



Welcome to our services!

In this newsletter you can find all you need to know about what is happening here, what facilities are available and what else is going on at HTC. If you are new or would like further details about the church and what goes on then please pick up a 'Connect' card from the desk in the foyer and speak to one of those involved in leading the services.

Children's and Young People's Activities Today

During the **9.30am** service there is a crèche for under 3's in **Oak/ Olive in the Ministry Centre**. All children aged 3+ come into church for the beginning of the service before departing for their groups:

- Scramblers aged 3 in the **Church Hall**
- Jumpers ages 4 & 5 in the **Church Hall**
- Climbers Y1 & Y2 in the **Village Hall**
- AGS Explorers Y3 & Y4 in the **Village Hall**
- Trekkers Y5 & Y6 in Willow (**Ministry Centre**)
- Pathfinders Y7 - Y9 in in the **Village Hall**

During the **6.30pm service** Pathfinders (11-13) come to the beginning of the service and then go out to the Ministry Centre for teaching and games; and Youth Fellowship (14-18) attend the 6.30pm service, then hold fellowship and small groups after the service.

Recording of Sermons

Recordings of 9.30am sermons can be listened to online or downloaded from our website or CD copies can be ordered from the Church Office.

We have a hearing loop in the main church which runs down the columns. If you wear a hearing aid with a T setting and wish to take advantage of the hearing loop please sit inside the columns, avoiding the back 4 rows on the left.

Refreshments

Tea & Coffee will be served between the end of the 9.30am service and the start of the 11.15am service, and before the 6.30pm service. Squash is also available for the children. We would be delighted if you can stay and join us.

Bookstall

The Bookstall is open each Sunday after the 9.30am service and during weekday office hours for books and greetings cards.

Prayer Room

The Prayer Room is open during office hours Monday to Friday for personal prayer.

Today's Services

8am HOLY COMMUNION

Leader and
 Preacher: Mike Barton
 Genesis 48 p54

9.30am HOLY COMMUNION

Leader: Richard Rugg
 Preacher: Philip Plyming
 Genesis 48 p54

11.15am MORNING PRAISE

Leader: Katherine Willis
 Preacher: Philip Plyming
 Genesis 48 p54

4pm 4 O'CLOCK CHURCH

Leaders: Gerry Valter and
 Julian Coy
 Genesis 48 p54

6.30pm EVENING PRAISE

Leader: Sarah Tapp
 Preacher: Philip Plyming
 Genesis 48 p54

This week's prayers

Services

- Pray for those leading and preaching at our Sunday services: Mike Barton, Richard Rugg, Philip Plyming, Katherine Willis, Gerry Valter, Julian Coy and Sarah Tapp.
- Pray for the Crafts and Carols Christmas event for women on Thursday evening. Pray especially for the many non-HTC members who will be attending, and for Sarah Slater as she speaks.
- Pray for all who will be coming along to the Advent Prayer Room this week, that they would have a special time of recharging and connecting with God at this busy time.
- Pray for Dads' Toddlers' Praise on Saturday and for all the Dads and children who will be attending.

Pastoral/Church Family

- Pray for members of the church family who are currently unwell and especially for: Barbara Adams, Beryl Bailey, Maureen Boddy, Mary Brows, Gillian Caporn, Mary Cripps, Katie Elmore, Yvette Fountaine, Kate Gifford, Mike Guest (in hospital), Wendy Howe, Laura James, Jen Marshall, Margaret Standish, Mollie Woodward and those going through any difficulty.
- Pray for all who are bereaved, and especially for the families and friends of Richard Ayling, Dorothy Peart, Mark Sprackland and Colin Mays.

Mission

- Pray for the Charles family and their work with OMF. Gerard is spending a lot of time working with and encouraging mobilisers around the UK who support mission in East Asia. He has also made progress with a new chapter of his PhD, writing about government influences on the preaching of Islam. Sarah has asked us to pray with her, that more people would be prepared to care for children of overseas missionaries adjusting to life in the UK.

World

- Pray for the humanitarian crisis in Yemen resulting from fighting between the Saudi-supported government forces and the Iranian-supported Houthi rebels. Approx. 21.2 million people (83% of the population) are in need of humanitarian assistance of some form. More information can be found at tearfund.org
- In the wake of Donald Trump promising to pull out of the Paris Climate Agreement, pray for the conviction of other nations to lead by example and the US president-elect to soften his stance.
- Pray for all those caught up in the ongoing conflict in Syria – particularly for those trapped and scared under the constant threat of bombing and unable to escape. May God have mercy.

Collect for the First Sunday of Advent:

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, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

This week's notices

Preparing for Christingles Friday 2 Dec

There is lots of preparation to do in advance for our Christingle services! If you are free on Friday 2 Dec 9.30am - 12pm do call in and join us in the foyer to help thread sweets onto cocktail sticks and prepare the candles. Come for as little as half an hour or longer to help – and enjoy coffee and fellowship! **LOTS** of help needed!

