



THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

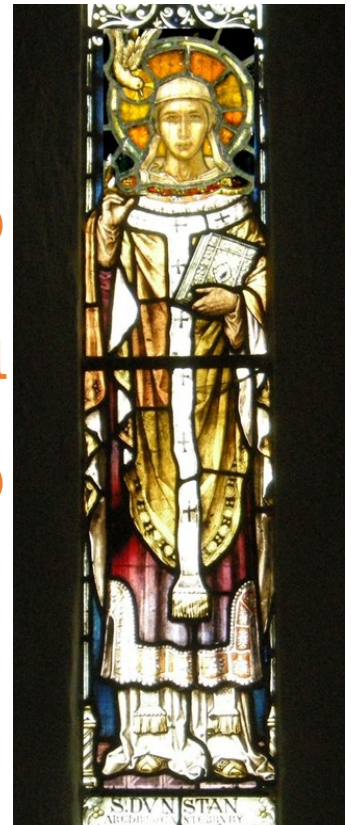
MAYFIELD & FIVE ASHES

# NEWS from

# ST. DUNSTAN'S

## SUNDAY 29 NOVEMBER

# ADVENT SUNDAY



**10.15am Online Service**

[https://youtu.be/ogJ8yT\\_7KY](https://youtu.be/ogJ8yT_7KY)

**READINGS:**

Isaiah 64: 1-9  
Mark 13: 24-37



**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.

### PAUSE FOR THOUGHT

On this Sunday, at the beginning of the new Church Year, we leave **Year A** of our Common Worship Lectionary and begin **Year B**. In the former, for the principal services, the readings were mainly taken from the **Gospel according to Matthew**; we now begin a year focussing on **Mark's Gospel**. In Mark 13 Jesus speaks to us of real and serious things; he

never pretends to us, never does he gloss over costs or dangers. Sensible sailors or hill walkers will check the weather forecast every time they set out so they are prepared. We need to check with God, his will and guidance, every time we make important decisions, as individuals and as members of the Body of Christ.

**Di**

### A PRAYER FOR THE WEEK .....

Our Heavenly Father, as once again we prepare for Christmas, help us to find time for quiet and thought and prayer; that we may reflect upon the wonder of Your love and allow the story of the Saviour's birth to penetrate our hearts and minds.



So may our joy be deeper, our worship more real, and our lives worthier of all that You have done for us through the coming of Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen

*Frank Colquhoun*

### PRAYERS FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

**Giving thanks for:** Deacon Di, our Churchwardens and PCC, Nicky in the Office, the online service team, and all those working hard to keep things going during the vacancy.

**For all who are missing their usual opportunities** to gather together socially.

**For those who are anxious or fearful** about the future.

**For all known to us who are sick in body, mind or spirit.**

**For the recently departed:** Lionel Robinson and Joan Bearne and all those who mourn.

**For those whose anniversaries fall this week:** Victor George, Anthony Chiffey, Geoff Wicker, Brian Wembridge, Mary Ann Poland, Ruth Moore

### AND FOR THE NEEDS OF THE WIDER WORLD

**For our Queen and for her ministers** as they lead our nation.

**For all national leaders,** that they will be guided by a Godly wisdom rather than a selfish gain.

**For scientists** as they seek a coronavirus vaccine.

**All who work to alleviate poverty, hunger and disease .**

## THIS WEEK'S DIARY

**Sun 29th:** ADVENT SUNDAY (and Year B begins)  
10.15am ONLINE SERVICE [https://youtu.be/ogJ8yT\\_7KY](https://youtu.be/ogJ8yT_7KY)  
10-12noon—Church open for private prayer

**Wed 2nd:** 10am SERVICE OF THE WORD—Deacon Di

**Thurs 3rd:** 4.30pm Stewardship and Growth Meeting—Zoom

**Sun 6th:** 10.15am—'All Together' ST NICHOLAS TOY SERVICE

# CHRISTMAS TOY APPEAL

Please bring along your gifts, new and unwrapped  
and in the original packaging, to the

**TOY SERVICE at 10.15am on SUNDAY 6th DECEMBER**

Suggested items for both boys and girls, aged 2 to 17:

Gift vouchers Board Games Lego  
Toiletry Sets Books  
Socks/Hats/Gloves But please NO soft toys

Toys will be distributed to local families through FSW

**DROP OFF POINTS FOR THOSE UNABLE TO ATTEND THE SERVICE:**

Back of church (Sun and Wed am); London House (foot of the stairs at the back); and Mayfield Post Office. THANK YOU.



