

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

Sunday 13th December 2020

Advent 3

Collect

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Rector's Reflection

If I had been on the ball, we would have explored hope in the first week of Advent not the third as we do this week. For it is the first week of Advent that sometimes has the theme of hope, and it is the third week of Advent that has the theme of Joy. But are not hope and joy related? With hope we enter into joy, and joy is an expression of the hope within us. Well that's my, 'get out of jail free' card for speaking of hope this week.

If I ask the question, what do you and I place our hope in? Then you know fine well that I would say our hope has to be in Jesus. But let us not rush into the default answer, even if it is the answer that we would expect. Do our day to day actions reflect the fact that our hope is in Jesus or are those just words that we say at this time of year? It may well be worth taking some time this week to ponder if those who watch us see our reliance on Jesus, or do they see us relying on our own strength? As ever these words are as important for me as they are for you, so I am off to ponder. I hope to see you soon.

Services This Sunday - Sunday 13th December

St Nicholas' Advent 3

9am Morning Worship

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' Advent 3

11am Holy Communion

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

Sunday Worship Online - www.Bedhampton.tv

Available from Sunday online or by phone on 023 9387 7789

What's On This Week

Wednesday 16th 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)

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 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 – 2pm every weekday. 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 and enter "HPP - Living Advent Calendar".

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.

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 from until 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?

The Parish Magazine

The magazine is available in the churches or on-line.

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 20th December

St Nicholas'

Advent 4

9am Holy Communion

Reader 1: Suzy Cross
Reading 1: Samuel 7: 1-11, 16
Reader 2: Service Leader
Reading 2: Luke 1: 26 - 38
Prayers: Fleur Bragaglia

St Thomas'

Advent 4

11am Morning Prayer

Reader 1: Ann Partridge
Reading 1: 2 Samuel 7: 1-11, 16
Reader 2: Julian Delmar-Morgan
Reading 2: Luke 1: 26 - 38
Prayers: Max Cross

Sunday Worship Online – www.Bedhampton.tv

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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.

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](mailto>Hello@Bedhampton.church)
023 9248 3013

Church Leader (Rector):

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