Faculty application for work to North Tower

As you may be aware, the clock tower is in need of some urgent repairs as a result of wet rot in some structural timbers. A number of minor repairs to the outside of the tower are also needed, together with a refurbishment of the clock face which is in a poor state of repair. The PCC has unanimously approved an application for a Faculty from the Church of England to allow us to carry out this work. A formal notice of this application can be viewed on the notice boards in the foyer and outside the main entrance. Further details of the proposed work are available for inspection in the Church Office.

Crafts and Carols for women Thurs 1 Dec

Crafts and Carols for women is now fully booked... please do pray particularly for the many non-HTC members who will be attending.

Toys for Barnardo's project in Tunbridge Wells

Please bring along unwrapped gifts (for ages 2 to 5) to any service on Sun 4 Dec (or to the church office by Mon 5 Dec). Those attending at 9.30am will be invited to bring them up during the children's item. If attending other services, please leave them by the office door. Suggestions include simple books, curriculum based toys (numbers, counting, letters) and transport toys (cars, trains etc).

Carols on The Green Sunday 11 December

Everyone is welcome to join us at 4pm on Sun 11 Dec for Carols on The Green, followed by mulled wine and mince pies! Come along for a short service led by Philip, and sing some carols accompanied by the Scout and Guide band.

Lunch for the 11.15am Congregation

On Sunday 11 Dec there will be a lunch for the 11.15am congregation, starting at 12.45pm in the church hall. Please sign up in the foyer - and why not invite a friend along to the service and lunch? Voluntary contributions towards the cost of the lunch can be made on the day. For more details contact Anna Lise Gordon 460273 gordonarrh@aol.com

New church directories

The church directory has been reprinted - copies are in the letter rack for those who appear in the directory but do not have email addresses listed. Others who prefer a hard copy rather than accessing the online directory can obtain one from the office - suggested donation £2 to cover printing.

01372 463603

churchoffice@holytrinityclaygate.org.uk

Dorcas Sale today

The Dorcas handicraft group will be having a sales table after the services today starting at 9am. The money raised will go to the Ukraine medical fund.

Advent Prayer Room

From **today** until Fri 23 Dec, the Prayer Room will be transformed into a drop-in Advent prayer space. It is an opportunity to spiritually recharge during Advent and spend 5 or 50 mins engaging with God - all ages welcome! The prayer room will be open during office hours, and occasional evenings - details to follow!

Besom prayer meeting

Everyone is welcome to join members of the Besom team to pray for the work of the Besom project - meeting in Sycamore (upstairs in Ministry Centre) on Mon 28 Nov 9.15-9.45am.

Children's groups' Christmas parties

In their usual group time during the 9.30am service on Sun 4 Dec, the children's groups will be having their Christmas parties! Please come dressed to party and bring a friend!

Beer and Carols for men

Following the success of 'Beer & Carols' for men last year, we are running it again on Thurs 15 Dec from 7.45 to 10pm. The evening will include four half pints of craft beer, a hog roast and carols. Tickets £15 from the church office - do invite a friend!

Weekend retreat 2017

Linda Morgan will be running another weekend retreat at St Cuthmans from Fri 22-Sun 24 Sept 2017. To register interest in coming, please contact Katherine in the office as soon as possible.

www.holytrinityclaygate.org.uk

This week's diary

Mon - Fri	8.45am	Daily Prayer in the Prayer Room
Mon 28 Nov	9.15am	Besom prayer meeting - all welcome, see over for info
Tues 29 Nov	10am	Connections Coffee Stop for Seniors in the foyer
Wed 30 Nov	10 & 1	Toddlers' Praise in the Ministry Centre
Thurs 1 Dec	7.30pm	Crafts & Carols for women - see over
Fri 2 Dec	9.30-12	Christingle preparation - all welcome to help!
Sat 3 Dec	10am	Dads' Toddlers' Praise in the Ministry Centre
	4pm	Lights on The Parade

Sunday 4 December

8am Holy Communion Leader and Preacher: Philip Plyming	9.30am Morning Praise Leader: Philip Plyming Preacher: Richard Rugg	11.15am Holy Communion Leader: Mike Barton Preacher: Richard Rugg	4pm 4 O'clock Church Leaders: Philip Plyming and Stephen Valter	6.30pm Holy Communion Leader: Mike Barton Preacher: Richard Rugg
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Upcoming Events

	12.45pm	Lunch for the 11.15am congregation
Sun 11 Dec	4pm	Carols on The Green followed by mulled wine and mince pies
	6.30pm	Illuminate Carol Service - an 'alternative' carol service
Mon 12 Dec	8pm	PCC meet in Emmanuel Hall
Thurs 15 Dec	7.45pm	Beer & Carols for men - see over
Sun 18 Dec	6.30pm	Traditional Carol Service followed by mulled wine and mince pies
Christmas Eve	3, 4.15 & 5.30pm	Christingle Service – come to whichever suits you!
	11.15pm	Holy Communion
Christmas Day	9am	Holy Communion with carols
	10.30am	All Age Service
Sun 1 Jan		Normal services at 8am, 9.30am and 11.15am No 4 O'clock Church or 6.30pm service today!
Wed 4 Jan	8pm	Small group leaders' meeting (repeated Sat 7 Jan)
Sat 7 Jan	10am	Small group leaders' meeting (repeat of Wed 4 Jan)
Sun 8 Jan		Vision Sunday