



Christ Church Sutton

NOTICE SHEET Sunday 16th February 2020 2nd before Lent

Welcome to all who gather in our church today.
Please ask one of the welcomers if you are unsure of
anything or would like assistance.

We have gluten free communion wafers available. If you would like to receive a gluten free wafer at Communion, please let the clergy know before the start of the service. Please ask the clergy about non-alcoholic wine.

Today: 8am Holy Communion; 10.30am Morning Worship

Text: *Isaiah 43*

Isaiah - reading guide for Lent term 2020 is inside this noticesheet

Sunday 23rd February: 8am Holy Communion; 10.30am Holy Communion

Text: *Isaiah 49:1-13*

TODAY - Third Sunday - Sunday Prayer - from 12.00 to 12.30pm in the side chapel there will be a time of prayer: for the World, our nation, our community and Christ Church, and individuals. All are welcome.

Morning Prayer: 8-8.25am, Monday to Thursday, at church. Please use the side door (entrance from the car park via side door, adjacent to the office, on the north side).

Praying for the service - every Sunday morning at 10am in the side chapel. All are welcome. We'll pray for that morning's service. The prayer will last no more than ten minutes.

Community Wednesdays: 9am-1pm

Contact details: Vicar: Revd Phil Brooks 020 8642 2757 - vicar@suttonteamministry.org

Website: www.christchurch.suttonteam.org.uk

PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL NOTICES FOR THE NOTICESHEET SHOULD BE EMAILED, BY 5pm ON TUESDAY EACH WEEK - suttonteam23646@gmail.com.

PLEASE TAKE THIS NOTICESHEET WITH YOU AS A REMINDER OF DATES AND EVENTS

Morning Prayer: 8-8.25am, Monday to Thursday, at church. Please use the side door (entrance from the car park via side door, adjacent to the office, on the north side). All are welcome.

TODAY - Third Sunday - Sunday Prayer - from 12.00 to 12.30pm in the side chapel there will be a time of prayer: for the World, our nation, our community and Christ Church, and individuals. All are welcome.

Lord, hear our prayer

A monthly prayer meeting held on first Saturday of each month at 9.30am in the church office. Join us to pray for our world, our nation and our parish on 7th March.

Community Wednesdays: 9am-1pm

9.00-11.30: Serving tea, coffee and biscuits

11.30-12.00: Morning Prayer (Communion on last Wednesday of month)

12.00-12.45: Serving a light lunch

*Can you help? Please sign up on the rota at the back of church.
Ask John or Catherine if you have any questions about helping.*

Community Wednesdays: Arts and Crafts Mornings, 10am-1pm in the church. Next on - 4th March.

Free of charge for time and materials; card making, painting, crocheting and more. No previous experience needed, just turn up for a social session, refreshments and, may be, stay for a light lunch too – all part of Community Wednesday.

CONFIRMATIONS SUMMER 2020

We are pleased to announce that Bishop Jonathan will take a confirmation service at Christ Church on **Monday 22nd June, at 7.30pm**. Confirmation is a special service in which a person makes for themselves the promises that were made when they were baptised; it is a significant step in the Christian faith. We will be running preparation groups most likely with a group for younger people, and a group for adults. These will be open to anybody of secondary school age or above, meeting every few weeks between the middle of February and the service itself. These preparation groups would be ideal for anyone exploring the Christian faith. Times and details TBA-please see a member of the ministry team to register interest before Sunday 9th of February. **Frances, David and Phil**

The Silent Prayer Group has resumed and will next be meeting at **11.30am** in the office at Christ Church on the following dates: **Mondays - 17th February; 16th March; 20th April; 18th May.**

Thirty minutes of silent prayer will be followed by refreshments and a time of fellowship. Everyone is welcome and if you have any enquiries please contact: Estelle Ghose 0208 770 7731 (email: estelleghose@gmail.com)

Isaiah reading guide: Lent term 2020

I encourage you to read Isaiah for yourself at home as we hear it read and preached on Sundays this term. The book is long, so I have divided it into sections, with five reading slots per week. Isaiah is a book of poetry; it is probably best to read through the whole passage to get a 'broad brush' sense of it before choosing particular verses to pay attention to.

Note that the pattern of home readings does not sync with the sermon series.

Week 3: 17th February – 22nd February:

Day 1: Isaiah 30

This passage may be a little more familiar- we read it in church back in January. The Kingdom of Judah has been flirting with Egypt to make an alliance; this is something that God has expressly forbidden them to do. God's people are revealed as *'rebellious and deceitful'* (v9) and unwilling to listen to God's word. Isaiah sees that this will come crashing down (vs12-15). Judah's hope comes in repentance, rest, quietness and trust (vs15) in a compassionate and just God (vs18) who will bring all manner of good things (vs19-26). God is quite capable of dealing with Assyria himself (vs27-33).