## ST DUNSTAN'S FESTIVE BAKE AND CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

**Saturday 12th December from 10am until 12noon**  
(outside church and subject to lockdown restrictions)

Christmas cakes, puddings, 'everyday' cakes, preserves, chutneys etc. all very welcome.

**ALL DONATIONS:** a) to Nicky in the Parish Office - please phone first;

b) leave them at the back of Church after a Service when we reopen; or  
c) any perishables can be brought direct to the stall on the morning of the sale.

Thank you to those who have already bought Raffle Tickets. Additional tickets may be bought outside St Dunstan's on Saturday 5th December.

The draw will take place on **Sunday 13th December after the 10.15am Service.**

**PRIZES:** a Luxury Christmas Hamper, Christmas Drinks Hamper and the traditional Harrods Teddy - all well worth winning!

**Thank you, as always, for your support.**



### THE CHURCH BIG CLEAN

will now take place on  
**Wednesday 16th December**

at 10.30am. Please note change of date. Are you able to help? Please contact **Emma Ryder- Richardson** on 01892 783423 or [emma@ryder-richardson.co.uk](mailto:emma@ryder-richardson.co.uk)

THE CHURCH WILL REOPEN on Wednesday 2nd December but only for services: - Sunday 10.15am and Wednesday 10am.



## #PrayerfortheNation

It's not too late to join in this nationwide November prayer initiative—daily at 6pm.

<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-churches/call-prayer-nation>

Listen to inspiring words of encouragement from Archbishop Stephen Cottrell:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c14nOr1Pu3I>

## PLANNED GIVING NEWS – UPDATE

Thank you to those who responded to our appeal earlier in the year which resulted in Planned Giving increasing by 11%. This is a heartening result and lessens the amount the PCC will have to draw on its reserves over time simply to keep the Parish running. **It's not too late if anyone is interested in joining or increasing their giving!** Please do contact Robin Holliday on 01435 873822 or [robinandmaggieholliday@gmail.com](mailto:robinandmaggieholliday@gmail.com)



## ADVENT REFLECTIONS

This year the Diocese of Chichester is offering Advent reflections twice a week in the form of podcasts. The theme will be taken from the lessons contained in the Nine Lessons and Carol service, chosen to help us celebrate the fact the Gospel remains unchanged this Christmas. These will go out Tuesdays and Thursdays throughout Advent and will be available on [Advent - Diocese of Chichester \(anglican.org\)](https://www.advent-diochichester.org/)

See also: [Bishop Martin introduces the Diocese advent 2020 reflections - YouTube](#)

## CHRISTMAS WILL BE DIFFERENT THIS YEAR

but we're very much hoping that the church will be open for:

6pm December 20: Carol Service 1  
6pm December 22: Carol Service 2  
10.30pm December 24: Midnight Eucharist  
10.15am December 25: Christmas Day Eucharist

With the congregation limited to 75 (because of social distancing), we will be ticketing the services. To secure your seat,



general booking is now available on Eventbrite <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/christmas-day-eucharist-tickets-130030589995?ref=eios>

The tickets are free but you will be encouraged to donate to help with the costs of running our beautiful church. Hopefully, there will be oodles of wonderful music, traditional readings and liturgy to help us all share together in the wonder of Christmas. Despite strictly no singing out loud from the congregation, the Choir will be in good voice. Come and let your heart sing!

Churchwardens

## USEFUL CONTACTS:

Parish Office Tel: 873484 ; e-mail [stdunstan@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:stdunstan@tiscali.co.uk)

PLEASE BE IN TOUCH IF YOU WOULD LIKE NAMES ADDED TO OUR PRAYER LIST.

Website: [www.stdunstansmayfield.org.uk](http://www.stdunstansmayfield.org.uk)

MAYFACS Helpline: 01435 873888