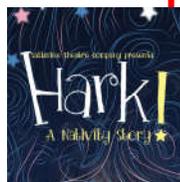


The Church of the Good Shepherd is now open each day for **individual private prayer**,

We would ask **all our visitors** to follow the government's guidance for social distancing, hygiene and isolation. Remember to stay safe.

God bless

Rev. Chris Turner (01732) 882447



This year we will be using a retelling of the nativity by the Saltmine Theatre Company. Filmed live with a full cast and band, it's a 90-minute long, funny, musical re-imagining of the first Christmas, suitable for all ages.



Sunday 20th at 6pm a service of Readings, music and images to reflect on the Christmas story

Wed 23rd at 11am a service using Hark! A Nativity Story

Wed 23rd at 6pm a service using Hark! A Nativity Story

Christmas Eve at 4pm a service using Hark! A Nativity Story

Christmas Eve at 11:30 pm - Midnight Mass

Christmas Day at 10 am - Christmas Holy Communion

**IN OUR PRAYERS** Please remember those who are ill or in special need at this time:  
Judi Couldrey, Pat Head, Victoria Sharp, Jackie Billitch, Shirley Bowman, Celia Smith,  
Alan Soames, Phyllis Hodge, Gillian Aitkenhead, Barry Corbishley, Gill Russell,  
Pam Jones, Gary Sullivan, Brenda Hewson, Linda Valance

**RIP:** Rosina Petrucci

For changes or additions to the pew sheet please email: [vicar.cogs@gmail.com](mailto:vicar.cogs@gmail.com)



# THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD BOROUGH GREEN 1906—2020



**Vicar** Revd. Chris Turner 882447 vicar.cogs@gmail.com (Not available Tuesdays)

**Church Wardens:** Dominick Pearce 490116; Julie Sweeting 885437

**Lay Minister** Elaine Almond 886440 **Reader** Chris Almond 886440

**PCC Secretary** Sally Metcalf 845549 **Treasurer** Mark Sweeting 885437

**Parish Safeguarding Officers:** Carole Simpson 883073, Chris Atkins 366615

## 4th Sunday of Advent — 20th December 2020

Welcome to the Church of the Good Shepherd

Holy Communion - 20th December 2020 10:00am in church  
**Spaces are limited due to COVID-19 restrictions  
so please book**

This service can also be joined via Zoom

See our Church Near You page for details

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/16920/> .

### The 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. Amen

### Prayer after 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. Amen

If you would like to support our work in the community you can now donate by text  
Text COGSGIVING 5 to 70085 to donate £5

Texts cost £5 plus one standard rate message and you'll be opting in to hear more about our work and fundraising via telephone and SMS. If you'd like to give £5 but do not wish to receive marketing communications, text COGSGIVINGNOINFO 5 to 70085.

## **FIRST READING**

### **2 Samuel 7.1-11,16**

Now when David, the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the 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.' Nathan said to the king, 'Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you.'

But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I 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. Wherever 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?' Now therefore 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; and 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. And 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, from 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, David, that the Lord will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure for ever before me; your throne shall be established for ever.

### **The Magnificat**

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour; he has looked with favour on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed; the Almighty has done great things for me and holy is his name.

He has mercy on those who fear him, from generation to generation.

He has shown strength with his arm and has scattered the proud in their conceit,

Casting down the mighty from their thrones and lifting up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good

things and sent the rich away empty.

He has come to the aid of his servant Israel, to remember his promise of mercy,

The promise made to our ancestors, to Abraham and his children for ever

## **SECOND READING**

### **Romans 16.25-27**

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 but 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 – to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory for ever! Amen.

## **GOSPEL READING**

### **Luke 1.26-38**

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord

is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He 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. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' The 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. And 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. For nothing will be impossible with God.' Then 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.