



## **Sunday 27th December 1st Sunday of Christmas**

### **WELCOME**

Welcome to Holy Spirit. We have Sunday School for children from Reception age upwards during term time and a crèche all year round. Large print hymn and service books are available—please ask the sidespeople. There is a loop system; please adjust the setting of your personal hearing aid.

### **JOIN IN**

Please ALL COME to the Lord's table: whether or not you are used to receiving communion. We gather together as members of the family of God to receive either bread and wine or a blessing.

**Please stay for tea,  
coffee & a chat after the  
service**

### **SUPPORT**

Make your donation count: Thank you for supporting Holy Spirit. You can make your donation even more valuable by allowing us to reclaim the tax on your gift. To do so please fill in your details on the front of the Yellow Envelopes.

**THANK YOU!**

### **READINGS**

#### **Samuel 1:18-20, 26**

Like Mary, Samuel's mother Hannah sings a hymn of God's favour when she is found to be with child: she sings, like Mary, of God's favour for the lowly and the overlooked and his promise to raise up those whom the world casts down. After the child is born and weaned she gives him back to the Lord and he is raised in the temple by the priest Eli. Hannah visits yearly at the Passover with a gift for her son and watches in gratitude as he grows in favour with God and with the people.

#### **Luke 2:41-52**

The child Jesus, like the child Samuel, is at home in the temple; like Samuel he will grow up to be a leader of his people; like Samuel he grows in favour with God and the people. Unlike Samuel he loves the temple because it is His Father's house. Hannah gave Samuel to God, God gave Jesus to the world. Mary and Joseph wrestle even his childhood with Jesus' calling: he is given for all people a calling which can seem to conflict with his calling to be a dutiful son to his earthly parents.

This conflict is present for us too, baptised as children of God, we no longer owe our loyalty to just our family of birth but to the whole family of God: a family which stretches across the globe.

Christmas is a family-centred time; how can we ensure that we give our energies and resources, our favour, attention and resources to this wider family in the New Year?

## Calendar

### TODAY

#### Monday 28th Dec

**9.00am** Morning Prayer

#### Tues 29th Dec

**9.00am** Morning Prayer

#### Wed 30th Dec

**9.00am** Morning Prayer

#### Thurs 31st Dec

NO THURSDAY  
EUCCHARIST

#### Friday 1st Jan

#### Sunday 3rd Jan

**9.00am** Said Eucharist

**9.15am** Choir, Stage room

**10.30am** Parish Eucharist

No evening prayer

### **Prayer for Christmas I**

Almighty God,  
Who wonderfully created  
us in your own image,  
And yet more wonderfully  
restored us through your  
Son, Jesus Christ.  
Grant that, as he came to  
share in our humanity  
So may we share the life of  
his divinity;  
Who is alive and reign  
with you and the Holy  
Spirit,  
Amen

### **Please pray for:**

**Those who are sick:** Albert Bell, Heidi Bell, Jane Bell, Tony Trudgill, Tim Grisdale, Chris Friend, John Roberts, Dominic O'Toole, Susannah Olusanya, Nick Lynch, Betty Valkenaar, Cassie Williams, Chris Barton and Donna Gatward.

### **Notices**

**Knitting Group** next meet on Monday 4th January at 7.30pm 19 Rodenhurst Road. All welcome young, old, experienced or beginners.

**Book Group** are reading Breakfast at Tiffany's by Truman Capote and meet next on Wednesday 13th January 8pm 45 Lessar Avenue. Get reading over the holidays and join us for wine and discussion.

The Vicar is on holiday until 7th January. In her absence please contact Sarah Miles wardens@holyspirit-clapham.org.uk she will be able to contact a priest in a pastoral emergency.

Please also show Mtr Louise and Fr Christopher your love and appreciation on 27th December and January 3rd respectively.

**LIVING TEMPLES TO YOUR GLORY** Please come to the OPEN MEETING on **27th January at 7.30pm** to hear the PCC's new and exciting plans for improving and expanding the use of our beautiful building. Do visit the website in the meantime to read about the plans and the thoughts behind them.

We all miss Sara's homemade soup but THURSDAY lunchtime Mass starts back on Thursday 14th January.

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