

ST JOHN'S CHURCH

RANMOOR

SUNDAY 10th DECEMBER 2017
Advent 2

10:30am	PARISH COMMUNION	<i>Occasional Singers</i>
	Sermon	Revd Ian Draffan
	Introit	The Advent Prose
	Setting	Short Communion Service <i>Batten</i>
	Motet	Ave Regina Caelorum <i>Salazar</i>
	Hymns	<i>Please see overleaf</i>
4:00pm	CHRISTINGLE	<i>Led by the Children's Ministry Team</i>
6:30pm	EVENSONG	
	Introit	The Advent Prose
	Responses	Plainsong
	Psalm	40.12-End
	Canticles	Short Evening Service <i>Tallis</i>
	Anthem	Alma Redemptoris Mater <i>Salazar</i>
	Sermon	Revd Ian Draffan
	Hymns	<i>Please see overleaf</i>

**** UPDATE ****

**Essential works on the ceiling following
a recently discovered structural fault.**

Worship at St John's will continue in the Parish Centre until further notice. Full choral services and other events due to be held in the church will cease during this period. The scaffolding is taking longer than expected to install due to supply problems, however, the architect hopes that the inspection of the ceiling can commence next week. At this point in time, we are still working on the assumption that the church will remain closed until **14 February 2018**. In the meantime the temporary service pattern of Sunday 10.30am Parish Communion, 6.30pm Evening Prayer and Wednesday 10.30am Said Communion, in the centre, will remain in force for the duration of this period. Sunday morning services will include Footsteps for children, and for younger children a crèche area will be provided. Refreshments will be available after the service and everybody is most welcome to attend. Please note that all bookings in the Parish Centre remain unchanged. Opening hours for the Parish Office are 9.30am to 2.00pm, Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Out of these hours, only in the event of an emergency, please contact the Churchwardens.

NOTICES

We are currently in an interregnum. The Parish Profile has nearly been finalised and this will then allow us to work with our patrons and advertise for our new vicar within the next few weeks. Please hold the Patrons and the PCC in your Prayers during this time.

DURING THE INTERREGNUM the Churchwardens have responsibility for the running of the Church. The Churchwardens are Brian Parfett and Carl Webber. Carl and Brian are contactable on churchwardens@stjohnsranmoor.org.uk. The parish administrator, Claire Webber, will continue to be the key every day contact and will respond quickly and direct any queries that come in to her. Please pray for everyone who has offered to help during the interregnum. Claire can be contacted on: administrator@stjohnsranmoor.org.uk or 0114 230 1199. If a priest is required please contact Claire, who will make arrangements.

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE – Our Christingle service is this afternoon beginning at **4pm**. Why not invite family and friends to join in this very special and beautiful service in aid of the work of the Children's society? People of all ages who will be attending and would like to form a choir to lead the congregational carols are warmly invited to meet in the Parish Centre before the service at 3.20pm for a brief rehearsal (i.e. 40 minutes before the service begins).

PARISH COMMUNION will take place this evening at 6:30pm with a small adult choir in the Parish Centre. All are most welcome to attend.

HOLY COMMUNION will take place on Wednesday at 10.30am in Room 2 of the Parish Centre.

PASTORAL CARE AT ST JOHN'S IN THE INTERREGNUM - The Pastoral Care Team continues to provide short and longer-term support, transport and Communion in the community. We would like everyone to be aware that the person to contact about any pastoral care issues should be Claire Webber, the Parish Administrator.

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS CHURCH CARDS - In the corridor we have available Christmas cards that set out all of the services taking place here at Ranmoor Parish Centre during Advent & Christmas. If you are able to deliver some of them maybe to the streets near to where you live that would be brilliant. They are in piles of 20 and if you could tick off at the side of the name of the street you intend to deliver them to on the sheet next to the cards so that there is no duplication of deliveries. Thank you to all who can help with this important mission activity.

ADVENT STUDY GROUP – The third meeting of the Advent study Group will be on Wednesday 13th December at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre. We are using 'Advent for Everyone - A journey with the Apostles' Tom Wright ISBN 978-0-281-07838-7. (Published 2017) for our reflections It is not necessary to buy the book but please bring a bible with you. The book is based around four themes of thankfulness, patience, humility & joy. Each week will be freestanding, so it is not necessary to come to all four weeks if you have other commitments. We hope you will be able to join us for this time of reflection and discussion during Advent.

CONCERT IN AID OF 'SOUTH YORKSHIRE REFUGEE LAW AND JUSTICE' 3PM ON SUNDAY 10TH DECEMBER will be held at St. Mark's Broomhill performed by Sheffield Chamber Choir and entitled 'Christmas a la Carte'. Entry is free, with a retiring collection.

CAROLS AT BRIDGEDALE WEDNESDAY 20TH DECEMBER AT 2.30PM – St John's congregation has been invited to sing Carols at Bridgedale House on Wednesday 20th December at 2.30pm (for around 45minutes). If you would like to join the group please contact the Parish Office or Malcolm Anker (0114 453 4858). It would be good to have a nice assembly to share their Christmas celebrations.