Day 2: Isaiah 31 & 32

Isaiah 31 continues the theme- relying on the horses of Egypt, rather than the Holy One of Israel is going to end badly. The Lord is revealed as a mighty warrior, like a lion, and watching overhead like a flock of birds (v4-5). Isaiah 32 reveals more about the King who is to come- his reign, and the reign of all who rule under him- will be one of righteousness, shelter, refuge, streams in the desert. Eyes and ears will be opened (vs3), and the truth will be known (vs4-8). Vs9-20 addresses the 'women' of Jerusalem- this refers most likely to pampered ladies who represent the escapist society of the time. Isaiah sees the downfall of Jerusalem (vs9-14). But, as so often in Isaiah, salvation is around the corner- the Spirit of God will be poured out, and God's justice and peace will lead to quietness and confidence forever (vs14-17).

Day 3: Isaiah 33

Isaiah 33 feels like a Psalm- perhaps even written for public use in a national emergency. Notice it is a prayer. First, there is a longing for redress (vs1-9), then the answering challenge; God's intervention will not be confined solely to the enemy- (vs10-16). Finally, we find the joy and fulfilment of the final section; *Your eyes will see the king in his beauty, and view a land that stretches afar.* (v17-24).

Day 4: Isaiah 34 & 35

More familiar passages from reading and preaching at church; chapter 34 surveys the desolation that follows God's judgement; chapter 35 looks ahead to a wonderful future for God's people. Who are the ones who this is good news for? 35:9-10 has the answer; the ransomed, and redeemed. Those who God has rescued.

Day 5: Isaiah 36

A change of style; this is narrative, not prophecy or poetry. It tells of terrible events; Sennacherib of Assyria attacks Judah. King Hezekiah is told by Sennacherib's envoy not to trust in Egypt OR The Lord- instead to surrender. Notice in vs 18, the Assyrian says to the people- *don't trust Hezekiah or his God!*



This year Junior Church will be fundraising for the charity Embrace the Middle East

Embrace is a Christian charity with over 160 years' experience of helping people of all faiths and none to free themselves from a life of poverty and injustice. Together with local Christian communities they are bringing lasting change to the Middle East through healthcare, education and community development projects.

Money Snake: Junior Church will be making a Money Snake after the 10.30am service on Sunday 1st March. Please bring in any small coins you have to donate.

World Day of Prayer takes place this year on **Friday 6th March** with a service at The Salvation Army, Benhill Road, Sutton at 10.30a.m. The theme is 'Rise! take up your mat and walk' and has been prepared by the women Zimbabwe. All are very welcome to attend and there are refreshments available. All enquiries to sheilacollis@hotmail.com or phone 020 8661 9487.

Clearing afternoons: Very many thanks to all who helped clear masses of leaves from the grounds at the end of January. Future dates will be: Saturday 29th February, Saturday 28th March, Saturday 25th April, Saturday 30th May. We meet at 2.00pm, tea and cake is provided at about 4.00pm.

NEWS / WHAT'S ON: AROUND THE CHURCHES

Ash Wednesday: The traditional service of Ashing to mark the beginning of Lent will be held at St Nicholas' church at 8pm on Wednesday 26th February. There will be a Frugal Supper beforehand, at 7pm in St Nicholas Community Hall. Tickets at £3 each are available from Sheila Collis. Proceeds will go to The Bishop of Southwark's Lent Appeal.

Sutton Schoolwork Quiz: Saturday 7th March, 7.30 - 9.30 pm.

Venue: St Nicholas Community Hall. Teams of six or come and join a team on the night.

There will be a raffle and hopefully drinks to buy.

Tickets are £5 each and Keith Cann is the phone contact number for them - 07592 032159.

A Release International event at Emmanuel Church, Morden, on Thursday 5th March at 7.30pm
Church members are very welcome. Come along and find out more about the situation for Christians in the Middle East. For more information, please contact David Ruddick: vicar@emmanuelmorden.org.uk or telephone 020 8330 6566.

SUTTON FOODBANK NEEDS MORE VOLUNTEERS: Sutton Foodbank are appealing for more 'meet and greet' volunteers to staff the daytime sessions on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Volunteers are also needed to help with restocking the Salvation Army centre Friday afternoons and Sunday or Monday mornings. If you can spare a couple of hours once or twice a month, or would like to know more, please contact - admin@suttoncommunityworks.org