



13th December 2020
3rd Sunday of Advent

St James' Church
www.stjamesexeter.org Exeter

Rector

Fr Henry Pryse 01392 431297
Day off: Thursday

Assistant Priest

Fr Martin Poolton 01392 477488
Day off: Saturday

Assistant Curate

Fr Steve Turner 01392 670022
Day off: Friday

Parish Office

Mount Pleasant Road, Exeter. EX4 7AH.
01392 420407. office@stjamesexeter.org

No visitors at present

Charity register number: 1128877

This Week

Morning Prayer is said at 8.30 am Mon – Fri

Mon 14th December Matt. 21 vv. 23 – 27
John of the Cross, poet, teacher of the faith, 1591

Tue 15th December Matt. 21 vv. 28 – 32

Wed 16th December Luke 7 vv. 18b – 23

Thu 17th December Matthew 1 vv. 1 – 17
O Sapientia

Eglantyne Jebb, social reformer, founder of
'Save The Children', 1928

Fri 18th December Matthew 1 vv. 18 – 24

Sat 19th December Luke 1 vv. 5 – 25
Ember Day

Next Sunday: 20th December
4th Sunday of Advent

Luke 1 vv. 26 – 38

8.00 am Holy Communion

10.00 am Parish Eucharist

6.00 pm Online Carol Service

Exeter foodbank Advent is also a time for giving!

Community Larder

Exeter Foodbank and the Community Larder at St Katherine's Priory need your support.

Avoid the Chill!

Please remember to dress warmly for church, as the risk of virus transmission means that the heating cannot be used.



Greetings cards, 'thank you' notelets or simple Christmas gifts: these high-quality cards with envelopes feature the 'Compassion' sculpture inside St James' Church and are available at only £2.00 for a pack of 5. Contact the parish office with your order!

Advent Wreath Prayer

Lord Jesus, Light of the world, John told the people to prepare, for you were very near. As Christmas grows closer day by day, help us to be ready to welcome you now.

Collect

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

Sharing God's love through worship, fellowship and service

First Reading: Isaiah 61 vv. 1-4 & 8-11

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion – to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory. They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. [...] For I the Lord love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed. I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5 vv. 16-24

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil. May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

Gospel Reading: John 1 vv. 6-8 & 19-28

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. [...] This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, 'I am not the Messiah.' And they asked him, 'What then? Are you Elijah?' He said, 'I am not.' 'Are you the prophet?' He answered, 'No.' Then they said to him, 'Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?' He said, 'I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, "Make straight the way of the Lord"', as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, 'Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?' John answered them, 'I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal.' This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

Post-Communion Prayer

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts; kindle in us the fire of your Spirit that when your Christ comes again we may shine as lights before his face; who is alive and reigns now and for ever.



Scout Post
Hopefully back in 2021
Unavailable this year
Sorry