



St Nicolas Church, Cranleigh
4th Sunday of Advent
Sunday 22nd December 2024

THIS WEEK:

Sunday 22nd December (4th Sunday in Advent)

8am: Holy Communion (CW)

10am: All Age Communion (including nativity)

6pm: Village Carol Service

**Last day to collect cards from the Church Christmas Post Box!
Any not collected will be recycled on Monday 23rd December**

Tuesday 24th December (Christmas Eve)

12noon: Holy Communion (BCP)

3.30pm: Crib Service

5.30pm: Crib Service

11pm: Midnight Communion

Wednesday 25th December (Christmas Day)

8am: Holy Communion (CW)

10am: Family Carols

Sunday 29th December (1st Sunday of Christmas)

8am: Holy Communion (BCP)

10am: Parish Communion

COLLECT:

God our redeemer, who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son: grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour, so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our judge; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

or

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.

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.

FIRST READING: *Micah 5.2-5a*

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,
who are one of the little clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to rule in Israel,
whose origin is from of old,
from ancient days.

Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labour has brought forth;
then the rest of his kindred shall return
to the people of Israel.

And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord,
in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.

And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great
to the ends of the earth;
and he shall be the one of peace.

If the Assyrians come into our land
and tread upon our soil,
we will raise against them seven shepherds
and eight installed as rulers.

GOSPEL READING: *Luke 1.39-45*

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her

womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.'

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.

SEASONAL PREFACE:

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:

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.

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:

- In the Anglican cycle of Prayer – The Church of the Province of Uganda
- For Archbishop Justin and those with the responsibility of appointing a new Archbishop of Canterbury
- In the Diocese – for all the churches in the Diocese this Christmas time
- In the Parish – for everyone in our parish this Christmas, especially for those who find Christmas difficult for any reason.

National and World Affairs:

- For peace in the world, for an end to hostility in the Middle East, Ukraine and Russia and South Sudan. And for stability in Syria
- For a solution to the migrant crisis in the English Channel

Community and Family:

- For those who live in Trelawne Drive and Ashtrees
- For our pets, for the joy and comfort they can bring.

The Sick and those in Need:

- Helen Allen, Jane Bloss, Claire Curry, Jean Dodd, Jane Hancock, Tricia Hislop, Jack Lewis, Jean Quallington, Val Thorogood, Val, Jeremy Watts, Elizabeth Weller
- *(And for those with long-term prayer needs):* Baby Atticus and his parents Clare and Alex, Neil Charman, David, Peggy Davis, Stella Goldsmith, James Goudie, Jane, Bryn Jones, Kirsty, Lottie Lack, Amy Loveless, Sheila McSorley, Mo, Judy Murdoch, Libby O'Brien, Brian Pettyfer, Sheelagh Poole, Ron Reynolds, Peggy Ringshall, Martin Root, Steff Shepherd, Sheila Smith, Dolores Spurgeon, Bert Steed, Marilyn Wood.

The Departed:

- All we have known and loved, who have left us through the years, and especially at this time Tom Avery, Denise Banks, John Caiger, Margaret Hymas and Philip MacNeice.

WEEKLY NOTICES:

NATIVITY FESTIVAL Thank you to everyone who helped in any way to make the Nativity festival so successful, the contributors, the cafe team, the people who so generously donated to the hampers, the flower arrangers, the stewards, the men who did all the heavy lifting setting it up and taking it down and Roy for all the music, and Erik and Roy who were there much of the time. Finally to all of you who came and supported it. All monies raised will go to the upkeep of the church. Jane, Katherine, Nicola and Sandra

CHURCH OFFICE CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR CLOSURE Tuesday 24th December until Thursday 2nd January.

SHORT TERM ACCOMODATION SOUGHT for a someone who is starting a new job working at Winkworth Arboretum. The young lady is Sister of Gabrielle Clarke's fiancée. If you are interested, please speak to The Rector.

NEW YEAR'S DAY WALK WITH BRING & SHARE LUNCH Wednesday 1st January 2025

Meet at the Church Rooms 10.30 am for a local walk, returning by 12.30 for lunch. Homemade Soup is especially popular, crusty bread provided. Bring food to share, finger food, savoury and sweet.

Non walkers are very welcome to join in the feast. Please come!

Soup makers please phone Barbara Pearson 273724 or email gbpearson@talktalk.net

WHITE ENVELOPES for weekly donations 2025 will be available at the back of the Church during December. Should anyone be unable to collect them, please contact Frank Sole on 01483 278273 to arrange delivery.

SEWING GROUP Join us for fun and friendship every Monday morning in St Andrews room 10am-12noon. No previous experience of sewing or knitting is needed so do come along and have a go, or just come along and enjoy a warm drink and good company! Everyone is welcome.



MOTHERS UNION: We have a thriving Mothers' Union which meets on the second Wednesday of each month. Anyone is most welcome – contact Jane Etherington on 01483 274319 / etheringtonjane@yahoo.co.uk for more information



DONATIONS: You can make an online donation in support of church funds by visiting the [website](#), clicking on the red button or scanning the QR code.



Calling all Children this Christmas!

Come and join us for our Christmas Eve Crib Services as we place the characters from the nativity into our nativity scene.

Coming in costume is both welcomed and encouraged!
We'd love to see the church filled with angels and shepherds, alongside our visiting real donkey!



Village Carol Service

Sunday 22nd December at 6pm

St Nicolas, Cranleigh



All are welcome to join us for our
traditional service of
'Nine Lessons and Carols'



KEEP IN TOUCH:

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

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

Curate - Revd Erik Heemsker (*Day off: Monday*)

Tel: 07368 871589. Email: erik@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk

Administrator – Nicola Craven-Smith

(*Works Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9.30-2.30*)

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

Discovery Church – Claire Oxborough

Tel: 01483 277359. Email: claireoxborough@hotmail.com

Safeguarding Officer – Brian Boxall

Tel: 01483 277069. Email: brian.boxall@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk

Diocesan Safeguarding Team

Tel: 01483 790379. Email: safeguarding@cofeguildford.org.uk

Church Website: www.stnicolascranleigh.org.uk

Do you have a question about faith or the church? Or would you just like to get to know us better? Roy and Erik are always very happy to meet for a cup of coffee, tea, or a pint, just get in touch with us using our contact details above!