

Sunday 16th November 2025
Second Sunday before Advent
Safeguarding Sunday

- 8.00 a.m. BCP Communion
10.00 a.m. Morning Worship with Children's Church
4.00 p.m. Tea Time Church
5.30 p.m. Youth Group

Collect for Today

Heavenly Lord, you long for the world's salvation: stir us from apathy, restrain us from excess and revive in us new hope that all creation will one day be healed in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Service Readings

Malachi 4:1-2a (*p.905*), 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13 (*p.204*) and Luke 21:5-19 (*p.81*)

Please pray for

... Rebecca Brown, Mark & Jan Knott, Jenny Powell and Mike Woodcock.

... the family and friends of Violet Lynn, William Hampshire and Olive Hampshire whose anniversary of death is at this.

... those who live and work in East Meads, Ellis Avenue, Elmbank Avenue and Elmside.

... the Koens family in Papua New Guinea supporting the work of Bible translation through vehicle maintenance, teaching, missionary care.

Post Communion Prayer

Gracious Lord, in this holy sacrament you give substance to our hope: bring us at the last to that fullness of life for which we long; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**

Financial Giving

We take a collection during our services. If you don't give regularly by standing order or the envelope scheme, please put your donation in the bag, tap the card reader on your way out, or use the QR code on the back of this news-sheet. Thank you.

Dear Friends

At the time of Jesus, the Jewish journey of faith saw time as being in two ages. Their “present age” was altogether evil and fit only for destruction. Then there was “the age to come” the golden age of God and Jewish supremacy. In-between came “the day of the Lord” a terrible time of cosmic upheaval, destruction and terror, as the golden age was birthed (Isaiah 13:9-13).

In chapter 21 of Luke’s gospel, Jesus used this imagery of His day to predict both the fall of Jerusalem, which happened in AD 70 after a desperate siege by the Romans, and His own second coming, something we recall each time we recite the Apostles’ Creed.

So, what about our present-day journey of faith? Are we nearly there yet? Is the end in sight?

Every so often we come across passages of scripture that remind us that, ultimately, the Old World must end, before the New World can begin. Since Luke’s gospel was written, there’ve been many human predictions about the end of the world. I remember the man who, for many years, used to wander along Oxford Street carrying his billboard proclaiming, “The end of the world is nigh”. Then there was that scare in the 80’s when a geomungos asteroid appeared to be on a collision course with Earth, scientists actually predicted life on Earth might end at 6.30pm on October 2028. The bookies even took bets on it, though I’m not sure how anyone expected to collect their winnings!

Or are present day climate denials and escalating armed conflicts around the world the “dreadful portents and great signs from heaven” (Luke 21:11) we should be alert to? Can we ever know when the Old World will end? Even Jesus didn’t. But Jesus is not saying any of this to scare us. He wants us to know that even something as frightening as the end of the world, is still in God’s good hands. So that when the cosmos collapses and every light in the sky is put out, we can hold fast to a sure belief that God is sovereign over darkness as well as light.

Revd Paul Fenner

Mission Focus for November: Clare and Andrew Koens, Papua New Guinea

Clare and Andrew Koens provide support to the Wycliffe Bible translators in Papua New Guinea. One of Andrew’s tasks is looking after the motorbikes (including “the Jesus Video Bike” pictured in November’s magazine) used by the translators to access villages and deliver hymnbooks, bibles and school supplies. Clare works in staff care, parent coaching and education. Their children Levi, Heidi and Eowyn are at school – please pray that more teachers can come so a full curriculum can be offered at their school. wycliffe.org.uk/.

Notices

Bonfire & Fireworks Event: A big thank you to Simon Moulden, Jo Smalley and all who helped to make the event so special. It was great to welcome so many people from our community and to enjoy such a special evening together. We've made over £3800 profit, which is so valuable to the church.

Tea Time Church: at 4pm this afternoon, Jo Dwyer will be leading with a theme of "Stand Firm. God is with us even when life is hard." Come along to learn more!

