



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

Sunday 6th December 2020

Advent 2

Collect

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever.

Rector's Reflection

Hope and Joy are perhaps not the first words that pop into our minds when we think of the year 2020. So, I wondered, how could our church bring hope and joy this Christmas to the Bedhampton community? Initially I imagined a huge, candlelit carol service where we could belt out carols; a scratch Nativity where we could watch kids enact the Christmas story; a peaceful Midnight Communion; and the chance to celebrate Christ's birth with a Christmas Day service. Then reality kicked in! We cannot sing inside our church buildings. Our Nativity actors would need to be socially distanced if they performed physically together. And our Midnight Communion will now have to be live-streamed into people's homes. Like you, we've had to change our plans for Christmas and it will be a very different Christmas this year. But it will be Christmas, because the hope and joy of the world has not changed, and we will celebrate the birth of Jesus. So to my question. Who are you going to invite to celebrate hope and joy with us this year of all years?

www.facebook.com/BedhamptonNews - www.Bedhampton.church

Services This Sunday - Sunday 6th December

St Nicholas' 9am Holy Communion Advent 2

Reader 1: Sally Tritton
Reading 1: Isaiah 40. 1-11
Reader 2: Service Leader
Reading 2: Mark 1. 1-8
Prayers: Rosalynd Hall

St Thomas' 11am Holy Communion Advent 2

Reader 1: Mike Case
Reading 1: Isaiah 40. 1-11
Reader 2: Service Leader
Reading 2: Mark 1. 1-8
Prayers: Linda Brown

Sunday Worship Online - www.Bedhampton.tv

Available from Sunday online or by phone on 023 9387 7789

What's On This Week

Wednesday 9th December

8am Parish Prayer: Zoom 997 4841 5600 & Bedhampton.church/prayer

9.30am Holy Communion at St. Thomas' Church

Zoom Meetings - 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

Christmas Unwrapped (Zoom Meeting)

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

The Christmas Experience

12th - 24th 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 & 023 9248 3013

Children's Society House Boxes

We are unable to collect and empty house boxes at the moment. If yours is full and you would like to exchange it for a new one, please let me know. Otherwise we will collect all boxes when it is safe to do so. Sue Montgomery

National Covid Tiers Impact

As we entered tier 2 of the national system on 2nd December, physical Sunday worship can resume so long as the Covid-secure number is not exceeded. Book in by leaving a message on the parish office phone or on www.Bedhampton.church

Open Church

St Thomas' on Bidbury Lane is open for private prayer from 9am – 4pm every weekday (2pm from 12th December). Please follow the guidance indicated on the sheet available to you as you enter.

The Living Advent Calendar

The daily "Living Advent Calendar" is available now. We share it on our Facebook page every day or go to [YouTube.com](https://www.youtube.com) and enter "HPP - Living Advent Calendar".

Parish Magazine

Distributors packs will be in St Thomas' church to collect from 9th December for delivery that week.

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 12th and 24th 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.

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.

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.

Services Next Week - Sunday 13th December

St Nicholas' 9am Morning Worship Advent 3

Reader 1: Pete Spencer
Reading 1: Isaiah 61. 1-4, 8-11
Reader 2: Alyson Johnstone
Reading 2: John 1. 6-8, 19-28
Prayers: Mike Tritton

St Thomas' 11am Holy Communion Advent 3

Reader 1: Suzy Cross
Reading 1: Isaiah 61. 1-4. 8-11
Reader 2: Service Leader
Reading 2: John 1. 6-8, 19-28
Prayers: Sandra Matthews

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Please Pray For

Those requesting prayer:

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

Important Information

There has been another spate of emails received which look as though they have come from the local parish priest. Some of these emails seem to come from the Rector, Rev Max Cross and are asking for money. They do not come from him. Even without being hacked it is still very easy to fake an email, as though it is coming from someone you know. We urge you to take great care when responding to emails or phone calls asking for money.

Please Note: We will never ask in an email or phone call for money to be transferred to the parish.

Contact Us

Parish Office:

The office is currently closed.
Email and phone may still be used.
Hello@Bedhampton.church
023 9248 3013

Church Leader (Rector):

Rev Max Cross
Normal day off is Thursday.
Max@Bedhampton.church
023 9245 0955