

St John the Divine Croydon

Eucharist Service

2nd Sunday of ADVENT

7 December 2025



Welcome to our worship and community life at St John the Divine. All are welcome to come forward to make your communion with God, receiving either the sacrament, or a blessing if you prefer.

All stand when the bell rings.

[The sanctuary party will process towards the Altar with music provided by the Organist. The opening hymn will be sung once the sanctuary party has assumed their seats.]

THE ADVENT WREATH

[The second advent candle is lit while singing TiS 286 – Light one candle]

**Light one candle for love,
one bright candle for love.
He brings love to every heart.
He comes! He comes!**

**Light one candle for hope
one bright candle for hope.
He brings hope to every heart.
He comes! He comes!**

**[C] Father in heaven, set our hearts ablaze
to follow in the steps of John the Baptist.
May we bring light and love to all we meet,
that the darkness of sin and fear may be overcome.
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!**



GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

[EA] Opening Hymn: *please refer to the hymn book*

[C] The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Sentence of the day

[EA] The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news [Mark 1.15]

[EA] Let us pray.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

[EA] ‘Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ Jesus said: ‘This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: you shall love your neighbour as yourself.’

[EA] The Lord comes, bringing to light things now hidden in darkness, and disclosing the purposes of the heart.

[silence may be kept]

Let us open our hearts and prepare for his coming, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

**Merciful God, our make and our judge,
we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed, and in what we have failed to do:
we have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;
we repent, and are sorry for all our sins.
Father, forgive us.
Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

[C] Almighty God, who has promises forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith; pardon you and set you free from all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Lord have mercy
Christ have mercy
Lord have mercy

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

Collect of the day

[C] Let us pray:

God of all peoples, whose servant John came baptizing and calling for repentance: help us to hear his voice of judgement, that we may also rejoice in his word of promise, and be found pure and blameless in that glorious Day when Christ comes to rule the earth as Prince of Peace; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

[Please be seated for the Readings]

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

THE 1ST READING – Isaiah 11.1-10

11 A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

²The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

³His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide by what his ears hear;

⁴but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,

and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

⁵ Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

⁶ The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.

⁷ The cow and the bear shall graze,
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

⁸ The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

⁹ They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain;
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters cover the sea.

¹⁰ On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations
shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

May Your word live in us. **And bear much fruit to Your glory.**

PSALM 72.1-7, 18-21 (read by alternate verses)

¹ Give the king your judgement, O God :
and your righteousness to the son of a king,

² **That he may judge your people rightly :**
and the poor of the land with equity.

³ Let the mountains be laden with peace because of his righteousness :
and the hills also with prosperity for his people.

⁴ **May he give justice to the poor among the people :**
and rescue the children of the needy, and crush the oppressor.

⁵ May he live while the sun endures :

and while the moon gives light, throughout all generations.

**⁶ May he come down like rain upon the new-mown fields :
and as showers that water the earth.**

⁷ In his time shall righteousness flourish :

and abundance of peace, till the moon shall be no more.

¹⁸ Let his name live for ever :

and endure as long as the sun.

¹⁹ Let all peoples use his name in blessing :

and all nations call him blessed.

**²⁰ Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel :
who alone does great wonders.**

²¹ Blessed be his glorious name for ever :

and let the whole earth be filled with his glory.

Amen, Amen.

THE EPISTLE – Romans 15.4-13

⁴ For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. ⁵ May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, ⁶ so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁷ Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. ⁸ For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, ⁹ and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

‘Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name’;

¹⁰ and again he says, ‘Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people’; ¹¹ and again, ‘Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him’; ¹² and again

Isaiah says, ‘The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope.’ ¹³ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and

peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

May Your word live in us. **And bear much fruit to Your glory.**

[EA] Gradual Hymn: *please refer to the hymn book*

[Please remain standing for the gospel]

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to **Matthew 3.1-12**

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

3 In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ²‘Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.’³ This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, ‘The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: “Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.”’

⁴ Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵ Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, ⁶ and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷ But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, ‘You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸ Bear fruit worthy of repentance. ⁹ Do not presume to say to yourselves, “We have Abraham as our ancestor”; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ¹⁰ Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹ ‘I baptize you with^[b] water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with^[c] the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹² His winnowing-fork is in his hand, and he will clear

his threshing-floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

[For] the Gospel of the Lord, **praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

[Please be seated for the sermon / reflections.]

