



Serving the community of Bedhampton by sharing God's love and friendship

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

Third Sunday before Advent: Remembrance

### **Collect**

Almighty Father, whose will is to restore all things in your beloved Son, the king of all: govern the hearts and minds of those in authority, and bring the families of the nations, divided and torn apart by the ravages of sin, to be subject to his just and gentle rule; who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

### **Rector's Reflection**

If you speak to my wife Suzy, she will tell you that I was late for our wedding. I am not so sure that I was late but certainly she may have been early. My best man and I were in the White Hart having one last drink and playing pool before the big moment. There were two issues with that: firstly, we were rubbish at pool, and it took a while to complete the game and secondly, we were too distracted to notice Suzy's car arriving at the church just two hundred yards down the road. It is easy to be so distracted with all that is going on that we miss the important things in life. This weekend we could be distracted with the lock down and miss the opportunity to thank those who have served us, some with the greatest of sacrifices. However, that will not happen, we will remember them. It is also possible that we could be too distracted to recognise what God has done for us, in the greatest sacrifice. However, that will not happen, we will remember him. As we do that let me ask you to not be too distracted to reach out to your neighbour. Love God, yes, but love God in taking action and loving his people where you live.

**[www.facebook.com/BedhamptonNews](https://www.facebook.com/BedhamptonNews) - [www.Bedhampton.church](http://www.Bedhampton.church)**

## **Services This Sunday - Sunday 8th November**

**[www.Bedhampton.tv](http://www.Bedhampton.tv)**

**10.50am Online - Remembrance**

Reading 1: 1 Thessalonians 4.13-18

Reading 2: Matthew 25:1-13

**Sunday Worship Online - [www.Bedhampton.tv](http://www.Bedhampton.tv)**

Available from Sunday online or by phone on 023 9387 7789

## **What's On This Week**

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November**

8am Parish Prayer: Zoom 997 4841 5600 & [Bedhampton.church/prayer](http://Bedhampton.church/prayer)

**Zoom Meetings - [www.zoom.us](http://www.zoom.us)**

Zoom meeting software is available for Microsoft, Apple or Android. You can also call 0203 481 5240 and enter the meeting ID when asked.

## **Dates For Your Diary**

**Next Planned Physical Services**

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December 9am, St. Nicholas' Church, Holy Communion.

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December 11am, St. Thomas' Church, Holy Communion.

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December 9.30am, St. Thomas' Church, Holy Communion.

**Christmas Unwrapped (Zoom Meeting)**

2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> December 7.30pm – 8.30pm. A video and discussion-based journey through Advent. Contact the parish office to sign up.

**The Christmas Experience**

12<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> December 3pm – 6pm in the grounds of St. Thomas' Church. Who are you going to invite?

**The Alpha Course**

Late January 2021 - An open and informal dialogue about faith. Who are you going to invite?

**[www.Bedhampton.church/book](http://www.Bedhampton.church/book) & 023 9248 3013**

### **The Archbishops' Call To Prayer**

Following is an extract from a letter sent by Archbishops Justin Welby and Stephen Cottrell.

“Bearing in mind our primary vocation as the Church of Jesus Christ to pray and to serve we call upon the Church of England to make this month of lockdown a month of prayer. More than anything else, whatever the nation thinks, we know that we are in the faithful hands of the risen Christ who knows our weaknesses, tiredness and struggles and whose steadfast love endures for ever.

Above all we recall people to some of the fundamental spiritual disciplines that shape our Christian life... During this second lockdown we invite you to fast in a way appropriate to you as well as pray for our nation every Thursday, for its leaders, its health and essential services and all those who suffer.

In one of the climactic passages of the New Testament, Paul says to those who follow Christ that their “love must be genuine, that they hate what is evil and hold fast to what is good.” He asks them to “serve the lord”, exhorting them to “rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.” (See Romans 12.9-12.) None of this is easy. Especially not at the moment. But it is our calling.

### **Christmas 2020**

Christmas is going to be very different this year, but we will celebrate the birth of Jesus. In particular we are going to have ‘The Christmas Experience’, 3pm – 6pm between 12<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> December. In the grounds of St Thomas’, we are placing scenes from the nativity journey. There will be an opportunity to take photos, use your mobile to hear the story and listen to carols as you journey with Mary and Joseph towards the stable in Bethlehem. Who are you going to invite to experience the journey?

### **Public Services**

Currently we are unable to hold physical services until 2<sup>nd</sup> December. However every week there is an online service available on Facebook or our website.

### **Open Church**

St Thomas’ on Bidbury Lane is open for private prayer from 9am – 4pm every weekday. Please follow the guidance indicated on the sheet available to you as you enter.

### **Food Bank**

Drop food in the Food Bank bins at Asda, Tesco and Waitrose or in the black box by the front door at The Rectory, Bidbury Lane.

## Services Next Week - Sunday 15th November

[www.Bedhampton.tv](http://www.Bedhampton.tv)

**Sunday Morning - Matthew: Kingdom come**

Reading 1: 1 Isaiah 53: 1-6

Reading 2: Matthew 8:1-22

## Please Pray For

### Those requesting prayer:

Myra Beard; Cliff Blofield; David Brookes; Chris Deacon; Sarah Gazey; Charlie Harckham; Gisela; Jon & Naomi Gould; Margaret Gray; Margaret & Brian Medway; David Milligan; Marilyn & Bernard Mist; Amelia Norman; Barry Payne; Roy Payne; Peter Slade; Wendy Wilbraham; Ann Williams; Joe; Kathy; Ken & Thelma; Shaun; Sheila.

## Contact Us

### Parish Office:

The office is currently closed.  
Email and phone may still be used.  
[Hello@Bedhampton.church](mailto>Hello@Bedhampton.church)  
023 9248 3013

### Church Leader (Rector):

Rev Max Cross  
Normal day off is Thursday.  
[Max@Bedhampton.church](mailto:Max@Bedhampton.church)  
023 9245 0955