

# The Parish Church of Saint Edward the Confessor, Burgess Hill

*Building a Community of God's People  
in the Power of the Holy Spirit*

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**We are an Anglican Church that seeks to be...**

- **Catholic** in the way we express our faith.
- **Charismatic** in seeking to be gifted by the Holy Spirit.
- **Contemporary** in our style of worship.
- **Committed** to exploring God's word in the Scriptures.
- **Concerned** to share the healing love of Christ with all.



**SUNDAY 14<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2014**

***The Third Sunday of Advent***

**6.00 p.m. (Saturday) Vigil Mass**

**10.00 a.m. PARISH MASS**

**with Kidz Zone**

Today is known as '**GAUDETE SUNDAY**'  
- which means '**REJOICE**'

The desire for happiness lies deep in the human heart. It's also God's deepest desire for us. We have every reason,

therefore, to rejoice. The Lord is near and will keep us in peace. May He help us to rejoice in our faith and in our community.

Our Gospel reading for today tells us that there was a man who was sent from God; his name was John. He came to tell about the light so that everyone would believe. John wasn't the light, he only came to tell others about the light.

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." (John 8:12)

This Christmas, as we enjoy the beautiful Christmas lights, let's remember that while they are beautiful, they are only reminders of the one true light - Jesus. Let's also remember that we have been called to tell others about Jesus - the light of the world - that they might be saved, that they might have life, that they might find their way in the darkest night.

*Welcome to everyone gathered here at St. Edward's  
for our Sunday worship.*

*This morning, after the Parish Mass, coffee will be served at  
the back of the church, while the Hall is prepared for our  
annual Parish Family Christmas Lunch.*

**CHRISTMAS** at St. Edward's **begins next Sunday.**

In addition to the Parish Mass at 10.00 a.m. for the Fourth Sunday of Advent, there will be a very special service of Carols, both traditional and contemporary, and Christingles for the children at **6.00 p.m.** Do please come and share in this very lovely way to prepare for the great celebration of the Lord's birth.

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December:** *The Fourth Sunday of Advent*  
**6.00 p.m.** **Christmas Carol and Christingle Service**  
***For ALL the family.***

**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> December:** **CHRISTMAS EVE**  
**8.00 p.m.** **THE FIRST MASS OF CHRISTMAS**  
**ending with the Blessing of the Crib**

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> December:** **CHRISTMAS DAY**  
**10.00 a.m.** **PARISH MASS for Christmas morning**

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> December:** ***St. Stephen's Day ('Boxing Day')***  
**12 noon** **Mass followed by Drinks & Nibbles at the Vicarage**

**Christmas** is a time which brings many people to church who don't normally attend – therefore it is so important that WE are here to welcome them! I urge you in particular to be at our Carol Service next Sunday evening, the First Mass of Christmas on Christmas Eve evening and/or our Family Mass on Christmas morning.

**Christmas Post:** St. Edwards and St. Andrews Scout Groups are delivering cards this Christmas. Just put your cards in the box with 25p per card. Last collection will be on Thursday 18th December and will be delivered in time for Christmas. REMEMBER this service is for **RH15 postcodes only.** Thank you for your support. *Kathy Sadler*

**St. Edward's Christmas Greeting Card:** This is a card given to all those who worship at St. Edward's just before Christmas. So you can cut down your list by putting your greeting in this card, and also not worry about whom you may have forgotten! Greetings message plus a donation of £5 to Penny Burton by TODAY please.

**Christmas INVITATION cards:** HELP is URGENTLY needed to distribute an invitation to worship with us this Christmas to as many homes in our parish as we can manage. We need help to cover the following:

Royal George Road (and the roads off Royal George Road)

West Street (and the roads off West Street)

Gatehouse Lane (and associated roads)

*The 'Vicarage Estate' and the 'Woolpack Estate' have already got volunteers so no need to cover these.*

Cards are available at the back of the church – please take as many as you need and please write down what area you are going to cover. Please remember these cards need to be delivered THIS WEEK – before next Sunday!

### **PRAYER & CARE**

For a spiritual observance of the season of Advent.

For our parish, our priest and churchwardens and all who serve God and one another within the life of our church.

For a good response to our invitations to worship with us this Christmas

Please pray for the **SICK:**

**Frances Roberts:** coping with long term ill health

**Maureen Knock:** recovering from a fall and hand surgery

**Grace Atkins** (aged 8) with Leukaemia

**Chris Reeve** – undergoing treatment for Leukaemia

**Steve Brooker** – diagnosed with spinal tumours

**Terry Monk** – undergoing chemotherapy for cancer

**Fletcher Mephram** (aged 6) battling cancer. Pray too for his family

**Libby Trotter** (aged 11) – battling cancer

**For the recently departed:** Greta Matthews

And in great love we commemorate the souls of

Jonathan Reeves, Lionel Craske, Adelaide Betts, Beryl Groves (Sunday)

Walter Weeden, Molly Avis, Wreford Heard, Dick Cory, Ivy Richardson (Monday)

Dorothy Hambrook (Tuesday) Niel Heard, Doreen Burton (Wednesday)

Mary Jones, Florence Donald, Sarah Brigden (Saturday)

# *This week at St. Edward's*

- MONDAY:** Gattons School Nativity in church at 1.45 p.m.
- TUESDAY:** **MASS at 10.30 a.m.** with the ministry of Prayer for Healing and Wholeness.
- Men's Home Group** meets at 7 Bramble Gardens at 7.30 p.m. to deliver cards on the 'Vicarage Estate'
- WEDNESDAY:** **Home group** at 39 West Park Crescent tea from 1 p.m. to start at 1.30 p.m. promptly
- THURSDAY:** **MASS at 10.30 a.m.**
- 'Saints Alive' Home group** at 39 West Park Crescent at 7.30 p.m. *NEW MEMBERS WELCOME*
- St Edward's Wives Group meet in the Hall for their 'Christmas dinner & Social'*
- FRIDAY:** Teddy Tots – parent and toddler group – meet in the Hall from 10.00 a.m. – 11.30 a.m.
- MASS at 7.30 p.m.**
- SATURDAY:** **VIGIL MASS** (of Sunday) at **6.00 p.m.**
- NEXT SUNDAY:** ***THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT***
- Vigil Mass** (*Saturday evening*) at **6.00 p.m.**
- PARISH MASS –**  
***with Kid Zone*** at **10.00 a.m.**
- CHRISTINGLE & CAROL SERVICE**  
at **6.00 p.m.**