



www.christchurchportsdown.org

www.stjohnspurbrook.org.uk

## **Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2020 (2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent)**

Attended church services are permitted once more, but with limited numbers and tighter restrictions than before. Please note the government regulations for Tier 2 state that if you attend a service, **you must not interact with anyone outside of your household or support bubble** whilst in the building. We expect to be able to find a seat for you, but there is the possibility that any service could be full, in which case you may be asked to not enter the building.

**9.00am Communion at St John's**

**10.30am Morning Worship (online only)**

This service will be broadcast live on the Christ Church Facebook page, ([facebook.com/ChristChurchPortsdown](https://www.facebook.com/ChristChurchPortsdown)) and the Christ Church Portsdown YouTube channel.

**3.00pm Communion at Christ Church**

**THURSDAY: 9.00-4.00 (approx.):** St John's open for independent, private prayer.

**THURSDAY: 10.00:** Simple service of Communion at Christ Church

## **Next Sunday: 13<sup>th</sup> December 2020 (3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent)**

**9.00am Communion at St John's**

**10.30am Morning Worship (online only)**

This service will be broadcast live on the Christ Church Facebook page, ([facebook.com/ChristChurchPortsdown](https://www.facebook.com/ChristChurchPortsdown)) and the Christ Church Portsdown YouTube channel.

**3.00pm Communion at Christ Church**

**John Partridge**, a long-standing and much-loved member of Christ Church died in the early hours of Monday morning. His funeral will take place in Christ Church on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December. Due to government restrictions, only family and invited guests will be able to attend. Please do remember Jean and the family in your prayers.

During Advent there will be a video reflection posted on the Christ Church Facebook page and YouTube pages. You can view the first of these ('Hope') now. The second reflection ('Peace') will be available to view from Wednesday morning.

## **Christmas Services**

The celebration of Christmas in our churches will be very different this year. The situation is fluid, but current plans are:

### **Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December**

9.00am Service of Christmas Readings at St John's  
10.30am Service of Christmas Readings online  
3.00pm Service of Christmas Readings at Christ Church

### **Christmas Eve**

St John's open for individual private prayer all day culminating in:

5.00pm Communion for Christmas Eve at St John's  
7.30pm Communion for Christmas Eve at Christ Church

### **Christmas Day**

Online service for Christmas Day available to view from 8.00am

8.00am Christmas Day Communion at St John's  
10.00am Christmas Day Communion at Christ Church

**Carol Service:** We will not be permitted to sing at any of our indoor services. However, we are investigating the practicality of holding a simple carol service in the car park at St John's.

## **CHRIST CHURCH NORTH DRIVEWAY**

Although the PCC is ready to commence this work, and the Faculty permission has been received from the Diocese, the process in obtaining planning permission from Portsmouth City Council is proving slow. Therefore the full project will not take place for several months. With this in mind, the PCC has instructed L A Kattenhorn & Partners Ltd to carry out a temporary project to create a safe walkway on the north drive, adjacent to the handrail. This work is scheduled for 17<sup>th</sup> December. From that date it will not be possible for vehicles to use the north drive (until the full project is completed). At the same time, the shingle on the south drive will be replenished.

## **CONTACTS**

<b>Vicar</b>	<b>Revd Andy Wilson</b> (day off Monday) vicar@christchurchportsdown.org purbrookvicar@gmail.com
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## Sunday 6 December 2020

2nd Sunday of Advent

### Collect

Almighty God, purify our hearts and minds, that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as judge and saviour we may be ready to receive him, who is our Lord and our God. Amen.

### Isaiah 40:1–11

<sup>40</sup>Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. <sup>2</sup> Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. <sup>3</sup> A voice cries out: 'In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. <sup>4</sup> Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. <sup>5</sup> Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.' <sup>6</sup> A voice says, 'Cry out!' And I said, 'What shall I cry?' All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. <sup>7</sup> The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. <sup>8</sup> The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever. <sup>9</sup> Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, 'Here is your God!' <sup>10</sup> See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. <sup>11</sup> He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

### 85:8–13

<sup>8</sup> I will listen to what the Lord God will say, for he shall speak peace to his people and to the faithful, that they turn not again to folly. <sup>9</sup> Truly, his salvation is near to those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land. <sup>10</sup> Mercy and truth are met together, righteousness and peace have kissed each other; <sup>11</sup> Truth shall spring up from the earth and righteousness look down from heaven. <sup>12</sup> The Lord will indeed give all that is good, and our land will yield its increase. <sup>13</sup> Righteousness shall go before him and direct his steps in the way.

## **2 Peter 3:8–15a**

<sup>8</sup> But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. <sup>9</sup> The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. <sup>10</sup> But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed. <sup>11</sup> Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, <sup>12</sup> waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? <sup>13</sup> But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. <sup>14</sup> Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; <sup>15</sup> and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

## **Mark 1:1–8**

<sup>1</sup> The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. <sup>2</sup> As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; <sup>3</sup> the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight" ', <sup>4</sup> John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup> And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>6</sup> Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup> He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. <sup>8</sup> I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.'

## **Post Communion**

Father in heaven, who sent your Son to redeem the world and will send him again to be our judge: give us grace so to imitate him in the humility and purity of his first coming that, when he comes again, we may be ready to greet him with joyful love and firm faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord.