



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

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2020**

Next before Advent: Matthew: Jesus' Authority

### **Collect**

Eternal Father, whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven that he might rule over all things as Lord and King: keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of peace, and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

### **Rector's Reflection**

How do you understand Jesus? Is he Jesus meek and mild? A loving person but perhaps not someone who when the rubber meets the road you would turn to. Maybe he is Jesus in the manger, no crying he makes. Again, a cute story, but babies are never terribly helpful when trouble raises its ugly head. How we view who Jesus is shapes our expectation of the impact he has in our world and indeed in our life. No one is going to pray for healing, or the eradication of a pandemic and actually expect it to happen if we still view our God stuck in that stable. There are of course many sides of Jesus, as there are with us. Lord, friend, saviour, teacher, brother, the list could go on, and on. This week as we continue our gentle stroll through the Gospel of Matthew, we take a look at the authority Jesus has. We will see his enemies deny he has any authority. We will see his disciples puzzled and ask the question, who is this man? We will rediscover Jesus is God and knowing Jesus has that authority must surely shape our faith. So once again I ask the question, who is Jesus to you?

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

## **Services This Sunday - Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> November**

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

**8am Online – Matthew: Jesus' Authority**

Reading 1: Psalm 29

Reading 2: Matthew 8: v 23 - 9 v 8

**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 25<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 today.

### **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 from 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)

### **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.

### **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.

### **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?

We also need people to volunteer for an hour or two, to direct people as they arrive. If you are able to do that please contact the office asap.

### **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)

## Services Next Week - Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November

[www.Bedhampton.tv](http://www.Bedhampton.tv)  
**Sunday Morning – Advent 1**

Reading 1: Isaiah 64: 1 – 9  
Reading 2: Mark 13: v 24 - 37

### 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