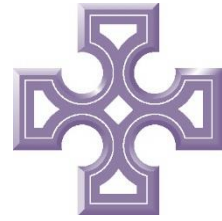




SAINT JOHN'S MALONE



From The Yorck Project. Date:1837-1857 Artist:Ivanov, Aleksandr Andreevich, 1806-1858

Third Sunday of Advent.

Welcome to Saint John's especially all who are visiting today.

An audio loop system is in operation for those with hearing aids. The order of service is available to download from the website and the 10.30am is livestreamed on St John's Malone YouTube channel. Those baptised in the name of the Holy Trinity and are communicant members of their own church are welcome to receive Holy Communion, according to conscience.

Today: Sunday 11th December 2022
9.00 a.m. Eucharist in the Side Chapel
10.30 a.m. Sung Eucharist

The Eucharist ~See service booklet for 10:30am if available or below for page references in the BCP 2004

The Gathering	<i>page 201/125</i>
Celebrant	The Rector
Opening Hymn	104
Lighting of the third candle on the Advent wreath	
Collect of the Day	
Liturgy of the Word	
First Reading	
Psalm	146:4-10 pg.762
Second Reading	
Gradual Hymn	417
Gospel (stand)	
Sermon	Rev. B. Crowe
Peace (stand)	<i>page 207 / 131</i>
Offertory Hymn	324
Liturgy of the Sacrament Great Thanksgiving (1)	<i>page 209</i>
The Lord's Prayer	
Communion	
Motet	In darkness held by R Shephard
Great Silence	
Post Communion Hymn	135 (omit v.8)
Going Out	<i>page 220 ff /145</i>
Post Communion Prayers	<i>page 220</i>
Blessing	
Dismissal	
Organ Voluntary	Tocatta on Veni Emmanuel - Carter
Office Setting	Shephard



Collects

O Lord Jesus Christ,
who at your first coming sent your messenger
to prepare your way before you:
Grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries
may likewise so prepare and make ready your way
by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just,
that at your second coming to judge the world
we may be found an acceptable people in your sight;
for you are alive and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
one God, world without end. **Amen.**

All face East for the Advent 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 and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

First Reading **Isaiah 35: 1-10**

³⁵The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
like the crocus ²it shall blossom abundantly,
and rejoice with joy and singing.
The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.
They shall see the glory of the Lord,
the majesty of our God.

³ Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.

⁴ Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
'Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.

He will come and save you.'

⁵ Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

⁶ then the lame shall leap like a deer,

and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;
⁷ the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,*
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

⁸ A highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Holy Way;
the unclean shall not travel on it,*
but it shall be for God's people;*
no traveller, not even fools, shall go astray.

⁹ No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there.

¹⁰ And the ransomed of the Lord shall return,
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain joy and gladness,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Second Reading **James 5: 7-10**

⁷ Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. ⁹Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! ¹⁰As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm 146:4-10

Gospel Reading *Hear the Gospel of our Saviour Christ according to Matthew chapter ten beginning at verse two. **Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ***

Matthew 11: 2-11

2 When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples³ and said to him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?'⁴ Jesus answered them, 'Go and tell John what you hear and see:⁵ the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them.⁶ And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me.'

7 As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind?⁸ What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces.⁹ What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet.¹⁰ This is the one about whom it is written, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you."

¹¹ Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Post Communion Prayer

Father,

we give you thanks for these heavenly gifts.

Kindle us with the fire of your Spirit

that when Christ comes again

we may shine as lights before his face;

who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Services this week

Wednesday 14th Zoom Compline is at **7:30pm**. Passcodes for Zoom are emailed in the latest Update to parishioners.

Thursday 15th September 10.30am Eucharist *Lucy, Martyr (tr)* with prayer for those in need will take place in the Side Chapel. The prayer list is in the Side chapel.

A cup of tea/coffee is now available after this service.

