold. You can open the first door on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December by visiting the front page of our website: [www.stnicolascranleigh.org.uk](http://www.stnicolascranleigh.org.uk)

**COMING TO CHURCH** . . . . As we re-open again, we will be operating a more stringent entrance and exit routine to minimize the risk of passing on COVID-19. Please be prepared for this when you come to church, and please do not arrive more than 20 minutes before the due start time!

**For the following services you will need to book a place in advance:**

**6<sup>th</sup> December, 11am Holy Communion**

**24<sup>th</sup> December, 11pm 'Midnight' Communion**

**25<sup>th</sup> December, 8am Holy Communion**

**25<sup>th</sup> December, 11am Holy Communion**

**CRANLEIGH SHINES** . . . . The churches of Cranleigh invite everyone in the village to spread a little joy this Christmas by making stars to display in their windows during Advent. We hope that seeing these stars will bring light, and give people hope at the end of a dark year. For many people, Christmas will look a little different this year. It will be hard for friends and families to meet up, and some of us may even find ourselves in isolation or quarantine during a season which usually brings people together, which is why the churches of Cranleigh wanted to try and spread a little joy throughout the village, and remind people they are not alone. From Advent Sunday on 29th November, Let's join together to brighten every street by making a star to display in your window. It can be as big or small as you like, and you can use anything you have handy: paints, crayons, lights, glitter... the limit is your imagination! We've

chosen the symbol of a star because for us as Christians it reminds us of the star the wise men followed to find the Christ child who came to bring joy to the world. But it's also a symbol that holds meaning for people of other faiths and none. Stars can represent light (after all, the sun is a star) hopes, dreams, wishes... things we all need more than ever this year. We hope that seeing these stars around the village will bring light and hope to all at the end of a dark year. On a practical note we also chose a star because many people will already have one in their Christmas decorations and if not, one can be made for little or no cost which is even more vital than usual at the moment and we wanted everyone to be able to take part. In these difficult times we need to stand together as a village and this idea is designed to be completely inclusive. You can follow Cranleigh Shines on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram as well as looking out for the posters around the village  
#cranleighshines #cranleighshines2020

**ADVENT REFLECTIONS** . . . . With Church re-opening for worship, we are going to turn the Thursday morning prayer sessions into a series of Advent Reflections, with words and music to help us prepare for Christmas. Sessions as follows:

**3<sup>rd</sup> December at 10am 'Love' (presented by The Rector)**

**10<sup>th</sup> December at 10am: 'Joy' (presented by Revd Tim Clifford Hill)**

**17<sup>th</sup> December at 10am 'Peace' (presented by The Rector)**

**24<sup>th</sup> December at 10am: 'Hope' (presented by Revd Tim Clifford Hill)**

### **CHURCHYARD ANNUAL TIDY-UP - Saturday 12 December**

The mowing team has done a terrific job this year, keeping the churchyard looking good all summer. ***To maintain this for winter, the tidy-up is planned for 12 December - the second Saturday as in the past.***

Hopefully lockdown will be well over by then, although we must stick to social distancing rules.

The priorities are making sure the grass is short enough for the winter, the car park is tidy and as usual, gathering up as many leaves as possible between 9am and 1pm. Please bring your own equipment.

We hope to have some form of refreshment available, although we are not permitted to gather together for our usual half way break and the church will not be open, so you might want to bring your own.

Looking forward to seeing as many as possible on the 12<sup>th</sup>

### **FACE MASKS FOR CHRISTMAS –**

We are making two different styles of face masks in Christmas designs. Please let us know your choice of style either A or J. (Shown by the pictures.) and place your orders to Jane (01483 274319) All donations to St Nicolas Church.



# Virtual Christingle Service in Cranleigh

**Sunday  
13<sup>th</sup>  
December  
4pm**



Make your own  
Christingle at home!

**Sign up** by the **25<sup>th</sup>**  
**of November** to  
receive a hand  
delivered pack



The  
Children's  
Society

Contact Gabrielle: 07427 748408/  
[Gabrielle@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk](mailto:Gabrielle@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk)  
For more info/ to sign up!

**DID YOU KNOW YOU MAY BE ABLE TO WATCH OUR LIVESTREAMED SERVICES ON YOUR TV?** *Please note: this will only work if you have an internet TV or similar, OR a TV satellite box, such as Sky or Virgin:* If you have a 'Smart TV': Once the recording starts on the YouTube screen, hover the mouse over the picture. Some controls come up at the bottom of the screen. One looks like a square with three quarter circles in the bottom left-hand corner of the square: that is the 'play on TV' button. Click on that, and any available and compatible internet TV's will be listed. Many do not have one such. BUT many people have a satellite box, such as Sky or other internet service. *These also will come up on the list.* So, select a device, TV, or satellite box connected to your TV, and that sends the recording and sound (also called 'casting') straight to your TV. Normal TV or satellite remote controls should then work. Try it! And enjoy our services on your regular TV.

**CRANLEIGH LIONS:** Do visit the newly established Cranleigh Lions weekly market stall, where you will find a wide selection of donated items that are being sold to raise funds to help those in need in our community. They have new additions every week and some great present ideas, ranging from Bird Boxes to Books and Bikes and Beyond!

**TRAI DCRAFT:** Sue Knight is offering Traidcraft goods for sale by appointment or would be willing to deliver to Cranleigh on receipt of an order. She will have catalogues or you can go on line at [traidcraftshop.co.uk](http://traidcraftshop.co.uk) to see the whole range and if she has to order it in, this usually takes about a week. You can pay for any orders by BACS or she will accept cheques. Call Sue on 275032 or 07950 025137.

**PAYING MONEY TO THE CHURCH:** If you wish to pay any monies to St Nicolas, cheques should be made payable to 'Cranleigh PCC.'

Please send notices for next week to Margie Nursey at  
1, Elm Cottages, Smithwood Common (01483 273693)  
notices@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk by **7pm on Tuesday**

## **KEEP IN TOUCH:**

**The Rector - Revd Canon Roy Woodhams**  
*(Day off: Monday)*

**Tel: 01483 800655. Email: roy@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk**

**The Curate - Revd Tim Clifford Hill**  
*(Day off: Monday)*

**Tel: 01483 276267. Email: tim@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk**

**The Part time Curate - Revd Rutton Viccajee**  
*(Works Wednesday, Friday, Sunday)*

**Tel: 01252 910212. Email: rutton@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk**

**Interim Administrator - Nicola Craven-Smith**  
*(Works Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 9.30-2.30)*

**Tel: 01483 273620. Email: nicola@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk**

**Young People's Minister - Gabrielle Clarke**

**Tel: 07427 748408. Email: gabrielle@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk**

**Church Website: [www.stnicolascranleigh.org.uk](http://www.stnicolascranleigh.org.uk)  
and on Facebook.**