



ST FAITH'S
GREAT CROSBY

Advent Sunday
Sunday 3rd December 2023

Hymns

24 Hark a thrilling voice is sounding
28 Lo, he comes with clouds descending
278 Hands that have been handling
26 O come, O come, Emmanuel,
Psalm 80.1-8

Organ voluntaries before the service

Chorale Prelude on Nun kom, der Heiden Heiland (Come, redeemer of our race) – J. S. Bach
Meditation on “Conditor alme siderum” - Alec Rowley
Chorale Prelude on ‘Merton’ - David Thorne

Recessional voluntary

Hark, a thrilling voice is calling - Malcolm Archer.

Notices

St Faith's Great Crosby can be found on the 'A Church near you' website – this will provide up to date information on upcoming events and services.

Children's Society Collection Box If anyone still has a Children's Society collection box, please can you return it to Rev. Denise McDougall before the Christingle on Christmas Eve.

Friday 22nd December at 10.30am: There will be a small group making the Christingles in the church hall on Friday 22nd December. Anybody who would like to help is very welcome to join us.

Sunday 3rd December at 6:30pm: Advent Carol Service Sung by the Lay Clerks & Consort.

Wednesday 6th December at 10:00am - 5:00pm: St Faith's Christmas Bazaar: Festive Stalls, Raffle & Hot Food.

Wednesday 6th December at 7:30pm: Military Band Concert.

Sunday 10th December at 6:30pm: 9 Lessons & Carols, sung by the Girls, Lay Clerks & Consort.

Tuesday 19th December at 6:30pm: St Faith's Music Department Christmas Concert, sung by the Girls, Lay Clerks, Consort, Junior Choir & Community Choir.

Sunday 24th December at 5:30pm: Christingle Service. *Special service for the Children with a real Donkey!* Sung by the Junior Choir.

This Week's Services

This Sunday 11:00am, Parish Eucharist
Advent Sunday Celebrant and Preacher: Fr. Dennis Smith
6:30pm, Advent Carols, Paula Lampard

Thursday 7th December 12:00pm, Mass, Fr. Dennis Smith

Sunday 10th December 11:00am, Parish Eucharist & Toy Service
Second Sunday of Advent Celebrant and Preacher: Rev. Bill Matthews
Readings: *Isaiah 40.1-11, Psalm 85.1-2, Peter 3.8 -15a, Mark 1.1-8*

Contacts

Vicar: Vacancy. Please ring 0151 928 3342 / 07484381 182 for duty Clergy

Assistant Clergy: Rev Denise McDougall 01704 550590; Fr. Dennis Smith 0151 928 5065; Fr. Bill Matthews 0151 281 4879; Fr. Peter Cowley CA Tel. 0151 426 5441

Parish Reader: Mrs Paula Lampard

Church Warden: Mr Rick Walker 0151 924 6267 / 07710226300

Director of Music: Mr Joe Watson 07585098660

Administrator: Mrs Carolanne Leary 07913873697

Please keep in your prayers

The Diocese: Christ Church, Newburgh School, St Peter & Paul, Ormskirk with St John the Divine, St Anne's School, Asmall School, West End School, Lathom Park School, Ormskirk High School, Christ Church School, The Oaks, Skelmersdale, St John the Baptist, Lordsgate School, St John's School, St Michael Aughton and Holy Trinity, St Michael's School, Bickerstaff School.

Parish: Galloway Road, Molyneux Road, Milton Road, Stuart Road.

The World: For peace in the Ukraine, Palestine and Israel. For those affected by fires, floods and earthquakes. For emergency workers working in disaster areas. For refugees, asylum seekers and agencies that help them. For good stewardship of the earth and its resources.

The Church: The unity of all Christians everywhere. Archbishops Justin and Stephen, Bishop John and Bishop Beverley. Archdeacon Pete, Andrew our Area Dean. Churches in the South Sefton Deanery, and local ecumenical partners.

Those who are sick: Joyce Sharpe, Joan McKortel, Fr Mike Finlay, John Crooke, Stephen Seneviratne, Tracy Riley, Sheila Roberts, Amy Hewitt, Duncan Haughton, Eunice Little, Alistair Byron, Pat Owens, Frank Dunphy, Michael Osborne, Peter Smith, Carl Lee, Gregor Cuff (priest), Fr. Dennis Bury, Fr. Andrew Brown, Irene Taylor, Beckie Loan, Anne Holland.

Those who are to be remembered at this time: Helen Osbaldeston, Laura Holley Smith, Joseph Henry Bates, Eunice Watts, Alma Burns' Leslie Crossley (2015)' Cosmo Gordon Lang (Archbishop), Edward Nuttall, Irene Marshall, Laura Slater Margaret Davies (Peggy), John Hamilton, Elsie Bell, Colette Thornborough (Priest), Ernest Ryan, Edward Ashcroft, Mary Threlfall, Gordon Wolfenden, Sandra Garry, Rosamund Lace.

The 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.

First Reading, Isaiah, 64.1-9

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence - as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil— to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble

at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity for ever. Now consider, we are all your people.

Psalm 80.1-8, 18-20

1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, you that led Joseph like a flock.

2 Shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim, before Ephraim, Benjamin and Manasseh.

3 Stir up your mighty strength and come to our salvation.

4 Turn us again, O God; show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

5 O Lord God of hosts, how long will you be angry at your people's prayer?

6 You feed them with the bread of tears; you give them abundance of tears to drink.

7 You have made us the derision of our neighbours, and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

8 Turn us again, O God of hosts; show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

18 Let your hand be upon the man at your right hand, the son of man you made so strong for yourself.

19 And so will we not go back from you; give us life, and we shall call upon your name.

20 Turn us again, O Lord God of hosts; show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

Second Reading, 1 Corinthians 1.3-9

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind - just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you - so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Welcome with meekness the implanted word
that has the power to save your souls.

Alleluia.

Gospel, Mark 13.24-end

But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see “the Son of Man coming in clouds” with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. ‘From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. ‘But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.’

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.