



Welcome to the Parish Church of St Stephen

Sunday 20th December 2020

The Fourth Sunday of Advent



9.30am Said Mass with Family Ministry
Hymns: 11: 186

11.00am Sung Mass with Sermon
Hymns: 3: 11: 184: 186

AT THE LIGHTING OF THE FOURTH PURPLE ADVENT CANDLE

Blessed are you, Sovereign Lord, merciful and gentle;
to you be praise and glory for ever!

Your light has shone in our darkened world
through the child-bearing of blessed Mary;
grant that we who have seen your glory
may daily be renewed in your image
and prepared like her for the coming of your Son,
who is the Lord and Saviour of all.

Blessed be God for ever.

**Lord Jesus, Light of the world,
blessed is Gabriel, who brought good news;
blessed is Mary, your mother and ours:
Bless your Church preparing for Christmas;
and bless us your children who long for your coming. Amen.**

660 Advent 4 (The Fourth Sunday of Advent)

Introit Drop down, ye heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down
righteousness: let the earth open, and bring forth a Saviour.

Psalm The heavens declare the glory of God: and the firmament showeth his
handiwork. Glory be to the Father...

Gradual The Lord is nigh unto all them that call upon him: yea, all such as call
upon him faithfully. *V.* My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord: and let all
flesh give thanks unto his holy Name.

Alleluia Alleluia. Alleluia. *V.* Come, O Lord, and tarry not: forgive the
misdeeds of thy people. Alleluia.

Offertory Hail, Mary, full of grace; the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou
among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb.

Communion Behold, a Virgin shall conceive, and bear a Son: and his Name
shall be called Emmanuel.

Collect

God our redeemer,
who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary
to be the mother of your Son:
grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour,
so we may be ready to greet him
when he comes again as our judge;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Old Testament Reading - 2 Samuel Ch7 v1-11 & 16

¹Now when the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, ²the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent.' ³Nathan said to the king, 'Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you.'

⁴But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: ⁵Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? ⁶I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. ⁷Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, 'Why have you not built me a house of cedar?' ⁸Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; ⁹and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. ¹⁰And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, ¹¹from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house.

¹⁶Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure for ever before me; your throne shall be established for ever.

New Testament Reading - Romans Ch16 v25-27

²⁵Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages ²⁶but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles,

according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith - ²⁷to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory for ever! Amen.

Gospel - Luke Ch1 v26-38

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.'
²⁹But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. ³¹And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³²He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.'
³⁴Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' ³⁵The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁶And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God.'
³⁸Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her.

Post Communion

Heavenly Father,
who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary
to be the mother of the promised saviour:
fill us your servants with your grace,
that in all things we may embrace your holy will
and with her rejoice in your salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Please remember in your prayers

Hazel and John Greany, Christine Shaw,
Brenda Penfold, Alisha De Guerin, Val Moullin,
a woman suffering from depression, Anthony De La Mare,
Melvyn Boxall, Janice Firth, a woman battling with alcoholism,
Maria, Jeannette, Alan Warner, Eileen Price and James.

Services This Week

Monday 21st December 10.00am 'Little Treasures' Toddlers' Group *cancelled*

Tuesday 22nd December 11.00am Mass - BCP

Thursday 24th December 11.00pm Carols for Christmas

11.30pm Midnight Mass

Friday 25th December 10.30am Christmas Day

Saturday 26th December 10.30am The Feast of St Stephen,
Deacon and Martyr
(followed by Reception)

Sunday 27th December

The Feast of St John, Apostle and Evangelist

9.30am Said Mass with Family Ministry

11.00am Sung Mass with Sermon

Advent Daily Devotional Booklets

Don't forget to take the fourth week's booklet today.

Help required

We will be cleaning the silver for Christmas at **9.30am on Monday 21st December** and the church at **9.30am on Wednesday 23rd December**.

Please come and help if you can.

Christmas Message Board

A reminder to collect your envelope and label for our Christmas Message board, so that you can send your greetings to all your friends and help



Please join us for refreshments:

- *in the Vestry after the 9.30 & 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

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