

PORCHTALK

Sunday 29th November
to Saturday 12th December 2020



Today 29 th November <i>First Sunday of Sunday</i>	Church Open for Individual Private Prayer Advent Carol Service on Zoom	3.00 – 4.30 pm 7.00 pm
Monday 30 th November	Organ Teaching in Church	8.30 am
Wednesday 2 nd December	Staff Meeting on Zoom	9.00 am
Thursday 3 rd December	Church Open for Individual Private Prayer	10am – 12 noon
Saturday 5 th December	Morning Prayer and Coffee on Zoom Adventurers' Meeting on Zoom	10.45 am 4.00 pm
Next Sunday 6 th December <i>Second Sunday of Advent</i>	Said Mass (pre-booking essential) Church Open for Individual Private Prayer Said Evensong on Zoom	9.30 am 3.00 – 4.30 pm 6.30 pm
Monday 7 th December	Delivery of Christmas Tree in Church	9.00 am
Tuesday 8 th December	Funeral of Pamela Plumstead Organ Teaching in Church	11.45 am 5.00 pm
Wednesday 9 th December	Staff Meeting on Zoom Said Mass (pre-booking essential)	9.00 am 11.00 am
Thursday 10 th December	Church Open for Individual Private Prayer	10am – 12 noon
Saturday 12 th December	Morning Prayer and Coffee on Zoom	10.45 am
<i>Saturday Pathsweepers: 12th December – Masterson and Lillington</i>		

NOTICES

Resuming public worship: Public services at St Laurence will resume with the 9.30 Mass on Sunday 6th December. For the time being we will continue to have one Mass on Sunday at 9.30am and one on Wednesday at 11am.

To book email Joanne at: parish.office@upminsterparish.co.uk by 11am on Wednesday for the following Sunday, or by 12 noon on Monday for the following Wednesday, or phone Deborah on 01708 760485 by 6pm on Wednesday for the following Sunday, or by 12 noon on Monday for the following Wednesday.

Given the current number of local infections, it remains essential that we follow all protocols relating to infection control and social distancing, avoid social conversations indoors and follow government regulations when socialising outdoors. Please do not come to church if you think you may have an infectious illness. Many thanks.

There will be an Advent course held on Zoom this year looking at three of the Old Testament passages that have influenced understanding of who Jesus is and what Jesus' coming into the world means. Please contact Revd Susannah if you are interested in joining so that the meeting links can be sent to you. The meetings will be at 7.45pm, last for approximately 1 hour and the dates are: Wednesday December 2nd (Genesis 3:8-14), 9th (Isaiah 9:2,6-7) and 16th (Isaiah 11:1-9).

The funeral of Pamela Plumstead will take place in church on Tuesday 8th December at 11.45am. If you would like to attend please contact Rachel at: great_giraffe@hotmail.com or phone her on 07964 091064. Spaces will be limited due to current regulations and priority will be given to family and immediate friends.

A Christmas Tree of Hope will be situated by the Main Hall from 1st December. The tree has been donated by the Children's Society Committee for the community to add messages of remembrance, hope and Christmas cheer. Please do add your own messages; blank cards will be attached to the tree which can be written upon and reattached. An opportunity to donate to The Children's Society will be available via a QR code on adjacent posters. Alongside the physical tree, there will also be a virtual Christmas Tree of Hope where it is possible to add a decoration and celebrate the work of the Society. This can be viewed at: <https://visufund.com/st-laurence-christmas-tree-of-hope>

Could you be our Planned Giving Secretary? Many thanks are due to Steve Roome for the excellent work he has done as our Planned Giving Secretary. Steve is now looking to stand down from this role and so we are seeking a new secretary. The main responsibilities include being a point of contact for people looking to start or amend regular financial giving to the church, keeping a record of Gift Aid and submitting a periodic Gift Aid claim. Internet access is needed but specialist financial knowledge is not required. Please contact Revd Susannah if you may be able to help.

Ride & Stride 2020. Thanks to those members of the congregation that have generously sponsored the four walkers who took part in September's Ride & Stride event. Our local walk around Upminster and Cranham churches raised £815. The Friends of Essex Churches Trust will be making a contribution back to St Laurence in due course. Please check out the website at: www.foect, to see their activities and for information about Essex and Metropolitan Essex churches. The 'Friends' support all mainstream Christian denominations. *Rob Brabner.*

The London government has appointed a Faith Engagement Adviser, Colin Bloom. He has launched an open consultation to collect views that will underpin a Faith Engagement Review. He is particularly interested in hearing from these groups of people:

1) Members of the public who identify as having a religion, or people who have a faith. 2) Faith and Religious leaders (voluntary or professional) in places of worship or faith-based organisations and charities. 3) Public servants such as Civil Servants, teachers, the police and healthcare workers. 4) Anyone who is or has been engaged with the British Military in any capacity. 5) Anyone who is or has been engaged in the Criminal Justice System in any capacity.