Youth Group TONIGHT: we meet in the hall between 5.30pm and 7.30pm for games, chat and food. Open to all secondary age children. Please let Jeanette know if you'd like to come (if you haven't already!)

Interment of Julie Banks' ashes: This will take place in the Garden of Remembrance here at All Saints, on Thursday 20th November at 3pm. All welcome.

Mental Health Foundation Fundraising Concert: Saturday 22nd November at 3pm. Michelle and students and alumni from the University of Surrey will be performing here at All Saints. The concert will be a fusion of classical and pop performers who are studying or have graduated from the Music and Media school. There will also be a bake and art sale in the hall from 2pm. Please support Michelle and this charity by buying tickets here: forms.gle/L1Lzdgit9pvuwJZV9 (where you can also read Michelle's reasons for raising funds for this charity). Alternatively, if you can't make it and would like to donate, please visit this link:

www.justgiving.com/page/supportingmichellewtfundraisingconcert.

Board Games, Jigsaws and Tea at Dray Court: Sunday 23rd November, 4.00-5.30pm. Do join us at Dray Court for fun and tea! If you'd be happy to make some cakes for this occasion or can bring some games/puzzles, please let Beverly know. It would be great to support the residents of Dray Court at this dark time of year.

Guildford Food Bank: During November we will be collecting items for the Guildford Food Bank. In December they are expecting to support over 400 client households, which is double the number they saw in December 2022! Please bring your donations to the box provided in church. The items they need this time are: sharing boxes of chocolates or sweets, bags or boxes of sharing savoury snacks, gift toiletries, tinned meat, tinned fish, laundry detergent, dried flavoured noodles, toothpaste. Thank you!

Advent Sunday, 30th November: We'll be lighting our advent candles, beginning the journey towards Christmas.

Diary for the Coming Week

Morning prayer Mon, Tues and Weds 9.15am in the Reading Room and on Zoom. Thurs Holy Communion at 9.30am in the Reading Room.

- Mon 17th Pastoral Team Meeting, 5 Elmside, 10.00am
Hear Here Clinic, Reading Room, 2.00pm-3.00pm
- Tues 18th Vision Group Chairs Meeting, Vicarage, 12.30pm
Altogether Worship Planning, Vicarage, 7.30pm
- Weds 19th Dray Court Service, 2.30pm
Parish Support Group for Andy Wells, Vicarage, 6.00pm
Sharing & Learning Group, 5 Elmside, 7.45pm
- Thurs 20th Holy Communion, Reading Room, 9.30am,
Interment of Julie Banks' ashes, Garden of Remembrance,
3.00pm
Choir Rehearsal, 8.00pm
- Fri 21st Baby & Toddler Group, Church, 10.00am
- Sat 22nd Michelle's fundraising bake and art sale, Church Hall, 2.00pm
followed by the concert in church, 3.00pm
- Sun 23rd Church Family Communion with Children's Church, 10.00am
Big Build Team Meeting, Reading Room, 11.30am
Board Games, puzzles and tea, Dray Court, 4.00pm-5.30pm

Daily Readings for the coming week

- Mon 17th Ps. 47, Isaiah 9:8-10:4, Matthew 7:1-12
- Tues 18th Ps. 52, Isaiah 10:5-19, Matthew 7:13-end
- Weds 19th Ps. 56, Isaiah 10:20-32, Matthew 8:1-13
- Thurs 20th Ps. 62, Isaiah 10:33-11:9, Matthew 8:14-22
- Fri 21st Ps. 63, Isaiah 11:10-end of 12, Matthew 8:23-end
- Sat 22nd Ps. 78:1-39, Isaiah 13:1-13, Matthew 9:1-17

Service Readings for Sunday 23rd November: next before Advent and Christ the King

Jeremiah 23:1-6, Colossians 1:11-20 and Luke 23:33-42

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