

St John's with Holy Trinity, Ryde

Where *All* are Welcome



6th December 2020

2nd Sunday of Advent

For health and safety reasons we regret that St John's church building is currently closed for public worship. Please check our facebook page and website for up to date information

Our **10am Holy Communion service this Sunday** will be in **Oakfield School Hall**.

Entry will be via the school car park which is accessed from the bottom of Malborough Road.

The car park is available for our use.

Please keep to the paths and follow social distancing guidelines. Tier 1 Covid guidelines require us to wear a mask indoors, to use the hand sanitiser provided and to complete a Track and Trace register.

The 'rule of 6' still applies.

Midweek (Thursday) Communion will take place from 10th Dec in the **Church Hall at 10.30am** with the same guideline requirements

Maranatha!

Maranatha!

Open our eyes
to the dignity of all people
And our ears to the cries of the earth.

Maranatha!

Let us walk in solidarity with the poor
And cleanse our world from oppression.

Maranatha!

Let us shout out for justice for all
And renew our hope for change.

Maranatha!

The Lord is coming
Let us share the Good News!

Amen.

Sue Cooper cafod.org.uk

Online services

You can share in a service of **Spiritual Communion from All Saints Ryde** on their website here:

<https://www.rydeallsaints.org.uk/>

This is a pre-recorded service and is available from 9am on a Sunday.

or join **Portsmouth Cathedral** live on Sunday at 11.00am

<https://www.facebook.com/portsmouthcathedral/>

2 Peter 3.8–15a

⁸ Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. ⁹ The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. ¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed. ¹¹ Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, ¹² waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? ¹³ But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. ¹⁴ Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; ¹⁵ and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

The other readings for today are
Isaiah 40.1–11 and Psalm 85. 8–13

Mark 1.1–8

¹ The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. ² As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, ‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; ³ the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: “Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,”’ ⁴ John the baptiser appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵ And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptised by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶ Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷ He proclaimed, ‘The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸ I have baptised you with water; but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.’

Collect: Almighty God, purify our hearts and minds, that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as judge and saviour we may be ready to receive him, who is our Lord and our God.

Thought for the Day
By Bevaly Rackett

John the Baptist came with the message that someone was coming who was going to change the world. Indeed, that that someone had already come. The Jews had been waiting for a Messiah for a long time as many of the prophets tell. They were expecting someone who would overthrow their Roman oppressors and return them to their rightful place.

Of course, we now know that Jesus really did change the whole world, but not in the way they were expecting.

The pandemic this year has also changed our whole world. It has meant we have had to stay home instead of visiting people and places we love. Having to learn new ways of engaging with worship and meetings and shopping. Wearing masks, washing hands and keeping space from those around us. When we prayed that God would change the world this was not what we were expecting!

And yet, it has given us time and space to think about how we live our lives. Do we really need all that travel on transport that pollutes our atmosphere? Can we get more of we need from local businesses? What is really important to our mental and physical wellbeing?

John's message is still as important today. God loves us and has sent His son as our Saviour to wash away our sins with his blood, and to fill us with his Holy Spirit. If we come to him, by faith, we will be saved, forgiven and forever changed.

Thought for the Day continued...

We may not be able to worship all together at the moment, we may not be able to worship in our St John's church building but changing the world is what our hands-on God does and He is with us wherever we are.

So, as we once again prepare to celebrate the birth of our Lord God as a human baby, coming to live alongside us, to offer each one of us His salvation and show us how living in His love can bring about His kingdom, we can be sure that even though the world has changed we are still in God's hands, held in His loving care and still very blessed by His presence with us.

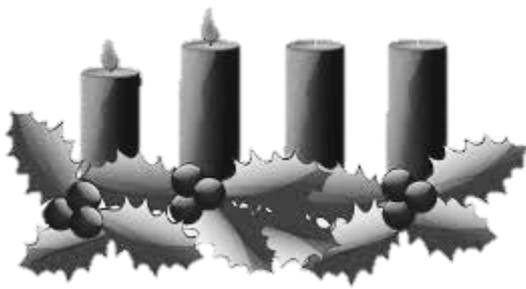
I Am A New Creation

[I am a new creation - YouTube](#)

I am a new creation,
No more in condemnation,
Here in the grace of God I stand.
My heart is overflowing,
My love just keeps on growing,
Here in the grace of God I stand.

And I will praise you, Lord,
Yes, I will praise you, Lord,
And I will sing of all
that you have done.

A joy that knows no limit,
A lightness in my spirit,
Here in the Grace of God I stand.



Advent Candle Song

(Tune: Angel voices ever singing)

**Advent candles tell their story
as we watch and pray,
longing for the Day of Glory,
'Come, Lord, soon,' we say.
Pain and sorrow, tears and sadness
changed for gladness on that Day.**

**Prophet voices loudly crying,
making pathways clear;
glimpsing glory, self-denying,
calling all to hear.**

**Through their message –
challenged, shaken –
hearts awaken: God is near!**

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Prayers of Intercession

By Margaret Jessop

Ever loving Lord, on this the feast day
of your servant St. Nicholas we pray
for the children of this country and of
the world. For did You not say, 'Suffer
the little children to come unto Me'.
For those born to comfort and
security; and those who have not.
For those born to love and belonging;
and those who have not.
For those born to peace and
happiness; and those who have not.
For those born to violence and abuse;

and those who have not.
For those born to education and
aspiration; and those who have not.
For those born with food to eat; and
those who have not. For all.
Regardless of colour or creed for they
are all equally precious to You.