If you would like to complete this consultation questionnaire the link is www.gov.uk/government/consultations/independent-faith-engagement-review-call-for-evidence and closes on 11th December 2020.

Cast and crew of the Hornchurch Passion Play have produced a living advent calendar. Available on their YouTube channel, the calendar runs each day from 1st December until Christmas Eve. Visit: www.youtube.com/channel/UCuwiroT5pLwTNP8NQf70Gng and subscribe to receive daily notifications.

FROM THE LECTIONARY

SUNDAY 29TH NOVEMBER 2020, THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Morning worship: Isaiah 64:1-9; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:24-end

Evening worship: Psalm 25; Isaiah 1:1-20; Matthew 21:1-13

Collect of the day: Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

SUNDAY 6TH DECEMBER 2020, THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Morning worship: Isaiah 40:1-11; 2 Peter 3:8-15a; Mark 1:1-8

Evening worship: Psalm 40; 1 Kings 22:1-28; Romans 15:4-13

Collect of the day: 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.**

The following weekday lectionary can be used in conjunction with the booklet 'Worship at Home' if you wish to use different readings each day, along with the collect, where applicable, specific to the day.

MONDAY 20TH NOVEMBER, Andrew the Apostle

Morning worship: Psalm 47; Ezekiel 47:1-12; John 12:20-32

Evening worship: Psalm 87; Zechariah 8:20-end; John 1:35-42

Collect of the day: Almighty God, who gave such grace to your apostle Saint Andrew that he readily obeyed the call of your Son Jesus Christ and brought his brother with him: call us by your holy word, and give us grace to follow you without delay and to tell the good news of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

TUESDAY 1ST DECEMBER, *Charles de Foucauld, hermit, 1916*

Morning prayer: Psalm 80; Isaiah 43:1-13; Revelation 20

Evening prayer: Psalm 74; Isaiah 26:1-13; Matthew 12:22-37

WEDNESDAY 2ND DECEMBER

Morning prayer: Psalm 7; Isaiah 43:14-end; Revelation 21:1-8

Evening prayer: Psalm 77; Isaiah 28:1-13; Matthew 12:38-end

THURSDAY 3RD DECEMBER, *Francis Xavier, missionary, 1552*

Morning prayer: Psalm 42; Isaiah 44:1-8; Revelation 21:9-21

Evening prayer: Psalm 40; Isaiah 28:14-end; Matthew 13:1-23

FRIDAY 4TH DECEMBER, *John of Damascus, monk, teacher of the faith, c749; Nicholas Ferrar, deacon, founder of the Little Gidding Community, 1637*

Morning prayer: Psalm 25; Isaiah 44:9-23; Revelation 21:22-22:5

Evening prayer: Psalm 17; Isaiah 29:1-14; Matthew 13:24-43

SATURDAY 5TH DECEMBER

Morning prayer: Psalm 9; Isaiah 44:24-45:13; Revelation 22:6-end

Evening prayer: Psalm 27; Isaiah 29:15-end; Matthew 13:44-end

MONDAY 7TH DECEMBER, *Ambrose, bishop, teacher of the faith, 397*

Morning prayer: Psalm 44; Isaiah 45:14-end; 1 Thessalonians 1

Evening prayer: Psalm 144; Isaiah 30:1-18; Matthew 14:1-12

Collect of the day: God of hosts, who called Ambrose from the governor's throne to be a bishop in your Church and an intrepid champion of your faithful people: mercifully grant that, as he did not fear to rebuke rulers, so we, with like courage, may contend for the faith we have received; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

TUESDAY 8TH DECEMBER, Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Morning prayer: Psalm 56; Isaiah 45; 1 Thessalonians 2:1-12

Evening prayer: Psalm 11; Isaiah 30:19-end; Matthew 14:13-end

Collect of the day: Almighty and everlasting God, who stooped to raise fallen humanity through the child-bearing of blessed Mary: grant that we, who have seen your glory revealed in our human nature and your love made perfect in our weakness, may daily be renewed in your image and conformed to the pattern of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

