







John the Baptist Altar of Saint Catherine (1465) Stadtkirche St. Johannes und St. Martin (Schwabach)

Second 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 8th December 2024 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 page 201/125
Presiding The Rector

Opening Hymn 126

Lighting of candle of Advent Wreath

Collect of the Day
Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

Psalm Benedictus -the Song of Zechariah pg.91

Second Reading

Gradual Hymn 136

Gospel (stand)

Sermon The Rector **The Peace** (stand) page 207 / 131

Offertory Hymn 1283

Liturgy of the Sacrament Great Thanksgiving (1) page 209

The Lord's Prayer

Communion

Motet People Look East – trad. arr. Archer

Great Silence

Post Communion Hymn 706 (T.125)

Going Out *page 220 ff / 145*

Post Communion Prayers page 220

Blessing

Dismissal

Organ Voluntary Chorale Prelude Wachet Auf – JS Bach

Office Setting Archer

Collect

Father in heaven,

who sent your Son to redeem the world

and will send him again to be our judge:

Give us grace so to imitate him

in the humility and purity of his first coming

that when he comes again,

we may be ready to greet him with joyful love and firm faith;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



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 Malachi 3: 1-4

3See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. ²But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; ³he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. ⁴Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Second Reading Philippians 1: 3-11

3 I thank my God every time I remember you, ⁴constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, ⁵because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. ⁷It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. ⁹And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow

more and more with knowledge and full insight ¹⁰to help you to determine what is best, so that on the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, ¹¹having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Reading Hear the Gospel of our Saviour Christ according to Luke chapter three beginning at verse one. Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

Luke 3: 1-6

3In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler* of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler* of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler* of Abilene, ²during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, ⁴as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

- "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.
- Every valley shall be filled,
 and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
 and the crooked shall be made straight,
 and the rough ways made smooth;
 and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Post Communion Prayer

Stir up, O Lord, the wills of your faithful people; that plenteously bearing the fruit of good works they may by you be plenteously rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Services this week

Wednesday 11th Zoom Compline 7:30pm.

Thursday 12th *St Lucy (tr) -bringer of light.* **10.30am** 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: Advent Sunday 15.12.24

9.00 a.m. Eucharist in the Side Chapel

10.30 a.m. Sung Euchaist & Sunday School Nativity Coffee/tea follows this service and all are welcome.

<u>A SERVICE OF NINE LESSONS & CAROLS SUNDAY 22ND AT 10:30AM</u> <u>FOLLOWED BY SEASONAL REFRESHMENTS</u>



Notices: | Sign up for the regular email Update at secstjohns@btconnect.com

Contactless Payments The Select Vestry has made a new contactless payment device available in the parish from today and may be used for any donations you'd like to make at social time after the service in the hall.

Giving and Stewardship in St Johns' much of our income received is through the Free Will Offering Scheme using either envelopes or increasingly, by Standing Order. Standing order forms are available by asking the Churchwardens or contacting the Office or secstjohns@btconnect.com. Alternatively if you wish to make a donation then the account details for St John's are also available from the Wardens. Your donations help us maintain our buildings and support ministry and outreach here in St John's and more widely.

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.

Hospital Visiting

The Rector would appreciate knowing if parishioners are going into or are in hospital or discharged and is pleased to offer pastoral support.

Safeguarding

The Rector, select vestry and parish leaders are committed to uphold the good practice to the parish's ministry with children, young people and vulnerable adults. Should you have any concern or suspicion regarding child welfare in the parish please contact a member of the

Parish panel.

Rev Canon Stephen Fielding 9066 6644 Mrs Patricia Armstrong 07854005699 Dr Anthony Stevens 07710647080

READINGS

God is always working for restoration and justice in our lives and in our world. In order to open ourselves to this gracious work of God, we need to be aware of the messengers who proclaim God's coming, we need to be willing to do the tough work of heart preparation in order to be transformed by God, and we need to hear the call of God for us to become, in our turn, messengers – voices – of God's Reign.

May our worship this week remind us of God's constant, restorative coming, and may it give us a voice to proclaim the restoration and justice of God in our own corner of the world.

<u>Malachi 3:1-4</u>: God is sending God's messenger to prepare for God's coming, and God's people and God's priests will be refined and made pure.

<u>Luke 1:68-79</u>: Zechariah's song of thanksgiving for God's rescue of Israel, and his proclamation of his son, John, as the messenger who will prepare the way for God's coming. <u>Philippians 1:3-11</u>: Paul's prayer of thanksgiving for the Philippians, his desire for them to grow in love and purity, and his assurance that Christ will complete the work begun in them. <u>Luke 3:1-6</u>: John travels throughout the region of the Jordan River calling people to repentance and baptising them as a sign of their willingness to change, and of God's forgiveness. In doing this John fulfils Isaiah's prophecy of the voice in the wilderness preparing the way for the Lord.



Urgently needed food items - in order of priority.

Long Life Juice UHT Milk Oats Jams/Honey/Spreads Tinned potato/Instant Mash Pulses (chickpeas/kidney beans/lentils) Coffee/Tea Tinned Fruit Custard/Rice Pudding Shampoo/Shower Gel | Household cleaning items - Fairy liquid / anti-bac spray/ washing powder etc

Donations to the Foodbank can either be placed directly into the basket at Tesco Newtownbreda or donate directly to the Foodbank. Or please place items in the baskets in the church entrance vestibule/porch.

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





www.malone.connor.anglican.org

@malonestjohns

Thank you for your generosity | We depend on your gifts of time treasure and talent to keep ministry in St John's running. To make an offering in support of the parish please give at the welcome table near the church door or by scanning this QR code. Please use Gift Aid if you can. To set up regular giving, which helps our ministry planning, please contact Joanne Macartney at treasurer.stjohns@hotmail.com https://givealittle.co/c/stjohnsdonate



Citations from the Revised Common Lectionary, used and adapted for use in the Church of Ireland with permission, copyrighted © 1992. Consultation on Common Texts.

CCLI licence No. 1996325 Streaming License No. 524611 St John's Malone Charities 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.

Advent & Christmas in St John's Malone

15 Dec 9.00 Eucharist,10.30 Eucharist & Nativity Play 22 Dec 9am Eucharist, 10.30 Nine Lessons & Carols

24 Dec Christmas Eve 11.00pm Midnight Eucharist 25 Dec Christmas Day 9.00 Eucharist, 10:30 A Christmas Morning Service

26 Dec St Stephen 10.30 Eucharist 27 Dec St John 10.30 Eucharist 29 Dec 9.00 Eucharist for The Holy Innocents Day, 10.30 Eucharist with carols for Christmas I 5 Jan 2025 9.00 Eucharist, 10.30 Sunday First for Epiphany