SHOEBOXES - SAMARITAN'S PURSE – Today we give thanks for all who have filled and brought back their shoe boxes. In total we donated 60 shoeboxes. It has been wonderful to see the response to this very worthwhile cause. Thank you.

NATIVITY – Everyone is invited to the St John's open air Nativity tableau with carols. This is taking place at 4pm on Christmas Eve, in the amphitheatre at the back of the Parish Centre. Children are encouraged to come in simple Nativity costumes for this short service, and everyone is advised to dress warmly!

FOOD BANK – As a church we support the Burngreave Foodbank here in Sheffield. There is a donation box in the corridor of the centre if you wish to donate any non-perishable produce.

INSPIRE – The December/January issue of our Parish magazine “Inspire” is now available at the price of just £1. Why not pick up a copy for yourself, a friend or neighbour?

INSPIRE ARTICLES – The editors of Inspire are doing a series on Unusual Hobbies, if you can contribute in any way please let Gillian Stanley, Peter Marrison or Philip Walshaw know. Also, if you have a special celebration coming up and you would like to share this with our church family please let us know.

WEDNESDAY LUNCH CLUB Join us on a Wednesday for a delicious lunch and great company. The 13th December - This is the last one for the year when Christmas lunch will be served. Lunches will resume on 11th January 2018. Please call Claire in the office for more information. 0114 230 1199.

STREET PRAYER - This important piece of outreach and mission in our parish has started again. Each week a prayer card will be delivered to every house on a road in the parish, the road will be prayed for in our intercession in church on the Sunday. Volunteers are needed to help deliver the cards which will be provided. Do re-acquaint yourselves with the display board too. Please contact Alison Wragg if you have any questions.

APPEAL FOR RINGERS - Ranmoor Ringers are looking to ring Christmas tunes on handbells and would like some extra ringers. (Tuition given). If you would be interested in ringing on handbells please contact Tony at jones.young@btinternet.com or Elaine at elaine@homescott.free-online.co.uk or 07980 953880

THEATRE TRIP – Come and watch Quartet on Wednesday 22 February 2018 at 19.45 in the Lyceum. £24, each payable by mid-December. If possible cash to Gillian Stanley. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the corridor.

WEDNESDAY COMMUNION – please note that there will be no Wednesday morning Communion on Wednesday 27th December.

RIDING LIGHTS, SPONSORED BY NEW WINE, are coming to **St Luke's, Lodge Moor on Thursday 18 January 2018**. Tickets are available online from New Wine OR by contacting St Luke's Office 230 3199 and leaving contact details. The tickets are £10 online with no discounts OR £10 adult and £7 students and unwaged from St Luke's Office.

<i>Please pray for those who are sick:</i>	Sheila Edwards, Hazel Bradey, Reg Law, John Green, Stan Whitehouse
<i>Please pray for those whose anniversary of death occur this week:</i>	Sally Flather, Philip Godard, Dorothy Moore, Horace Ardron, Margaret Walker, Ewart Higgins, Mary Carrie, Audrey Hawkins, Sylvia Lehman
<i>Street Prayer:</i>	We are praying this week for all those who live on Burntstones Drive

SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY: 17TH DECEMBER

10:30am Parish Communion in the Parish Centre

6:30pm Evensong in the Parish Centre

PARISH COMMUNION READINGS

OLD TESTAMENT READING:

Isaiah 40.1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. 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. A voice cries out: 'In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. 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. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.' 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. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever. 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!' See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. 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.

NEW TESTAMENT READING:

2 Peter 3.8-15a

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. 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. 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. 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, 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? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation. So also our beloved brother Paul wrote to you according to the wisdom given to him.

GOSPEL READING:

Mark 1.1-8

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight" ', John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. 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. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. 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. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.'

PARISH COMMUNION HYMNS

Introit Hymn – Hills of the North, Rejoice

1 Hills of the north, rejoice;
river and mountain spring,
hark to the advent voice;
valley and lowland, sing;
though absent long, your Lord is nigh;
he judgment brings and victory.

2 Isles of the southern seas,
deep in your coral caves
pent be each warring breeze,
lulled be your restless waves:
he comes to reign with boundless sway,
and makes your wastes his great highway.

3 Lands of the East, awake,
soon shall your sons be free;
the sleep of ages break,
and rise to liberty.
On your far hills, long cold and gray,
has dawned the everlasting day.

4 Shores of the utmost West,
ye that have waited long,
unvisited, unblessed,
break forth to swelling song;
high raise the note, that Jesus died,
yet lives and reigns, the Crucified.

5 Shout, while ye journey home;
songs be in every mouth;
lo, from the North we come,
from East, and West, and South.
city of God, the bond are free,
we come to live and reign in thee!

Gradual Hymn – Come thou long-expected Jesus

1. Come, thou long expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us,
let us find our rest in thee.

2. Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.

3. Born thy people to deliver,
born a child and yet a King,
born to reign in us forever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.