Sermon / Reflections

THE CREED

[EA] Let us stand and affirm the faith of the Church:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
from there he will come to judge
the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE [Intercession]

[EA] Let us pray for the world, the church and one another

The prayers conclude with:

**Almighty God, you have promised to hear our prayers. Grant that
what we have asked in faith we may by your grace receive through
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

PREPARATION FOR THE LORD'S SUPPER

[EA] Jesus said: I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. [John 6.35]

[EA] Let us pray:

**We do not presume
to come to your table, merciful Lord,
trusting in our own righteousness,
but in your manifold and great mercies.
We are not worthy
so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table.
But you are the same Lord
whose nature is always to have mercy.
Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord,
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ,
and to drink his blood,
that we may evermore dwell in him,
and he is us. Amen.**

THE GREETING OF PEACE

[C] Christ has reconciled us to God in one body by the cross.
We meet in his name and share his peace.

[C] The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

[All may exchange a sign of peace]

[EA] Offertory Hymn: *please refer to the hymn book*

Offertory prayer

[C] Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have these gifts to share. Accept and use our offerings for your glory and for the service of your kingdom.
Blessed be God for ever.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

[C] [The Lord be with you

And also with you.]

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere,
mighty Creator, everliving God.

We give you thanks and praise for you Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who by the power of your Spirit was born of Mary
and lived as one of us.

By his death on the cross
and rising to new life,
he offered the one true sacrifice for sin
and obtained an eternal deliverance for his people.

We thank you that when he shall come again
in power and great triumph to judge the world,
we may with joy behold his appearing,
and in confidence stand before him
who redeems us from sin and death
and makes us heirs of everlasting life.

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

[Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.]

Merciful God, we thank you
for these gifts of your creation,
this bread and wine,
and we pray that by your Word and Holy Spirit,
we who eat and drink them

may be partakers of Christ's body and blood.
On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread;
and when he had given you thanks
he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying,
'Take, eat. This is my body given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.'
After supper, he took the cup,
and again giving you thanks
he gave it to his disciples, saying,
'Drink from this, all of you.
This is my blood of the new covenant
shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Therefore we do as our Saviour has commanded:
proclaiming his offering of himself
made one for all upon the cross,
his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming again,
we celebrate, with this bread and this cup,
his one perfect and sufficient sacrifice
for the sins of the whole world.

Renew us by your Holy Spirit,
unite us in the body of your Son,
and bring us with all your people
into the joy of your eternal kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
with whom, and in whom,
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
we worship you, Father,
in songs of never-ending praise;
**Blessing and honour and glory and power
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray,

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE COMMUNION

[Sing/say]

Jesus, Lamb of God, **Have mercy on us.**
Jesus, bearer of our sins, **Have mercy on us.**
Jesus, redeemer of the world, **Grant us your peace.**

As this broken bread was once many grains, which have been gathered together and made one bread:

so may your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth into your kingdom.

The gifts of God for the people of God. Come let us take this holy sacrament of the body and blood of Christ in remembrance that he died for us, and feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

[The wine will be administered in two chalices. The taller chalice will be for 'sipping' and the shorter chalice for 'dipping/intinction'!]

PRAYERS AFTER COMMUNION

[C] God for whom we wait, we thank you that you have fed us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation. As we joyfully await your Son, keep us ever watchful that we may be ready to stand before him on the day of his coming.

[Notices, if any by one of the Wardens]

[EA] Closing Hymn : *please refer to the hymn book*

[C] Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you, and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

[EA] Go in peace to love and serve the Lord:
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Worship Roster for today

8.00am E.A. Jim Moore, **R1 & R2.** Rosemary Callow, **Intercessor.** Rev. Wendy, **Cr.** Clive Mattingley, **C.M.** Clive Mattingley, **W.** Eileen Moore & Lyn Lynch

10.00am E.A. Steven Sim, **R1.** Connie Killey , **R2.** Pat Mackay, **Intercessor.** Jenny Harris, **Cr.** Naomy Nesimnahan, **C.M.** Ailsa Wakeley, **W.** Jenny Harris & Elizabeth Sanderson, **Counters.** Ken Hutton & Connie Killey

E.A: Eucharistic Assistant, **C.M.:** Communion Minister, **Cr.** Crucifer, **R:** Reader, **W:** Welcomers



Thank you for joining in our worship today. We offer an after-service 'cuppa' in our meeting room next to the foyer after Sunday Services – you are invited to join us.

NOTICES

News from your Fund Raising Team

ATTN PARISHIONERS

The Christmas cake fund raiser has been cancelled. Apologies are sent.
From your Friendly Fund Raising Team.