WEDNESDAY 9TH DECEMBER, Ember Day

Morning prayer: Psalm 62; Isaiah 47; 1 Thessalonians 2:13-end

Evening prayer: Psalm 10; Isaiah 31; Matthew 15:1-20

THURSDAY 10TH DECEMBER

Morning prayer: Psalm 54; Isaiah 48:1-11; 1 Thessalonians 3

Evening prayer: Psalm 73; Isaiah 32; Matthew 15:21-28

FRIDAY 11TH DECEMBER, Ember Day

Morning prayer: Psalm 86; Isaiah 48:12-end; 1 Thessalonians 4:1-12

Evening prayer: Psalm 90; Isaiah 33:1-22; Matthew 15:29-end

SATURDAY 12TH DECEMBER, Ember Day

Morning prayer: Psalm 145; Isaiah 49:1-13; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-end

Evening prayer: Psalm 94; Isaiah 35; Matthew 16:1-12

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Special concern, Sunday 29th November and Wednesday 9th December: Yvonne Rattley, Pat Silverlock, Pam, Hayden Keeling, Stewart Ranson, Alan Evens, Edie Jackson, Annie Phillips, Doris Harding, Doris Blanking, Joan Larkin.

Special concern, Wednesday 2nd and Sunday 6th December: Edgar Iffland, Michael McSweeney, Lorna Wells, Jean Clements, Poppy and Thomas, Katie Louise Tape, Ellen Stone, Maurice Purver, Pearl Clifton, Kathleen Jones, Daniel, Jeffrey.

Long term concern:

Wednesday 2nd December: John Herbert, Jean Biggs, Betty McAteer, Penny Hale, Phyllis Knight, Margaret Turner, Christine Coleman.

Wednesday 9th December: Alison Jervis, Ann Gospage, Ivy Oliver, Freya Risdon, Rosalind Manley, Diane Taylor.

Those who would normally receive Holy Communion at home:

Sunday 29th November: N/A

Wednesday 2nd December: N/A

Sunday 6th December: Residents of The Oaks Home, Ian Hall, Bob Simkins.

Wednesday 9th December: Margaret Roome, Jean Cant, Dorothy Sykes, Vera Richards, Brenda Taylor, Denise Comer.

Recently departed: Bernard, Joyce Tinton, Norman Pattullo, Margaret Crow, Maurice Purver, Pamela Plumstead, Eileen Pullin, Patricia Bell, Gwynne Harries, Gloria Florence, Sheila Dawes.

Anniversaries of the departed:

Sunday 29th November: Donald Carter, Ken Groves, Phyllis Spilling, Irene Littlewood, Lena Spicer, William Gosland, John Iffland, Gina Dunlop, Ted Sawyer, John Fowler.

Sunday 6th December: Irene Littlewood, Lena Spicer, William Gosland, John Iffland, Gina Dunlop, Ted Sawyer, John Fowler, Hyla Rose Holden (Priest), Winifred Hodgson, Peggy Lockwood, Maurice Harper (Priest).

Please remember those who mourn.

Other prayers: Give thanks for the free and democratic society which we enjoy in the UK.

Remember the populations which live under oppressive and violent regimes.

Continued over...

Pray for those whose work is to bring social freedom and justice to all people.

Give thanks for medical researchers and practitioners.

Remember those receiving painful treatments and palliative care.

Pray that we may find ways to support financially and actively our hospitals and hospices.

CONTACTS

Rector The Revd Susannah Brasier

01708 220174 susannah.brasier@upminsterparish.co.uk

Associate Priest Fr Roy Murray

01708 225374 roy.murray@upminsterparish.co.uk

Pastoral Assistant Deborah Masterson

01708 760485 deborah.masterson@upminsterparish.co.uk

Churchwarden Jean Keen parish.office@upminsterparish.co.uk

Acting Director of Music Nigel Lockwood

parish.office@upminsterparish.co.uk

Parish Office Joanne Chapman parish.office@upminsterparish.co.uk

Hall Bookings: Carole Billings 01708 749670

carole.billings1@btinternet.com

Planned Giving Steve Roome parish.office@upminsterparish.co.uk

Website www.upminsterparish.co.uk

Postal Address St Laurence Church, Corbets Tey Road, Upminster,
RM14 2BB

Time for God Prayer Diary

If you would like to receive the monthly 'Time for God Prayer Diary' which includes daily readings and prayer intentions, or would like further information regarding it, please email Joanne in the Parish Office. If you would like to suggest any content for use in the Prayer Diary, please contact Nick Butler at nickbutlerupm@gmail.com or phone him on 07792123630.