4. By thine own eternal spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all sufficient merit,
raise us to thy glorious throne.

Offertory Hymn – Wake, O wake! With tidings thrilling

1 "Wake, awake, for night is flying,"
the watchmen on the heights are crying;
"Awake, Jerusalem, arise!"
Midnight hears the welcome voices
and at the thrilling cry rejoices:
"Where are the virgins pure and wise?
The Bridegroom comes: Awake!
Your lamps with gladness take!
Alleluia!
With bridal care and faith's bold prayer,
to meet the Bridegroom, come, prepare!"

2 Zion hears the watchmen singing,
and in her heart new joy is springing.
She wakes, she rises from her gloom.
For her Lord comes down all-glorious
and strong in grace, in truth victorious.
Her star is risen, her light is come!
Now come, O Blessed One,
Lord Jesus, God's own Son.
Sing hosanna!
We answer all in joy your call;
we follow to the wedding hall.

3 Lamb of God, the heavens adore you,
the saints and angels sing before you
with harp and cymbals' clearest tone.
Of one pearl each shining portal,
where, joining with the choir immortal,
we gather round your radiant throne.
No eye has seen that light,
no ear the echoed might
of your glory;
yet there shall we in victory
sing shouts of joy eternally!

Post-Communion Hymn – Hail to the Lord anointed

1 Hail to the Lord's Anointed,
great David's greater Son!
Hail in the time appointed,
his reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
to set the captive free;
to take away transgression,
and rule in equity.

2 He comes with succour speedy
to those who suffer wrong;
to help the poor and needy,
and bid the weak be strong;
to give them songs for sighing,
their darkness turn to light,
whose souls, condemned and dying,
are precious in his sight.

3 He shall come down like showers
upon the fruitful earth;
love, joy, and hope, like flowers,
spring in his path to birth.
Before him on the mountains,
shall peace, the herald, go,
and righteousness, in fountains,
from hill to valley flow.

4 To him shall prayer unceasing
and daily vows ascend;
his kingdom still increasing,
a kingdom without end.
The tide of time shall never
his covenant remove;
his name shall stand forever;
that name to us is love.

EVENSONG HYMNS

Opening Hymn - Creator of the stars and night

1 Creator of the stars of night,
your people's everlasting light,
O Christ, Redeemer of us all,
we pray you hear us when we call.

2 In sorrow that the ancient curse
should doom to death a universe,
you came, O Saviour, to set free
your own in glorious liberty.

3 When this old world drew on toward night,
you came; but not in splendour bright,
not as a monarch, but the child
of Mary, blameless mother mild.

4 At your great Name, O Jesus, now
all knees must bend, all hearts must bow;
all things on earth with one accord,
like those in heaven, shall call you Lord.

5 Come in your holy might, we pray,
redeem us for eternal day;
defend us while we dwell below
from all assaults of our dread foe.

6 To God the Father, God the Son,
and God the Spirit, Three in One,
praise, honour, might, and glory be
from age to age eternally.

Office Hymn - Hark! The glad sound!

1 Hark, the glad sound! The Saviour comes,
the Saviour promised long!
Let ev'ry heart prepare a throne,
and ev'ry voice a song.

2 He comes the pris'ners to release,
in Satan's bondage held;
the gates of brass before Him burst,
the iron fetters yield.

3 He comes the broken heart to bind,
the bleeding soul to cure,
and with the treasures of His grace
to bless the humble poor.

4 Our glad Hosannas, Prince of Peace,
Thy welcome shall proclaim;
and heav'n's eternal arches ring
with Thy beloved Name.

Hymn after the Sermon - Thou whose almighty word

1 God, whose almighty word
chaos and darkness heard
and took their flight:
hear us, we humble pray,
and where the Gospel day
sheds not its glorious ray,
let there be light!

2 Saviour, you came to give
those who in darkness live,
healing and sight,
health to the sick in mind,
sight to the inward blind:
now to all humankind
let there be light!

3 Spirit of truth and love,
life giving, holy dove,
speed on your flight;
move on the water's face,
bearing the lamp of grace,
and in earth's darkest place
let there be light!

4 Gracious and holy three,
glorious Trinity,
wisdom, love, might!
Boundless as ocean's tide,
rolling in fullest pride,
through the earth, far and wide,
let there be light!

Collection Hymn - On Jordan's bank, the Baptist's cry

1 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
announces that the Lord is nigh.
Awake and harken, for he brings
glad tidings of the King of kings!

2 Then cleansed be every life from sin:
make straight the way for God within,
and let us all our hearts prepare
for Christ to come and enter there.

3 We hail you as our Saviour, Lord,
our refuge and our great reward.
Without your grace we waste away
like flowers that wither and decay.

4 Stretch forth your hand, our health
restore,
and make us rise to fall no more.
O let your face upon us shine
and fill the world with love divine.

5 All praise to you, eternal Son,
Who advent has our freedom won,
Whom with the Father we adore,
And Holy Spirit, evermore.