Anglicare Christmas Toy Appeal

Christmas is quickly approaching and Anglicare is having a Christmas Toy Drive to spread joy and love to children and teens. If you would like to contribute, they are seeking new, unwrapped toys, vouchers, books for children ages 0-18. Donations can be given to office during office hours (Tues and Wed, 9AM-12PM) by 10 December at the latest. Please find poster at narthex for more information.

Service for 4th Sunday of Advent

Please note that there will be NO Eucharist Service on 21 December 2025 (combined service at 9AM). This will be a Carol service including a family friendly Crib service.

St John Kindergarten Christmas Carol service

St John Kindergarten Christmas Carol service is Thursday, 11 December AT 5.30PP. As in the past, St John is providing refreshments in the hall afterwards. Please contact Helen Duncan (0438 093 564) to help with catering.

SJD Christmas Services

Please note St John the Divine Christmas Services as below:

11-Dec	5.30PM	Kindergarten Christmas Carol
21 Dec	9AM	4 th Sunday of Advent (Carols and lessons and family friendly Crib service; no communion)
24 Dec	11PM	Midnight Service
25 Dec	9AM	Christmas Service

Please also note

- All Sunday services from 28 December and January 2026 are COMBINED SERVICE at 9AM
- NO Wednesday service in January 2026.

TDRM Cooking – Tuesday 9th December

It is St John's turn to cook and serve the meal for The Dining Room Mission this coming Tuesday, 9th December.

This time we are serving 'bangers & mash'. The sausages will be cooked on the BBQ at TDRM, but cooks are needed to make lots of mashed potatoes. As always, the potatoes will be provided and can be collected today (Sunday). Transport can be arranged if you cannot deliver the food **hot** to TDRM at 5pm on Tuesday.

Volunteers are also needed to cook the sausages and assist in the kitchen on Tuesday. Please see Cathy Cossey (0402 239 933) if you can help or would like more information.

Rosters for next week : 14-Dec

8AM E.A. Rosemary Callow, **R1&R2.** Sonia Shaw; **Intercessor.** Fr Sam, **Cr.** Norm Stephens, **C.M.** Norm Stephens, **W.** Jean Jelley & Noel Hardy;

10AM E.A. Ken Hutton, **R1.** Jenny Harris; **R2.** Helen Duncan, **Intercessor.** Elizabeth Sanderson, **Cr.** Joel Shambrook, **C.M.** Elizabeth Sanderson, **W.** Cheryl Yon & Norma Fitzgerald; **Counters.** Helen Duncan & Joel Shambrook

14-Dec	Advent 3	Isaiah 35.1-10	Song of Mary or Ps 146	James 5.7-10	Matthew 11.2-11
21-Dec	Advent 4	Isaiah 7.10-16	Ps 80.1-7, 17-19	Romans 1.1-7	Matthew 1.18-25
24-Dec	The Birth of Our Lord (Midnight Service)	Isaiah 9.2-7	Ps 96	Titus 2.11-14	Luke 2.1-14 (15-20)
25-Dec	The Birth of Our Lord	Isaiah 62.6-12	Ps 97	Titus 3.4-8a	Luke 2.(1-7) 8-20

PARISH DIRECTORY

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Vicar	Fr. Sathi (Sam) Anthony (BD, MTh) 0400 248 347 please leave a message when calling Email: sathianthony@optusnet.com.au

Banking details for those who wish to make a direct deposit to support our programs and for your regular offering:

Westpac: BSB # 033-044, St. John's General Account # 251582

Please email notices to Parish Office by Wednesday 9AM

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

		2nd Sunday of Advent	
Sun	7-Dec	8:00 am	Said Eucharist
		10:00 am	Sung/Said Eucharist
Mon	8-Dec	10:30 am	<i>Al Anon (fellowship room)</i>
Tue	9-Dec	5:30 pm	Community meal: TDRM
		7:30 pm	<i>A.A. meeting (fellowship room)</i>
Wed	10-Dec	7:00 pm	<i>N.A. meeting (fellowship room)</i>
Thu	11-Dec	5:30 pm	St John Kindergarten Xmas Carol
Fri	12-Dec		
Sat	13-Dec	7:00 am	<i>A.A. meeting (fellowship room)</i>
		3rd Sunday of Advent	
Sun	14-Dec	8:00 am	Said Eucharist
		10:00 am	Said/Sung Eucharist

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