



St Nicolas Church, Cranleigh

1st Sunday of Advent

Sunday 1st December 2024

THIS WEEK:

Sunday 1st December (1st Sunday of Advent)

8am: Holy Communion (BCP)

10am: All Age Worship

12noon: Baptism of Sophia Richards

6pm: Advent Carol Service

Monday 2nd December

10am: Sewing & Knitting Group (in church rooms)

Tuesday 3rd December

10am: Elmbridge Holy Communion

12noon: Holy Communion (BCP)

Wednesday 4th December

2pm: Cedar Court

6pm: Advent Reflections with Bishop Paul

Thursday 5th December

10am: Time for Prayer

6pm: Longacre Carol Service

Friday 6th December

10am: Little Nic's Toddlers (in church rooms)

Saturday 7th December

12.30pm: Wedding of Stephen Milne and Nicole Hutchinson

4pm: Family Film (Nativity!) in church

Sunday 8th December (2nd Sunday of Advent –

St Nicolas Patronal Festival)

8am: Holy Communion (CW)

10am: Parish Communion with Toy 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.

or

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.

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: *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.' 'I am the Alpha and the Omega', says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

GOSPEL READING: *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.’

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:

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.

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 – Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan
- For Archbishop Justin and those with the responsibility of appointing a new Archbishop of Canterbury
- In the Diocese – for all the clergy across the diocese as they enter this time of preparation for Advent and Christmas.
- In the Parish – we give thanks for Richard, Katherine and Margie for once again installing and decorating our church Christmas tree ready for Advent.

National and World Affairs:

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

Community and Family:

- For those who live in Horsham Road and Redcroft Walk
- For the work of Justice Charity and all those who work towards a fairer society.

The Sick and those in Need:

- Jane Bloss, Neil Charman, Claire Curry, Jean Dodd, Pam Dorling, Jane and Peter Hancock, Tricia Hislop, Jack Lewis, Judy Murdoch, Jean Quallington, Tom, Val Thorogood, Val, Jeremy Watts, Elizabeth Weller
- *(And for those with long-term prayer needs):* Baby Atticus and his parents Clare and Alex, David, Peggy Davis, Stella Goldsmith, James Goudie, Jane, Bryn Jones, Kirsty, Lottie Lack, Amy Loveless, Sheila McSorley, Mo, 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, thinking especially of Evi Cornford and Daisy Elder.

WEEKLY NOTICES:

RAFFLE TICKETS ON SALE at coffee after services, and various other services throughout the month – please do buy tickets for our hamper raffle which will be drawn at our Nativity Festival.

We will also have a lucky squares board, where you buy squares for £1 each to be in with a chance of winning £50!

SIGN UP SHEETS are now at the back of church for volunteers to steward and provide refreshments at our Nativity Festival. Please do sign up if you can offer a couple of hours of your time to help make this event run smoothly.

CHRISTMAS CARDS Our 'in church post box' is back again this year. The boxes will be on a table at the back of church from 1st December. Please remember everyone who participates is responsible for posting and

collecting their own cards. The scheme will finish on 23rd December. Any cards left in the boxes will be recycled.

WEEKLY OPEN THE BOOK UPDATE Each week we will try and let you know which schools Open the Book visiting, and the stories they are telling the children in the assemblies. Any prayers for us would be very welcome.

This week -

Tuesday 3rd December – **Park Mead** with the story of The Annunciation

Thursday 5th December - **St Cuthbert Mayne** with the story of the Annunciation

If you are interested in knowing more about Open the Book, please email Steff on steff.shepherd@Biblesociety.org.uk.

WHATSAPP GROUP There is a Church WhatsApp group called Church is the people! which is a great way to stay in touch with your brothers and sisters throughout the week! It is often used for important updates, prayer requests, and during the Posada we will follow the journey of Mary and Joseph through many houses and other places in Cranleigh with pictures shared on this group. If you don't want to miss out on this and many other exciting things our WhatsApp group offers, please ask Nicola (nicola@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk) to add you to the group!

