

## The Sick

Robin Smith, Hugh Foster, Mary Wakeford, Gill Ticehurst, Vic and Jean Constable, Jean Morrill, Darren Mills, Clive Thompson, Sheila Shepherd Mary Crook, Flora Parrack, Alex and to all those known to us.

# Recently Departed

Tony Penfold, Chris Till, Bob Spearman, Paula Atkins

# Years Mind

Lisa Higgins, Ruth Pletts, Peter Laughton

# All welcome in church for services & private prayer - with restrictions. Please follow the guidance.

\*\* Face coverings are required at services\*\*

# Weekday services Tuesday to Friday at 9.00am

-Follow the live streaming of services weekdays and Sunday on line

https://www.facebook.com/stmaryspetworth https://stmaryspetworth.weebly.com/live-stream-of-services https://www.facebook.com/stbartsegdean/ https://stbartholomewsegdean.weebly.com/live-stream-of-services

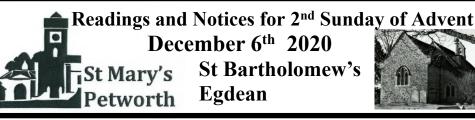
Matthew will be busking online (via St Mary's Facebook / Youtube page), in aid of Chestnut Tree Children's Hospice, from 10 am until 1 pm on Saturday 12th December. Live requests possible. Details of how to donate will be in the Dec parish magazine, on Facebook and via the church email circulation

Please pray for each other, ourselves and our neighbours, here in Petworth, Egdean, this country, all on holiday, at work or at school, and the world.

We pray that this health crisis can be resolved as soon as possible.

Please be in touch with Fr Mark or Churchwardens at any time. We will always be glad to hear from you with any requests for prayer, updates on parishioners and their loved ones, and if we can assist in any practical way.

If you know that someone is alone or vulnerable at the moment, please try (as far as is possible and appropriate) to check regularly how they are and if they need any assistance.



# Government instructions - face coverings must be worn Said Service - but the choir will sing the Mass

**Hymn** (recorded) On Jordan's Bank

# **Lighting of Advent Candle:**

**Priest:** We light this candle to help us think of God's greatest promise, first told by the prophets. God our Father, you spoke to the prophets of old of a saviour who would bring peace. You helped them to spread the joyful message of his coming kingdom. Help us, as we prepare to celebrate his birth, to share with those around us the good news of your power and love. We ask this through Jesus Christ, the Light who is coming into the world.

*People*: Lord Jesus Christ, Light of the world, the prophets said you would bring peace and save your people in trouble. Give peace in our hearts at Christmastide, and show all the world God's love.

#### Choir

O two is for the prophets the light they bring. They are candles in the darkness, all alight for Christ the King.

The holly and the ivy are dancing in a ring, round the berry-bright red candles, and the white and shining King.

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. Amen

### Isaiah 40.1–11

1 Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God.
2 Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid,



that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. 3 A voice cries out: 'In the wilderness

or the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

4 Every valley shall be lifted up. and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. 5 Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.' 6 A voice says, 'Cry out!' And I said, 'What shall I cry?' All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. 7 The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. 8 The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever.

9 Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good tidings;
lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,
lift it up, do not fear;
say to the cities of Judah,
'Here is your God!'
10 See, the Lord GOD comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;
his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.
11 He will feed his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms,
and carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead the mother sheep.

## **Psalm 85, vv 8-13** *Choir*

Response: 'Show us O Lord, your mercy'

I will listen to what the Lord God will say,
For he shall speak peace to his people and to the faithful,
That they turn not again to folly.
Truly, his salvation is near to those who fear him,
That his glory may dwell in our land.
Mercy and truth are met together,
Righteousness and peace have kissed each other; *Response* 

Truth shall spring up from the earth And righteousness look down from heaven. The Lord will indeed give all that it good, And our land will yield its increase. Righteousness shall go before him And direct his steps in the way. *Response* 

## 2 Peter 3.8-15a

8 Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. 9 The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. 10 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed. 11 Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, 12 waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? 13 But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. 14 Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; 15 and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

# Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia., Alleluia Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight; And all humanity shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

# Offertory Hymn (recorded) Hills of the North

# Mark 1. 1-8 (The Proclamation of John the Baptist)

1The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

2 As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way;

3 the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

"Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight",

4John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. 5And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. 6Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. 7He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. 8I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.'

# If you cannot physically take Communion you can use this prayer:

My Jesus, I believe that you are in the Blessed Sacrament.

I love you above all things, and I long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

## Communion Hymn (Choir) Judge Eternal

**Communion:** Creator of the stars of night - plainsongg mode I (choir)

Post Communion Prayer: Father in heaven,

who sent your Son to redeem the world and will send him again to be our judge: give us grace so to imitate him

in the humility and purity of his first coming that, when he comes again, we may be ready to greet him with joyful love and firm faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen



Organ Voluntary: Improvisation on 'Wachet Auf' - Karg Elert