

Welcome to St Dunstan's and Southville Churches

Feltham Ecumenical Parish:
Anglican and Methodist Churches in
partnership

Sunday 29
November
2020

**Advent
Sunday**

Today is the first Sunday of Advent, which means expectant waiting and preparation, as reflected in our readings. Although we have no idea when the events described by St Paul may happen, he urges us to be ready and keep watching.

It seems to me that we have spent most of 2020 watching and waiting whilst events connected with the coronavirus situation unfolded. Many of us have been affected, whether we have been ill ourselves, had family or friends who were ill or have sadly departed from us, being unable to visit family, worrying about the situation, or just trying to cope without any normality during lockdowns. There have been irritating consequences: panic buying, appointments and holidays being cancelled, shortage of loo rolls! There have also been benefits: better air quality, less traffic, time to speak to neighbours and offer a helping hand, a slower pace of life, catching up on reading and television. It has been difficult to maintain contact with loved ones: I give grateful thanks for modern technology, which has literally been a Godsend for many.

I miss coming to St Dunstan's, the services and hymns, and catching up with everyone face to face over a cup of tea or coffee. I give thanks that the Zoom services are so well received; there is a sense of relief that at least I can see and hear many of the congregation and we do have the opportunity to chat after the Zoom service.

Looking forward, I give thanks for the light at the end of the tunnel with the work on creating a vaccine. While we watch and wait, I reflect that of a certainty, Christmas 2020 will be unlike we had expected as 2019 ended - perhaps it will go down in history as the Zoom Christmas!

Dee Howley

Church Notices: Southville Methodist

There will be no services in church until Sunday 13th December. Meanwhile the Staines **Zoom Service** continues each Sunday at 10.30am. Contact Matt Sendorek (matt.sendorek@btinternet.com) for an email invitation, or Roz Sendorek on 01784 459984 or 07712 816163.

Circuit Bible Study by zoom on Thursdays starting at 9.30am studying Matthew. Please contact Jonathan Griffiths for details to join – you can join by phone. Email contact: jonathan.griffiths@sfmc.org.uk

Church Notices: St. Dunstan

The **Sunday Zoom service** takes place every Sunday at 10.30am. All are welcome; phone or email the parish office for details of how to connect from computer, smartphone or tablet. Email admin@stdunstansfeltham.org.uk

There will be services in church from Sunday 6th December:

Sunday 9.30am: **Holy Communion** (said). Please book by Saturday lunchtime.

Wednesday 10.00am: **Morning Prayer**. No need to book.

Bible Study by zoom: 8pm Monday 30th November, currently studying Philipians. Please contact Anne Dollery for details of how to take part (remotely).

Wednesday 2 December 12.30pm – 1.30pm Lunch time sandwich/soup and chat by zoom.
Contact Anne Dollery for joining details.

St Dunstan's will be open for private prayer on Thursday 3 December 10.30am-12.30pm.

Angel Tree collection – until 1st St December to pay for Christmas toys for children of inmates at Feltham Young Offenders Institution. If you would like to donate please give: online through St Dunstan's Feltham donate button, giving name/reference Angel tree; by bank transfer, again giving reference 'angel tree;' or send/put cheques in letterbox of parish centre. Please make payable to Feltham PCC and label envelopes 'parish office – Angel Tree'. We are not able to purchase or accept toys this year. The maximum cost for each present is £10 plus wrapping and postage.

Church Christmas tree – To support a local business we will be buying a Christmas tree for the church. Donations are invited towards the cost of £130. Please use 'tree' as the reference in any donations sent online or by cheque.

Change of plan: the Ashford Christmas Trail has been expanded to a full jumble trail this year. Nicola has therefore cancelled her plan to sell craft items in aid of church funds.

Stewardship envelopes: please continue to use the envelopes you have, changing the date as appropriate. If they are running short, let Nicola Whate know (or the Parish Office). Many thanks for your support for St. Dunstan's!

Calling **online Christmas shoppers:** don't forget to use the Easy Fundraising website when you're buying your Christmas gifts online this year. It is really easy to use and St Dunstan's stands to gain financially at absolutely no extra cost to you. Simply go to www.easyfundraising.org.uk and navigate from there to John Lewis, Argos, Amazon, EBay, Next, M&S, booking.com and the list goes on, with over 2,700 companies included.

Dates for your diary

Monday 7th December, 7pm to 8.30pm: **Bishop of Kensington's teaching evening.**
Subject this year is 'What is true freedom?', examining the differences between secular and Christian ideas of freedom. The Bishop is known as a lively and accessible speaker who encourages interaction. Book at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/what-is-true-freedom-why-freedom-may-not-be-what-you-think-it-is-tickets-126125931055> and the Zoom link will be emailed to you.

Other

The **Canaan Christian Bookshop** will be re-opening on Wednesday 2nd December and is happy to take (and deliver) orders by phone. As a small business any support is welcome and much needed. If you've ever been there you'll know that the range of stock is remarkable!

And a joke (thanks, Jackie)

Mrs. Jones asked her Sunday School class to draw a picture of their favourite Bible story. She was puzzled by Kyle's picture, which showed four people in an aeroplane, and asked him which story he was illustrating. "The flight into Egypt", he explained.

Pointing to each figure, Mrs. Jones concluded "I see, that's Mary, Joseph, and that's Jesus. But who is the fourth person?". "Oh, that's Pontius, the pilot."

Southville Methodist Tachbrook Road, Feltham TW14 8NU
Minister: Rev. Juliet Ushewokunze (020 8890 2783)
Email: rev.ushewokunze@sfmc.org.uk
Email address: southville@sfmc.org.uk

St. Dunstan (C of E) St. Dunstan's Road, Feltham TW13 4JY
Minister Rev. Anne Dollery (020 8890 8347)
Email: AnneDollery@yahoo.co.uk

C of E Parish office 39 St.Dunstan's Road, Feltham TW13 4JY
Closed to visitors until further notice.
Email: admin@stdunstansfeltham.org.uk
Tel: 020 8890 2011
Website: www.stdunstansfeltham.org.uk