



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

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

Second Sunday before Advent: Matthew: Kingdom Come

### **Collect**

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son was revealed to destroy the works of the devil and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life: grant that we, having this hope, may purify ourselves even as he is pure; that when he shall appear in power and great glory we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

### **Rector's Reflection**

This week in our series from the biography of Jesus we call Matthew, Jesus moves from teaching into practice and demonstrating the Kingdom of God in everyday life. At some point faith needs to move into action otherwise faith is dead, we are told by another teacher of the way of Jesus. It's a challenge not to those who question who Jesus is, but to those who claim to be Christian and follow Jesus. At this moment in history many of us are upset that we cannot meet in our beloved Church buildings and that is a very real hurt. However, looking inward to our community is a place of restoration and preparation, it is not the place we are to spend most of our time. It is difficult to serve the community of Bedhampton by sharing God's love and friendship if we don't at some point turn our eyes outwards towards those who need to hear of that love. Now is our time, and thankfully now is the time we get to see Jesus demonstrate how to see his Kingdom come.

## **Services This Sunday - Sunday 15th November**

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

**8am Online – Matthew: Kingdom Come**

Reading 1: Isaiah 53: 1 - 6

Reading 2: Matthew 8: 1 - 22

**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 18<sup>th</sup> November**

8am Parish Prayer: Zoom 23 9248 3013 & [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**

### 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.

### Annual Meeting

The Minutes and reports of the last annual meeting can be downloaded at [www.bedhampton.church/apcm-2020](http://www.bedhampton.church/apcm-2020)

### Samaritans Purse Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Appeal

The boxes are on their way....

THANK YOU to everyone who has supported this appeal, another chance to help meet the needs of victims of war, poverty, famine disease and natural disaster around the world while sharing the Good news of Jesus and showing that we care.

### Life Groups

Are you a member of a home or life group that meets regularly? One of the things we have learnt in lockdown is these are vital as part of our faith walk. Now is the time to join a group. Some of our groups continue to meet online whilst others have been supporting each other over the phone. Contact Max for more details.

### Christmas 2020

Christmas is not cancelled, we will still 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 phone 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?

### 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.

### Parish Magazine

We do hope that we will be able to deliver the December magazine. However due to current restrictions they may have to be delivered slightly later than usual. There are some back copies of the magazine which can be collected from St Thomas' in Bidbury Lane and all previous magazines can be downloaded from the website at: [bedhampton.church/magazine](http://bedhampton.church/magazine)

### Wednesday Parish Prayer

Join us in praying for God's Kingdom to come in Bedhampton every Wednesday morning. Pray with us, pray on your own, but whatever you do just pray.

## Services Next Week - Sunday 22nd November

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

**Sunday Morning - Matthew: Kingdom come**

Reading 1: Psalm 29

Reading 2: Matthew 8: v 23, 9 v 8.

### Please Pray For

#### Those requesting prayer:

Adeline, 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.

#### The Archbishops' call to prayer

Archbishops Justin Welby and Stephen Cottrell call us to prayer.

“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... 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.

### 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