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[www.stjohnspurbrook.org.uk](http://www.stjohnspurbrook.org.uk)

Please note that following the government announcement this week, the wearing of a **face-covering** is now required by law in all places of worship for anyone aged 12 or over, unless there is a reason for exemption.

All our services and meetings remain under review and may need to be changed at short notice.

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2021 (3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent)**

- 8.00am Holy Communion at Christ Church**
- 9.30am Holy Communion at St John's**
- 10.30am Morning Worship online**
- 11.00am Morning Worship at Christ Church**

**Meetings and services this week**

- |                      |         |  |
|----------------------|---------|--|
| Wed 15 <sup>th</sup> | 11.00am | Funeral of Donald Harrison (St John's)           |
|                      | 7.30pm  | Christ Church Standing Committee (Christ Church) |
| Thu 16 <sup>th</sup> | 2.00pm  | Purbrook Nursery Christmas Show (St John's)      |
|                      | 7.00pm  | Shared PCC meeting (Christ Church)               |

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2021 (4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent)**

- 8.00am Holy Communion at Christ Church**
- 9.30am Carols & Readings (St John's)**
- 11.00am Christingle (Christ Church)**
- 6.00pm Carols by Candlelight (Christ Church)**

Please note that our carol services will have fewer carols than usual to reduce risk

**CHRISTMAS SERVICES**

- |                                   |                |   |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|---|
| <b>CHRISTMAS EVE</b>              | <b>2.30pm</b>  | <b>Family Carol Service (Christ Church)</b> |
|                                   | <b>4.00pm</b>  | <b>Family Carol Service (St John's)</b>     |
|                                   | <b>11.30pm</b> | <b>Midnight Communion (Christ Church)</b>   |
| <b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b>              | <b>8.00am</b>  | <b>Christmas Communion (St John's)</b>      |
|                                   | <b>10.00am</b> | <b>Christmas Communion (Christ Church)</b>  |
| <b>Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> Dec</b> | <b>9.30am</b>  | <b>Holy Communion (St John's)</b>           |
- No Boxing Day service at Christ Church

**ADVENT@CHRIST CHURCH**

Thanks to everybody who supported our Advent event at Christ Church last weekend. As well as welcoming several people into the church building and having a lot of fun, we raised an amazing £736 for church funds. Thank you.

## TEARFUND BIG QUIZ

Simon & Elizabeth thank everyone who joined in the Tearfund Big Quiz this year. Including Gift Aid, £325 was raised for Tearfund which is really great. Thank you

## CHRISTMAS GIFTS

We are once more collecting Christmas gifts for three local organisations:

**The Roberts Centre:** toys and toiletries for young families (unwrapped)

**All Saints Hostel:** toiletries and clothes (e.g. socks, hats, gloves) (unwrapped) for young people (aged 16-25)

**The Grange Hostel:** toiletries and clothes (e.g. socks, hats, gloves) (wrapped) for adult males.

All gifts should be new and must have no alcoholic content. They can be brought to either church. Please bring gifts by the morning of Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> December, so that we have time to distribute them. Thank you.

## ONLINE SERVICES

This week's online service will be the last for the time being. Numbers viewing have dwindled as more have returned to in-person worship. We will continue to review this.

## REFRESHMENTS

**St John's:** Coffee and tea are served **after the 9.30 service** in the church hall.

**Christ Church:** Coffee and tea will be served **before the 11.00 service** (from 10.30am) in Christ Church. If you are able to, please bring your own travel mug. Cups will be available if you don't have your own.

## FOOD BANKS

Items for the PO9 food bank can be left in the box by the font at St John's.

Items for the Waterlooville food bank can be left in the purple buckets at the back of Christ Church.

## MISSION OF THE MONTH

This month's Mission of the Month is Children's Society. Collection Candles for the Christingle service will be available at Christ Church on Sunday. Alternatively you can give online at <https://www.childrenssociety.org.uk/how-you-can-help/donate>

<b>CONTACTS</b>		
<b>Vicar</b>	<b>Revd Andy Wilson</b> (day off Monday) vicar@christchurchportsdown.org purbrookvicar@gmail.com	
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## **Sunday 12 December 2021**

3rd Sunday of Advent

### **Collect**

God for whom we watch and wait,  
you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son:  
give us courage to speak the truth,  
to hunger for justice,  
and to suffer for the cause of right,  
with Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### **Zephaniah 3.14–20**

<sup>14</sup> Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! <sup>15</sup> The Lord has taken away the judgements against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. <sup>16</sup> On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. <sup>17</sup> The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing <sup>18</sup> as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. <sup>19</sup> I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. <sup>20</sup> At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord.

*This is the word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Isaiah 12.2–6**

<sup>2</sup> Surely God is my salvation;

I will trust, and will not be afraid,  
for the Lord God is my strength and my might;  
he has become my salvation.

<sup>3</sup> With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. <sup>4</sup> And you will say on that day:

Give thanks to the Lord,  
call on his name;  
make known his deeds among the nations;  
proclaim that his name is exalted.

<sup>5</sup> Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously;  
let this be known in all the earth.

<sup>6</sup> Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion,  
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

*This is the word of the Lord.*

*All: Thanks be to God.*

## **Philippians 4.4–7**

<sup>4</sup> Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. <sup>5</sup> Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. <sup>6</sup> Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup> And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

*This is the word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Luke 3.7–18**

*Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.*

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>7</sup> John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?' <sup>8</sup> Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. <sup>9</sup> Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.'

<sup>10</sup> And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?' <sup>11</sup> In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.' <sup>12</sup> Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, 'Teacher, what should we do?' <sup>13</sup> He said to them, 'Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.' <sup>14</sup> Soldiers also asked him, 'And we, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.'

<sup>15</sup> As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, <sup>16</sup> John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>17</sup> His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

<sup>18</sup> So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

*This is the Gospel of the Lord.*

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **Post Communion**

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts;  
kindle in us the fire of your Spirit  
that when your Christ comes again  
we may shine as lights before his face;  
who is alive and reigns now and for ever.

**Amen.**