Lunchtime Advent Hymn Meditations at St Mary's, Wednesdays 13th and 20th December at 12 noon. Each week an Advent hymn will be chosen and its message looked at as part of the Advent story, followed by a short Act of Worship. At 12.30pm there will be a light lunch in the hall for a donation of £3.00.

Advent Prayer at All Saints Church between 12.00pm and Ipm on Fridays 15th, 22nd December.

Wednesday communions

10.00am St Mary's

Tuesday (12th December)

10.10am All Saints School Assembly

Wednesday (13th December)

7.00pm Light up a Life, Weston Hospicecare Christmas service

Thursday (14th December)

Setting up Cribs for Crib Festival (from 9am until 4pm)

12.30pm Little Saints, All Saints Vestry

Friday (15th December)

All Saints Crib Festival (10am - 4pm)

Saturday (16th December)

All Saints Crib Festival (10am -4pm)

Sunday (17th December)

Following service All Saints Crib Festival (until 4pm)

Next Sunday (17th December)

8.00am	All Saints Holy Communion
10.00am	St Mary's Holy Communion
10.30am	All Saints Holy Communion
3.00pm	St Paul's Carol Service
3.00pm	St Michael's Carol Service
4.00pm	All Saints Carol Service
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5.00pm St Peter and St Paul Holy Communion

6.00pm St Mary's Carol Service

THE BENEFICE OF EAST CLEVEDON

Advent 2 – 10th December

www.eastclevedonchurches.co.uk

Collect

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever.

Isaiah 40: I-II

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.

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.'

IN OUR PRAYERS...

In our benefice we pray for those who are sick;

Roy Guest, Denise Richardson, Shirley Logan, Jean Jones, Fr. Ron Farrell, Andrea Greening, Brigit de Waal, Terry Richards, Anna Mylam, Peter Dodd.

We pray for those who have recently died; Anthony Jones.

In our year's mind we remember, John Lyon, Douglas Hewlett, Olive Potter, Muriel Mombar, Raymond Pulsford, and we pray for all who are mourning the loss of loved ones at this time.

Notices

IMPORTANT NOTICE Please note that <u>ALL</u> the Christmas Eve Late Evening Communion services taking place across the Benefice start at **9pm** (not 10pm as advertised in the Christmas services notice on p.17 of the magazine) Please spread the word!

Christmas services - all our services over the Christmas period are accessible and inclusive, and we warmly invite you to bring family and friends along with you to join us at this special time.

From January 2024 the Parish magazine will rise to £1.00 for an individual copy (currently 50p) but just £10.00 for an annual subscription. The Parish magazine has gone up by only 10p in twenty years and the increase in price will ensure that the magazine pays for itself and can continue into future years.

All Saints Crib Festival stewards needed! We still need stewards to help serve tea and greet visitors on Saturday. 16th December afternoon and Sunday 17th afternoon. If you can offer one or two hours to help we would be most grateful. Please use the sign up sheet at the welcome table at the back of All Saints church or contact the Parish Office (873257). Thank you.