



# Welcome to the Parish Church of St Stephen

Sunday 16th December 2018

Third Sunday of Advent



**9.30am** Said Mass with Family Ministry  
**Hymns:** 12: S.52

**11.00am** Sung Mass with Sermon  
**Hymns:** 12: 7: 1: C1

## **AT THE LIGHTING OF THE THIRD PURPLE ADVENT CANDLE**

Blessed are you, Sovereign Lord, just and true,  
to you be praise and glory for ever!  
Your prophet John the Baptist was witness to the truth  
as a burning and shining light.  
May we your servants rejoice in his light,  
and so be led to witness to him  
who is the Lord of our coming Kingdom  
Jesus our Saviour and King of the ages.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

**Lord Jesus, Light of the world,  
John told the people to prepare,  
for you were very near:  
As Christmas grows closer day by day,  
help us to be ready to welcome you now. Amen.**

### **659 Gaudete**

**Introit** Rejoice ye in the Lord, and again I say, rejoice ye; let your moderation be known unto all men, the Lord is at hand: be careful for nothing, nor troubled; but in all things, by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto God.

**Psalm** And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding: shall keep your hearts and minds. Glory be to the Father...

**Gradual** Shew thyself, O Lord, thou that sittest upon the Cherubim: stir up thy strength and come. Hear, O thou Shepherd of Israel: thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep.

**Alleluia** Alleluia. Alleluia. Stir up thy strength, O Lord: and come and help us. Alleluia.

**Offertory** O Lord, thou art become gracious unto thy land; thou hast turned away the captivity of Jacob: thou hast forgiven the offence of thy people.

**Communion** Say to them that are of a fearful heart: Be strong, fear not; behold, your God will come and save you.

*A reminder that during Advent we do not sing the Gloria,  
so please remain kneeling after the Kyries for the Collect.*

## **Collect**

O Lord Jesus Christ,  
who at your first coming sent your messenger  
to prepare your way before you:  
grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries  
may likewise so prepare and make ready your  
to the wisdom of the just,  
that at your second coming to judge the world  
we may be found an acceptable people in your sight;  
for you are alive and reign with the Father  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

## **Old Testament Reading - Zephaniah Ch3 v14 - 20**

<sup>14</sup> Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;  
shout, O Israel!  
Rejoice and exult with all your heart,  
O daughter Jerusalem!  
<sup>15</sup> The LORD has taken away the judgements against you,  
he has turned away your enemies.  
The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst;  
you shall fear disaster no more.  
<sup>16</sup> On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:  
Do not fear, O Zion;  
do not let your hands grow weak.  
<sup>17</sup> The LORD, your God, is in your midst,  
a warrior who gives victory;  
he will rejoice over you with gladness,  
he will renew you in his love;  
he will exult over you with loud singing  
<sup>18</sup> as on a day of festival.  
I will remove disaster from you,  
so that you will not bear reproach for it.  
<sup>19</sup> I will deal with all your oppressors  
at that time.  
And I will save the lame  
and gather the outcast,  
and I will change their shame into praise  
and renown in all the earth.  
<sup>20</sup> At that time I will bring you home,  
at the time when I gather you;  
for I will make you renowned and praised  
among all the peoples of the earth,  
when I restore your fortunes  
before your eyes, says the LORD.

## **New Testament Reading - Philippians Ch4 v4 - 7**

<sup>4</sup>Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. <sup>5</sup>Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. <sup>6</sup>Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

## **Gospel - Luke Ch3 v7 - 18**

<sup>7</sup>John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath of come?' <sup>8</sup>Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. <sup>9</sup>Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.'

<sup>10</sup>And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?' <sup>11</sup>In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.' <sup>12</sup>Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, 'Teacher, what should we do?' <sup>13</sup>He said to them, 'Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.' <sup>14</sup>Soldiers also asked him, 'And we, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.'

<sup>15</sup>As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, <sup>16</sup>John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>17</sup>His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

<sup>18</sup>So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

## **Post Communion**

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts;  
kindle in us the fire of your Spirit  
that when your Christ comes again  
we may shine as lights before his face;  
who is alive and reigns now and for ever

### **Please remember in your prayers**

Judy Bobbitt, Tony Renouf, David Le Lievre,  
Hazel Greany, a young man recovering from a problem with drugs,  
Brenda Penfold, Rose, Daphne Swann, Lyn Trieschmann and  
Samantha Brehaut.

Pray for Michele, Jaïke and Glyn; for Melvyn Boxall;  
for Chris Bellinger; and for Samuel.

Stay in touch with St Stephen's: visit our website at  
<http://st-stephens-guernsey.org>

## Services This Week

**Monday 17th December 10.00am** 'Little Treasures' Toddlers' Group  
(all day) Ladies' College Carol Service Rehearsal  
**7.30pm** Ladies' College Carol Service

**Tuesday 18th December 11.00am** - Said Mass BCP

**Wednesday 19th December 7.00pm** - Said Mass

**Friday 21st December 7.00pm** - Said Mass

**Sunday 23rd December**  
**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**9.30am** Family Service

**11.00am** Sung Mass with Sermon

### Christmas at St Stephen's



**Monday 24th Dec.**

**11.00pm** Carols for Christmas

**11.30pm** Midnight Mass

**Tuesday 25th Dec.**

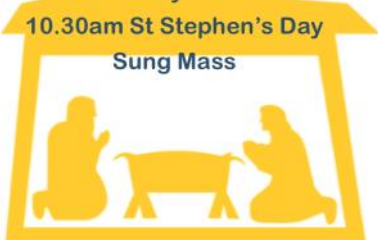
**10.30am** Christmas Day

**Sung Mass**

**Wednesday 26th Dec.**

**10.30am** St Stephen's Day

**Sung Mass**



### Cleaning for Christmas

We will be cleaning the silver on  
Wednesday **19th December**  
and the church on **Thursday**  
**20th December** both starting at  
**9.30am.**

Please come along and help to  
make the church sparkle for  
Christmas.

Please join us for refreshments:

- *in the Vicarage after the 9.30am Mass*
- *in the Vestry after the 11.00am Mass*

*After Mass please put the kneelers back on the shelf. Thank you!*

Deadline for notices for next bulletin – **6.00pm Thursday**

To Tony or email [akaines@cwgsy.net](mailto:akaines@cwgsy.net)