

ADVENT 1

Advent Sunday is the beginning of the Church's liturgical year, Monday is St Andrew's Day, the Patron Saint of Scotland

The readings set for today are from Isaiah chapter 6, verses 1-9 and from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians chapter 1, verses 3 to 9. The Psalm is Number 80 verses 18-20 and the Gospel reading is from St Mark chapter 13, verses 24 to 37.

We are pleased to announce that following the lifting of Government restrictions we will be able to resume our Sunday worship next Sunday, December 6th, also the church will continue to be open for private prayer and reflection on Wednesdays from 10am-1.30pm, this should be an individual person, or single household or support bubble, entering the church to pray on their own and not as part of a group.

Return of the Church Choir - A small group of lady singers from the church choir will also be returning, and a careful and considered safety procedure has been agreed. The members will arrive at 9.30am for a 15-minute rehearsal entering via the South Porch where Track & Trace details will be recorded along with a handheld infra-red thermometer checking each member as they arrive. They will remain apart from the main congregation staying near to the high altar. During the service they will remain socially distanced from each other and at the end of the service they will continue to remain separated, leaving again via the South Porch. We hope to have a similar male group the following week Please note: It is important that members of the congregation do not enter via the South Porch but continue to attend through the double red doors.

Christmas Services. Services over the Christmas period are as follows:

Christmas Eve (24th) First Mass of Christmas at 7pm

Christmas Morning (25th) Mass at 10am,

Sunday 27th December - Mass at 10am

Father John will be leading all of these services

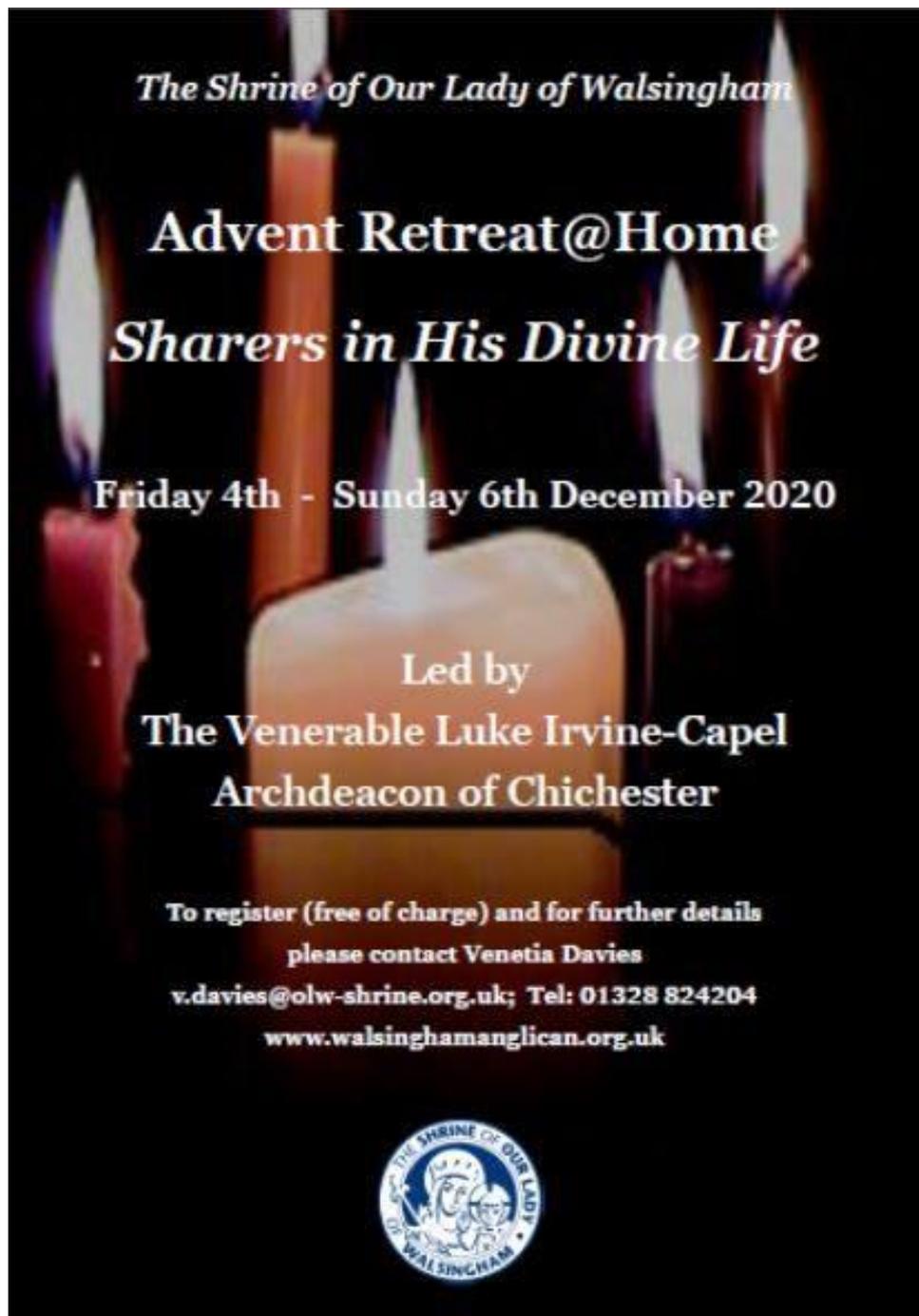
A team of cleaners will prepare the church between services.