Next Sunday: Fourth Sunday of Advent 18.12.22

9.00 a.m. Eucharist in the Side Chapel

10.30 a.m. Nine Lessons & Carols *followed by festive refreshments in the L'Estrange Hall*



Notices:

- Welcome to all our visitors. If you need assistance with anything, please ask one of the Churchwardens.
- Under GDPR guidance we need to tell you that we will be recording the service and/or livestreaming today. The cameras will point towards the nave altar and pulpit and only on occasion, towards the entrance doors. Those coming to and from the side areas and exiting will be in the camera view for a short time.
- **We are collecting for South Belfast Food Bank** again. Please leave your contributions in the vestibule on the way in. Thank you.
- Prayers for the sick and all those in need are offered on Thursday morning at the Eucharist. You can send names for the list to the Rector via his email.
- If you're **new to the parish** please ask the Churchwardens or a member of the clergy about the following: GDPR, Free Will Offering Scheme, Gift Aid Magazine, organisations or wanting to know more about life at St John's. We'd be delighted to help and to get to know you.
- **Coffee/tea** will follow this service as new teams get up and running.
- Parents & Toddlers is meeting again in Seaver Hall Tuesday 10am-11:30am

READINGS:

Isaiah 35:1-10: God's promise to restore God's people, creating a land of peace and prosperity for them, and providing a safe and sure way for them to return home, guaranteeing their arrival in God's Zion where they will find gladness, joy and an end to their suffering.

Psalms 146:5-10: A celebration of the God who helps those in need – the poor, the blind, the prisoner, the bent over, the widow, the orphan – and who trips the wicked up.

James 5:7-10: James encourages the believers to be patient as they wait for God's coming, even as the farmer waits for rain, and as the prophets of old faithfully endured their suffering with patience.

Matthew 11:2-11: John the Baptist sends his disciples to question whether Jesus is the One or if he should wait for another, and Jesus assures him with the example of his ministry of liberation, healing and proclaiming the Good News. Then he teaches about John's role, explaining that, as great as he was, those who embrace God's reign are greater still.

REFLECTIONS ON THEME:

The invitation to find fullness of life in the commonwealth of God resonates through all of this week's readings. God's grace and love cover and protect those who seek God's reign, and God guides them – provides a 'way' for their journey – bringing them joy and gladness as they enter God's home. The journey, though, is not easy, even though it is protected. It is a journey requiring patience (James), and in which the poor, the needy, the vulnerable and the weak are to be served and protected – for these are the marks of God's reign, both in those God 'chooses' (like Mary) and in the Messiah God's people seek to follow (as in Matthew's Gospel). Ultimately, though, those who endure and stay on the path will find an end to their suffering (and that of those they have served) and eternal joy. What an awesome vision!

Organising your wedding in St John's

Weddings are special occasions in the life of any family and of the Church. We'd be delighted to talk to anyone contemplating their wedding in St John's. When considering getting married please check possible dates with the Rector before confirming any other arrangements. It is expected that couples will make a regular commitment to the life of the Church in preparation for marriage.



If you are considering donating any items to the foodbank then we would really appreciate any of the following...

Tinned meat Tinned potatoes/ Smash Long life juice Tinned soup Toiletries Toilet roll Washing up liquid Washing powder You can either pop the items directly into the basket at Tesco Newtownbreda or donate directly to the foodbank.

We are open for donations every Wednesday 1-3pm and every Thursday 10am-12pm.

Our warehouse is Unit 4, 23 Sunwich Street, Belfast, BT6 8HR

Any questions regarding donating please call us on 07743332489 or email us on info@southbelfast.foodbank.org.uk



St John's Malone

ITEMS REQUIRED AT PRESENT: *Please place in the baskets in the entrance vestibule/porch.*

Long life juice; Tinned fish; Tinned spaghetti; Tinned fruit; Jars of jam; Tinned rice pudding; Tinned potatoes or Smash; Toiletries – soap, shampoo, shower gel, toothpaste etc.

www.malone.connor.anglican.org

@malonestjohns

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Registration Number NIC101984*

The Parish Office for administrative matters, or for information about organisations connected with St John's (90667861) e-mail: secstjohns@btconnect.com

The Rector, Rev. Canon Stephen Fielding can be contacted on pastoral matters (90666644)
e-mail : malone@connor.anglican.org

Please take this booklet home with you for the readings, notices and reference during the week and recycle.