We pray especially for the children of
this country. As we look forward to
the Christmas season we remember
all who are in need. For those families
who have no home. Who lack for the
very basics of a comfortable life.
Make us ashamed that in a rich
country so many have so little. Give
your church the courage and
persistence to work to change that
situation. To hold those in authority
to account for not doing enough to
help all those who struggle just to
live.

At this time of pandemic we pray for
children in households where there is
illness particularly here in Ryde.
Comfort them and keep them free
from fear and anxiety. And we pray
especially for those who have asked
for our prayers...

We pray for the children of homes
which have been touched by the
death of someone that they love.
Give those who care for them the
sensitivity to help them make sense
of their loss. We pray especially for
the families of Matthew Fox and
Graham Dyer and we remember
Margaret Banister (Mon), Gordon

Hearne (Tue), Bridget Woodford (Wed), Margaret Sibbick (Thu), and Rev Noel Toogood (Sat).

Loving Father who came to us as a child, remind us that children are the seed corn of the future. That we should look to the careful sowing before we can reap the harvest. And at this time as we look forward to your birth at Bethlehem help us to ensure that all children can have not just a merry Christmas but also a merry future.

Come, Lord Jesus, do not delay; give new courage to your people, who trust in your love.

By your coming, raise us to share in the joy of your kingdom on earth as in heaven, where you live and reign with the Father and the Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen

Notices and Information

Pray for Ryde has now resumed the original pattern of prayers on zoom on Monday evenings only at 7pm and a short united service on the 4th Sunday of the month at 7pm (the next being 27th Dec) The link if you would like to join us occasionally or regularly is:

<https://zoom.us/j/96569728174?pwd=eVBXckx5RE1pU0I3Y3FnWXBwZGRidz09>

Our Advent Study Groups continue (on zoom and in the Hall) on **Thursdays** (10th and 17th) at 11.30am and on **Mondays** (7th, 14th and 21st)

from 7.20pm. All resources provided. Each Monday and Thursday session will cover the same content and you can swap between the two. Everyone is welcome. Contact us via stjohnschurchryde@gmail.com if you would like to join us.

Sides people needed: The move from our own church building to sharing premises with Oakfield School will bring many advantages, but also require additional organizing. While we were 'between lockdowns', our wonderful churchwardens, Val and David, have taken on the role of Sides person; to support them in future, we must help them. We are looking for **volunteers** to become a small team who will carry out the usual duties of meeting and greeting the congregation as well as some additional responsibilities.

The team would have to arrive at the school, at least 30 minutes before the start of the service. If possible (not compulsory) help with setting out 'socially distanced' chairs would be appreciated. They will need to put out the hand sanitizer and to collect every one's details for the 'track and trace' system. After the service, they would, if possible, help to put chairs away and leave the hall tidy for the school to use again on Monday.

If you can help, please speak to Linda Brooke, Rev Sue or a church warden.

Reverse Advent Calendar in aid of the Foodbank. Please leave donations in the bags provided. Next week we will be collecting for lunch: Tea, coffee, squash, soup, baked beans, tinned spaghetti, sponge or rice pudding, tinned fish, biscuits and pet food, plus any Christmas items. Please make sure that food items have long use by dates. It is especially needed this year as so many have lost jobs or are living on reduced wages.

The Parish Office is open on
Wednesday mornings
Telephone 01983 564433

We can be contacted by email:
rev.sue.stjohnsryde@gmail.com
stjohnschurchryde@gmail.com
or by 'phone

Priest in Charge: Rev Sue Theobald
Tel: 01983 617174

Assistant Curate: Rev. Dion Mabey
Tel: 07596147561

Readers:

Mike & Linda Brooke – 614424
Bevaly Rackett – 407432

www.achurchnearyou.com

Follow us on facebook for up to date
information:

<https://www.facebook.com/stjohnsryde>

If you or anyone you know is struggling with their mental health these numbers may be helpful. These are difficult times - **you do not have to be at breaking point to ask for help.**

Shout is the UK's first 24/7 text service, free on all major mobile networks, for anyone in crisis anytime, anywhere. It's a place to go if you're struggling to cope and you need immediate help. Text: 85258

Samaritans - Provides confidential, non-judgemental emotional support for people experiencing feelings of distress or despair, including those that could lead to suicide. You can phone, email, write a letter or in most cases talk to someone face to face. Telephone: 116 123 (24 hours a day, free to call.)

Isle of Wight Council Helpline

The council's helpline remains open for anyone that needs additional support. Call (01983) 823600 between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday, and between 10am and 3pm at weekends for support. You can also email contact.centre@iow.gov.uk

Don't forget that just picking up the 'phone and calling a friend can be the thing which helps to get you and them through the day 😊

Weekly News Sheet: Please send any items for the news sheet to Bevaly Rackett by **Wed 2pm.**
Tel: 407432 email: bevalyrackett@hotmail.com

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CHRISTMAS AT ST JOHN'S

Sadly, for health and safety reasons we are unable to gather in the church building for the foreseeable future.

However, we are delighted to be able to worship in Oakfield Primary School.

We are planning to hold the following services:

Christmas **C**arol **S**ervice

Sunday 20th Dec at 6.30pm*

Christmas **E**ve

Communion - 10.30am - in the Church Hall

Nativity Service - 4pm*

"Midnight in Bethlehem" Communion - 9.30pm*

Christmas **D**ay

Family Communion Service - 10am

It is possible that plans may have to change, so check on



'St John's and Holy Trinity Ryde' @stjohnsryde

or

Look us up on www.achurchnearyou.com

* These will require (free) pre-booking - contact us on

01983 564433 or 617174

PLEASE DO NOT CONTACT THE SCHOOL