These dates are subject to any changes in the rules governing what we can do

We are planning to hold three mini Christmas Markets after services during December. The first will be on Sunday 6th December for Crafts. The second on 13th December for cakes and the last on 20th December for fresh floral table decorations. There will be a raffle covering all three weeks to be drawn on the last Sunday. The markets will be held in the centre using only two well-spaced tables, all price lists will be clearly displayed on the wall and will be in round pounds. Masks must be worn and social distancing maintained, there will be a one-way system entering the centre by the door at back of Church and exiting by the centre door leading to the car park.

Festive items are welcomed for the Christmas hamper raffle and for the stalls Cakes for the sale on Sunday 13th to be brought on the day or we can collect if needed. Please contact Geraldine or Sue Bainbridge (784424)

Due to the ongoing Covid-19 restrictions, this year's Walsingham Advent Retreat is taking place online. It is to be led by The Venerable Luke Irvine-Capel, Archdeacon of Chichester. Details on how to join virtually [free of charge] for a weekend of worship and prayer at the Shrine are shown below:

The poster features a dark background with several lit candles. A large white candle is in the center foreground, with other candles in red and orange behind it. The text is centered and reads:

The Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham

Advent Retreat@Home

Sharers in His Divine Life

Friday 4th - Sunday 6th December 2020

Led by
The Venerable Luke Irvine-Capel
Archdeacon of Chichester

To register (free of charge) and for further details
please contact Venetia Davies
v.davies@olw-shrine.org.uk; Tel: 01328 824204
www.walsinghamanglican.org.uk

The logo is circular with a blue border. Inside, there is a depiction of the Virgin Mary and the Christ Child. The text around the border reads "THE SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM".

Have you been to the Cathedral website which sends out wonderful videos of their services?
<https://www.chichestercathedral.org.uk/worship/live-streamed-services>

Well worth a visit

We include a clever poem by Brian Bilston submitted to us by Sarah Wilkinson.

Having read it then read it back line by line from the bottom, the whole message changes.

They have no need of our help
So do not tell me
These haggard faces could belong to you or me
Should life have dealt a different hand
We need to see them for who they really are
Chancers and scroungers
Layabouts and loungers
With bombs up their sleeves
Cut-throats and thieves
They are not
Welcome here
We should make them
Go back to where they came from
They cannot
Share our food
Share our homes
Share our countries
Instead let us
Build a wall to keep them out
It is not okay to say
These are people just like us
A place should only belong to those who are born there
Do not be so stupid to think that
The world can be looked at another way

Thank you, Sarah,

With the re-commencement of Sunday services, we will require readers to read the lessons and responsorial Psalm, if you would like to join the rota for this important duty please contact us.

Items for future Newsletters. We welcome all contributions, if there any items that you would like to share with us please send them to the editors.

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Geraldine Burrows - gmburrows@hotmail.co.uk - 01243 539620.