PRAYING BY HEART I have just finished reading (and re-reading) a little book written by Stephen Cottrell, the Archbishop of York, and published earlier this year. 'Praying by Heart' is a book about the Lord's Prayer, written 'for Everyone', in a way that is accessible and full of insight. It places the Lord's Prayer at the heart of all our prayers – for ourselves, for one another and for the world around us. I would strongly recommend it to anyone who would like to learn more about prayer. 'Praying by Heart' is a hardback costing £14.99 and is available from Eden.co.uk, on line or telephone 0345 222 3336. Paul Jenkins

MENS GROUP Our Men's Group meets once a month to share food, enjoy social time together and have good conversations together! Our next meeting is Friday 6th of December at 7pm! This time we'll be hosted by James at Winterfold Farm, the food is still to be decided but will be very good (let us know if you have any allergies/dietary requirements). Please

do let erik@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk know if you'd like to have more information and if you want to sign up. Each night about 15-20 men with an age range from roughly 17 to 89, so whatever your age, you will be very welcome!

MARION ROUNDHILL I am in touch with Marion and she sends greetings to all her friends in Cranleigh. She had a hip replacement on 26th Nov and all seems to be going well but, as expected, there is a lot of pain. Win Bracking

CELEBRATION OF CHRISTMAS for those living with Dementia / Frailty or memory impairment and their Carers. Monday December 9th at 2.30-3.30pm in St Nicolas Church. We hope our Memory Lane Team will also come along to share in this short, joyous occasion designed to be very accessible to all.

We are excited for you to join us! Please respond to let us know you that plan attend at mamwild@aol.com or phone 01483 274398

VOLUNTEERS needed to go on the coffee rota.

Single volunteers will be paired up with another experienced volunteer, so please do not be put off by not having done it before! Please contact Lesley if you can help

lesley.thomas@aol.co.uk / 274798

VOLUNTEERS needed to help with church cleaning. If you think you can help please contact Celia on 01483548824

MEMORY LANE Welcomes back the Wintershall Singers to entertain and enjoy tea and cakes with guests tomorrow.

Then on the following Monday, there will be the special "Celebration of Christmas" at 2.30pm in church when everyone is welcome to the Christmas joy arranged by Dr Susan Tresman, followed by tea, cakes and hot mince pies ! For catering purposes, it would be helpful if those who



haven't yet indicated they are coming, could just let us know on 01483 274398 or Email: mamwild@aol.com.

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.



ADVENT CAROL SERVICE

Sunday 1st December
6pm

Words and Music
to start the Advent season



O Come Emmanuel

Reflections on the Advent Antiphons

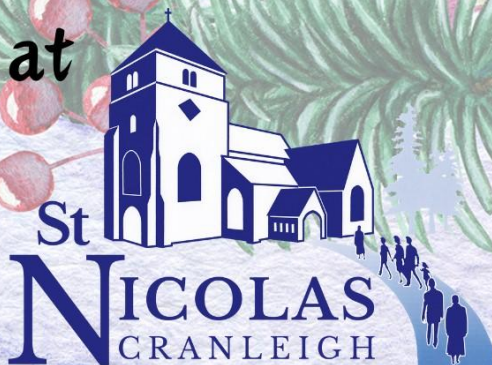
with

Rt Rev'd Paul Davies
Bishop of Dorking



Wednesdays at 6pm
4th, 11th & 18th December

at





CHRISTMAS



FAMILY FILM

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7TH

START: 4 PM

St
NICOLAS
CRANLEIGH

**BRING A CUSHION, SNACK AND DRINK AND JOIN
US FOR A FREE SCREENING OF NATIVITY!**



NATIVITY FESTIVAL

Come and see our Church full of
Christmas Displays

**Thursday 12th December to
Monday 16th December
10am-6pm**

**Festive Refreshments
Children's Activities
Craft Stalls (Saturday Only)**



**Favourite Display, as voted by the public, will be
revealed at our Closing Carols on Monday 16th, 5pm.**

Everyone welcome!

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!