

This week's diary

Sunday 19th	SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT
8.00am	Eucharist
10.00am	Sung Eucharist
3.30pm	Classic Concert
Monday 20th	S. EDMUND KING AND MARTYR
5.00pm	Beaver Scouts
6.30pm	Cub Scouts
7.00pm	Patronal Festival Sung Eucharist followed by supper
Tuesday 21st	
7.00pm	Scouts
7.15pm	Eucharist
Wednesday 22nd	S. CECILIA
4.15pm	Confirmation Class
5.30pm	Eucharist
7.00pm	Youth Group
Thursday 23rd	S. CLEMENT
10.00am	Eucharist
7.45pm	Badminton Group
Friday 24th	<i>No services today</i>
Saturday 25th	9.30am Eucharist
Sunday 26th	CHRIST THE KING
8.00am	Eucharist
10.00am	Sung Eucharist
4.00pm	Congregational Evensong and Benediction



THE ORBIT

WELCOME
to St. Edmund's
Sunday 19th Nov 2017

2ND SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT

Today's Services

8.00am Eucharist

10.00am Sung Eucharist

Prelude: Aria – Flor Peeters

Setting: Rogers (Thorne Gloria)

Anthem: O come ye servants of the Lord – C.Tye

Hymns: 417, R6, 271, 295, R19

Postlude: Prelude in A Minor – J.S.Bach

Please join us for refreshments in the Hall after the 10am service

Vicar: Father Michael Miller
vicar@saintedmundschurch.org.uk

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**Please take this home with you
for your reference and prayers this week**

orbit@saintedmundschurch.org.uk

Notices

Today's Readings

**Zephaniah 1.7,12-18; 1 Thessalonians 5.1-11;
Matthew 25.14-30**

Zephaniah portrays the 'day of the Lord' in horrible, fearful terms: a frightful picture of unrelieved distress under the wrath of God, because 'they have sinned against the Lord.' It would be possible to dismiss this picture as typical of the Old Testament, rather than the New – a picture unworthy of the God revealed by Jesus. But we cannot do this when we meet the same sense of judgement in today's New Testament readings too.

Paul tells the Thessalonians that 'the day of the Lord' will mean destruction for those who live heedless of it. And he encourages them to prepare for it by being 'alert and self-controlled.' And in Matthew, Jesus himself, in the Parable of the Talents, pictures God as a hard master, who is ready to through his worthless servants into 'outer darkness.'

What does all this mean? The answer is clear: at rock bottom, God regards our moral choices with the utmost seriousness. He treats us as responsible beings, with the capacity to determine our ultimate relationship with him by the choices we make now. It lies in our hands, to chose whether we live in a relationship of love or fear with God. And the sobering message is – God respects our choice, he will not finally force us to change our minds if we decide to neglect and ignore his call.

For your prayers this week...

The sick: Amy Austin, Marianne Dawson, Barbara Fairclough, Bernard Fairclough, Kay Fletcher, Ollie Gardiner, Betty Glass, Iris Golding, Darren Hale, Saman Khan, Margaret Messenger, Suzanne Nicholls, Emil Pimm, Margery Richards, Joan Rix, Ian Roberts, Ros Shirran, Charlie Shirran, Fred Webb, Julie Windsor, Rachel Windsor, Nora Wood

Recently departed: Julie Bent, Paul Baguly (Priest), Daniel O'Leary

JULIE BENT Julie's funeral will take place on Thursday November 30th at 11.00am. There will be no Eucharist on that day.

CLASSIC CONCERT There will be a Classic Concert this afternoon at 3.30pm given by pianist Valentin Schiedermaier followed by tea. Details on the poster in the Susan Old Lounge.

ST EDMUND'S DAY Tomorrow is our Patronal Festival and there will be a Sung Eucharist at 7pm followed by supper in the Hall. The preacher is the Rev. Nick Mercer, former Curate at St Edmund's.

CHRIST THE KING Next Sunday at 4pm there will be Evensong (with congregational responses) and Benediction.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR This week please bring any of the items which we need for the following stalls as time is getting short! Books, DVDs, CDs, Tombola (bottles and tins of any description), Toys and Gifts Please bring them along by next Sunday November 26th and put them on the table at the back of the church.

TEARFUND Would you support their petition to persuade the supermarkets to change their rigid requirements for selling farm products? There is a pile of cards at the back of the church entitled RENEW OUR FOOD. Please take one if you are interested, fill in the relevant page at the back and return it to Jenny Jones today. Many thanks.

WOMEN'S GUILD Many thanks to members and friends who contributed to the Macmillan Cancer Care fund. £148 has been collected so far. There is still time to donate to this worthy cause. See Hilda or Connie.