

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

*O people of Sion, behold,  
the Lord will come to save the nations,  
and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard  
in the joy of your heart.*

**COLLECT**

Almighty and merciful God,  
may no earthly undertaking hinder those  
who set out in haste to meet your Son,  
but may our learning of heavenly wisdom  
gain us admittance to his company.  
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

**FIRST READING** Baruch 5:1-9

A reading from the Prophet Baruch.

Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem,  
and put on for ever the beauty of the glory from God.  
Put on the robe of the righteousness from God;  
put on your head the crown of the glory of the Everlasting.  
For God will show your splendour everywhere under heaven.  
For your name will for ever be called by God:  
'Peace of righteousness and glory of godliness'.  
Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height  
and look towards the east  
and see your children gathered from west and east,  
at the word of the Holy One,  
rejoicing that God has remembered them.  
For they went forth from you on foot,  
led away by their enemies;  
but God will bring them back to you,  
carried in glory, as on a royal throne.  
For God has ordered that every high mountain  
and the everlasting hills be made low  
and the valleys filled up to make level ground,  
so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God.  
The woods and every fragrant tree  
have shaded Israel at God's command.  
For God will lead Israel with joy  
in the light of his glory,  
with the mercy and righteousness that come from him.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** Psalm 126(125):1-2b. 2c-3. 4-5. 6. R. 3

**R: What great deeds the LORD worked for us!  
Indeed, we were glad.**

1. When the LORD brought back the exiles of Sion,  
we thought we were dreaming.  
Then was our mouth filled with laughter;  
on our tongues, songs of joy. **R.**
2. Then they said among the nations,  
'What great deeds the LORD worked for them!  
What great deeds the Lord worked for us!  
Indeed, we were glad. **R.**
3. Bring back our exiles, O LORD,  
as streams in the Negeb.  
Those who are sowing in tears  
will sing when they reap. **R.**
4. They go out, they go out, full of tears,  
bearing seed for the sowing;  
they come back, they come back with a song,  
bearing their sheaves. **R.**

**SECOND READING** Philippians 1:3-6. 8-11

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians.

Brothers and sisters: I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all, making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**ACCLAMATION BEFORE THE GOSPEL** Luke 3:4. 6

**R: Alleluia, alleluia.**

Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight;  
all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

**R: Alleluia.**

**GOSPEL** Luke 3:1-6

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness.

And he went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet,  
'The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

"Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight.  
Every valley shall be filled,  
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,  
and the crooked shall become straight,  
and the rough places shall become level ways,  
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

Be pleased, O Lord, with our humble prayers and offerings,  
and, since we have no merits to plead our cause,  
come, we pray, to our rescue  
with the protection of your mercy.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

*Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights,  
and behold the joy which comes to you from God.*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Replenished by the food of spiritual nourishment,  
we humbly beseech you, O Lord,  
that, through our partaking in this mystery,  
you may teach us to judge wisely the things of earth  
and hold firm to the things of heaven.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## The Parish of St Anselm, Hayes

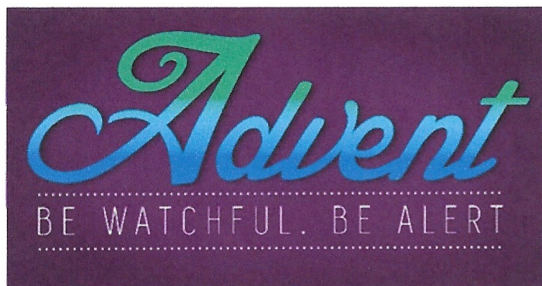
December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent

This Sunday's Gospel recounts the ministry of John the Baptist. In the wilderness, John exhorts the people to repentance and baptises them. In Luke's Gospel, John's work is seen as fulfilling a prophecy in Isaiah. Interestingly, in our first reading today Baruch references this same imagery from Isaiah about levelling the ground for the people of Israel.

*The usual penitential rite will be replaced with the Asperges today.*

Throughout Advent, in addition to the collect for the day (overleaf) the traditional collect for Advent will also be used. Here it is:

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



**Entrance Hymn:** 15 On Jordan's bank, the Baptist's cry  
**Offertory Hymn:** 8 Hills of the north, rejoice  
**Recessional:** 5 Hark! A herald voice is calling

### THIS WEEK:

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup>:** The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the BVM. Morning Prayer 0945; Mass 1000; Evening Prayer 1700

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup>:** 2<sup>nd</sup> week of Advent. Morning Prayer 0945; Mass 1000. No Evening Prayer

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup>:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Week of Advent. Morning Prayer 0945; Mass 1000; Evening Prayer 1700. Warm Welcome Centre in the hall 1100-1400. All welcome!

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup>:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Week of Advent. Morning Prayer 0945; Mass 1000; Evening Prayer 1700

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup>:** St Lucy, Virgin, Martyr. Morning Prayer 0945; Mass 1000; Evening Prayer 1700

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup>:** St John of the Cross, Priest, Doctor. No services in church

**NEXT WEEK:** Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent. Mass at 1000 as usual.

### CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR SERVICES

**24<sup>th</sup> December:** Children's Crib Service at 1500

**24<sup>th</sup> December:** Midnight Mass at 2330

**25<sup>th</sup> December:** Family Mass at 1000

**26<sup>th</sup> December:** St Stephen, First Martyr. Mass at 1000

**27<sup>th</sup> December:** St John, Apostle and Evangelist. Mass at 1000

**28<sup>th</sup> December:** The Holy Innocents, Martyrs. Mass at 1000

**1<sup>st</sup> January 2025:** Mary the Holy Mother of God. Mass at 1100

**5<sup>th</sup> January 2025:** Epiphany of the Lord. Mass at 1000 and Nine Lessons and Carols at 1600

### PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS

If you wish a name to be on the list, please give the details to Susan.

### ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH

8<sup>th</sup> Emma Charlton, Harriet Harris, Hazel Audrey Keen, Robert Elliot

9<sup>th</sup> Mary Pinto, Ivy Florence Wickes, Sydney Keen, Michelle Stevens

10<sup>th</sup> Leslie Ian Sillett, Caroline Elizabeth Botley, Ethel Schemel

11<sup>th</sup> Amy de Sousa

12<sup>th</sup> Eric Rackley

13<sup>th</sup> Frederick Eades, Ellen Louisa Howse

14<sup>th</sup> Jane & John Hartley, Nora Simmonds,

Fr Albert Thomas Phyll (Vicar of St Anselm's 1944-75)

**SPECIAL BLESSINGS:** Please let one of the sidespeople or a churchwarden know before mass begins if you'd like a special blessing. Come up to the chancel step after the intercessions.

**YOUNG CHILDREN IN CHURCH:** Don't worry if they make a noise or move about! Young visitors to the sanctuary are always welcome, so no drama if they go for a walk! We'll have a look at the children's work after mass...

**FINANCIAL POSITION:** During November, our income was £961.46, but our outgoings were £1,139.78. We must do better than this! Please consider if you are able to increase your contributions to the church, or to set up a regular donation through the Parish Giving Scheme if you don't already do so.

**JOIN US IN THE HALL AFTER MASS FOR TEA AND COFFEE, AND BISCUITS OR CAKE!**