

# *The Parish Church of St John the Evangelist, Crowborough*

[www.stjohnscrowborough.co.uk](http://www.stjohnscrowborough.co.uk)



## **1ST DECEMBER - ADVENT SUNDAY**

### **COLLECT**

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.**

### **FIRST READING: Jeremiah 33.14-16**

*A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.*

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfil the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: 'The Lord is our righteousness.'

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

### **PSALM: 25.1-9**

**To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.**

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;  
my God, I put my trust in you;  
let me not be humiliated,  
nor let my enemies triumph over me.  
Let none who look to you be put to shame;  
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes. **R**

Show me your ways, O Lord, and teach me your paths.  
Lead me in your truth and teach me,  
for you are the God of my salvation;  
in you have I trusted all the day long. **R**

Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love,  
for they are from everlasting.  
Remember not the sins of my youth  
and my transgressions;  
remember me according to your love  
and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord. **R**

Gracious and upright is the Lord;  
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.  
He guides the humble in doing right  
and teaches his way to the lowly. **R**

All the paths of the Lord are love  
and faithfulness

to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.  
For your name's sake, O Lord,  
forgive my sin, for it is great. **R**

### **SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 3.9-13**

*A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Thessalonians*

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!  
Let us see, O Lord, your mercy,  
and give us your saving help.  
**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

### **GOSPEL: Luke 21.25-36**

Jesus said to his disciples: 'There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in a cloud" with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.'

Then he told them a parable: 'Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.'

'Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS**

Father, from all you give us we present this bread and wine. As we serve you now, accept our offering and sustain us with your promise of eternal life. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**POST COMMUNION**

O Lord our God,  
 make us watchful and keep us faithful  
 as we await the coming of your Son our Lord;  
 that, when he shall appear,  
 he may not find us sleeping in sin  
 but active in his service and joyful in his praise;  
 through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**HYMNS**

Entrance: 11  
 Offertory: 386  
 Communion: 1  
 Final: 20

**PRAYERS**

**Bishops in our diocese:** Martin, Will, Ruth.

**The Sick:** Chris Avery, Sarah Cashmore, Jenny Chatterton, Mark Dawkins, Tracey Divall, Gwilym James, Paul Jones, Tracey Norris, Nigel Rigler, Edward Sibley, Claire Stogden, Catherine Wallis.

**Year's Mind:** Archie Hughes, Cheryl Rose, Terry Bamford, Michael Edwards.

**Advent Service at Withyham.** We have been invited to St Michael and All Angels Withyham for an Advent Service at **6.30pm on 1st December**. Please come along if you are able.

**Jake wishes to thank** everyone for their kind wishes in his 21st birthday card. He had a great time with family and is looking forward to seeing everyone when he's home from Uni at Christmas.

**SERVICES FOR THE REST OF THE YEAR**

<b>Sunday 1st December</b>	8am	<b>Mass (BCP)</b>
<b>Advent Sunday</b>	10am	<b>Parish Mass</b>
	6.30pm	<b>Advent Service at Withyham</b>
<b>Sunday 8th December</b>	8am	<b>Mass (BCP)</b>
<b>Advent 2</b>	9am	<b>Family Service</b>
	10am	<b>Parish Mass</b>
	11.30	<b>Baptism</b>
<b>Sunday 15th December</b>	8am	<b>Mass (BCP)</b>
<b>Advent 3</b>	10am	<b>Parish Mass</b>
<b>Sunday 22nd December</b>	8am	<b>Mass (BCP)</b>
<b>Advent 4</b>	9am	<b>Sunday Club</b>
	10am	<b>Parish Mass</b>
	4pm	<b>Nine Lessons &amp; Carols</b>
<b>Tuesday 24th December</b>	4pm	<b>Crib Service</b>
<b>Christmas Eve</b>	11pm	<b>Midnight Mass</b>
<b>Wednesday 25th December</b>	10am	<b>Parish Mass</b>
<b>Christmas Day</b>		
<b>Sunday 29th December</b>	8am	<b>Mass (BCP)</b>
<b>Christmas 1</b>	10am	<b>Parish Mass</b>

**Additionally, Mass will be said every Wednesday morning at 10am**

**A Christmas sales table** will be in the hall on **Sunday 8th December** to raise funds for the Christmas flower arrangements in Church. Cash only please.

**Christmas Workshop** for Children and Parents - 10am - 12 noon, **Saturday 14th December** in the church hall.

**We will be collecting for three charities** over the Advent and Christmas period: **Crowborough Foodbank, the Children's Society and Crisis.**

**Charity raffle** tickets will be on sale in the church hall on Sundays 15th and 22nd December. The draw will take place after Nine Lessons and Carols service on **22nd December**.

As usual we will be **collecting food and money for Crowborough Foodbank**. The final Sunday for collecting items will be **15th December**. Please note they cannot accept any items containing alcohol.

**St John's Church is currently in interregnum. For all enquiries please contact one of the churchwardens.**

**Churchwardens:** Carol Brown (01892 652310) [carol.brown@btinternet.com](mailto:carol.brown@btinternet.com)  
 Philip Morris: (07967359599) [morrip57@gmail.com](mailto:morrip57@gmail.com)

**Hall Contact:** Please go the Church Hall section of the website: <https://www.stjohnscrowborough.co.uk>

**PCC Secretary:** Rita Burton (01892 664071) [tylersrmb@gmail.com](mailto:tylersrmb@gmail.com)