

Welcome to St Stephen's



We are delighted that you are joining us in church or online today. Enjoy sharing time with us today and we hope that you are able to meet with God through one of our services. Please do get in touch if you would like any further information at office@shottermillparish.org.uk

Sunday 29 November

Advent 1

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| 9am | Morning Prayer with short reflection via Facebook Live (You don't need a Facebook account to view)

Readings: Isaiah 64:1-9
Mark 13:24-end |
| 10.45am | Online Holy Communion Service via Facebook Live with music, readings, sermon and prayers in an all in one live stream. |
| 12.30pm | Storytime suitable for the young and young at heart. |

Prayer Points for this week

Mission Partners. This Sunday we join in praying for the **Tearfund**. Please pray for communities in Malawi facing hunger. Weather have changed, resulting in widespread flooding and/or drought, leading to loss of the crops. Tearfund is working through local churches to train communities in new farming techniques and planting trees to reduce the risk and impacts of flooding. (For more info, have a look at the short video on our Facebook page). Please pray for the 2 billion people who do not have access to basic sanitation, like toilets, and for Tearfund's partners as they work to improve people's access to clean water and sanitation. Give thanks for Tearfund's Church and Community Transformation work in Honduras where God is raising up courageous young leaders to bring change in deeply challenging areas of drugs/ gangs and violence in urban slums. Please pray that God will protect them and resource them in their initiatives.

Parish Roads
General

Rackfield

Prayer for the Nation

Each day during November, at 6pm we will take a collective moment in prayer together. A booklet of prayer available [HERE](#)

Coming up

[Facebook Live](#) Broadcasts Monday to Friday and 9am on Sunday

7.30am Morning Prayer

7.30pm Night Prayer

11am (ish) Children's Story

9am Communion Services in church are cancelled until further notice.

Advent Series starting Tuesday 1 December at 7.45pm via Zoom

This year's advent course explores the themes of hope, peace, joy and love. What does the Bible say about them, how do we find them, and how do we live in them? Join us on Tuesday evenings from 1st December at 7.45pm on Zoom. You can book in on ChurchSuite or email the office, you will then be sent the Zoom link to join.

Church of England Comfort and Joy Advent Reflections

There will be weekly reflections published on social media and available by email and app for each Sunday of Advent. Weekly Advent reflections from 29 November - 20 December. Daily Christmas reflections from 25 December - 2 January. You can sign up for the email reflections [HERE](#)

Messy Church All Age Advent on Sunday 6 December live via Facebook at 4.30pm

We may not be able to meet in person this Christmas for our Messy church event, but it's not cancelled! You will be able to view our craft videos on our Facebook and YouTube pages from 4 December. Our live All Age Advent service will be on our Facebook page on Sunday 6 December at 4.30pm

St Stephen's Open for Private Prayer

The church will continue to be open for private prayer each Wednesday in November from 10am-12pm. Please bring your own bible if you would like and we would ask you to wear a face mask when in the church. As the weather gets cooler, please dress appropriately.

Guildford Cathedral Sunday Sermon

In the Bishop's Sermon for Advent Sunday, Bishop Andrew looks at the theme of 'the end of the world', focusing on the lectionary readings for the day and especially the gospel reading from Mark 13:24-end. [HERE](#)

Radio 4 Sunday Worship -you can listen on Sunday at 8.10am. (or catch up later) **Cities of Promise - A place for good news.** On the eve of St Andrew's Day theologian and scholar of Celtic Christianity, Gilbert Markus, sees the spiritual pilgrim's vision of a heavenly city. Reading: John 1: 35-42, 1-18 You can listen [HERE](#)

Advent Pack

Hopefully you will have received your Advent Pack if you are on our Electoral Roll, it contains resources for you to use over advent and details of what's happening in the coming weeks. Also, a small reminder that God is with you wherever you are. If you have not received one, please let the office know and we can get a pack to you.

Notices

Small Group

Louisa and Ralf Mason run a fortnightly small group on Thursdays (via Zoom at present). From Nov 4th they are starting a new series based on 'At Sea with God' by Margaret Silf. This weaves Ignatian Spirituality with sea analogies as a model for our spiritual journey. New people very welcome to join for just this series or permanently. Contact Louisa for more info.

Operation Christmas Child – EXTENDED DEADLINE

Please return your filled boxes to Maura the weekend of **5-7 December** or beforehand if you can. So, if there is anyone who would still like to fill a box you still have time, and Maura is happy to deliver an empty box to your doorstep giving you 4 weeks to fill and return. Any questions do give Maura a call on 01428 651257

Contacts

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Find us on



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