

1875



2025

Christ Church

St Leonards on Sea

ADVENT

I II III IV SUNDAYS

THE BEGINNING
of the CHURCH'S YEAR

ADVENT means COMING

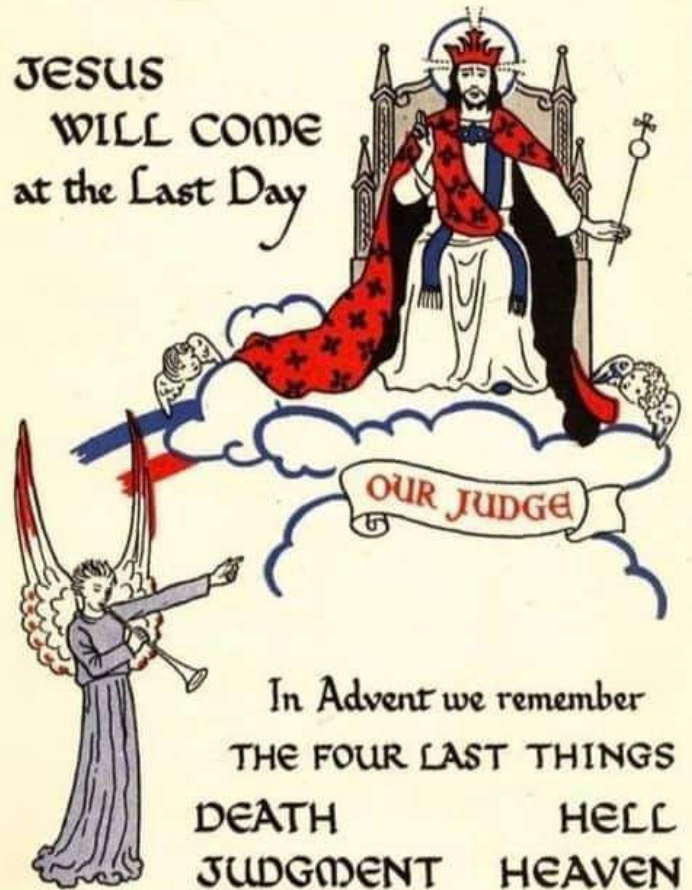
We think of Jesus coming in 3 different ways

JESUS CAME
on the
First Christmas Day



JESUS
COMES
in the
Blessed Sacrament

JESUS
WILL COME
at the Last Day



In Advent we remember
THE FOUR LAST THINGS
DEATH HELL
JUDGMENT HEAVEN

The First Sunday of Advent

Sung Mass

with Sunday School

30th November

1030am

CHRIST CHURCH COMMUNITY NATIVITY 3PM WEDNESDAY 24TH DECEMBER

JOIN US TO RE-ENACT THE NATIVITY STORY
ON CHRISTMAS EVE

ARRIVE AT 2PM TO TAKE PART -
CHILDREN OF ALL AGES WELCOME TO JOIN IN!



COSTUMES PROVIDED - OR BRING YOUR OWN!

 ChChStLeonards

 @chchstleonards

christchurchstleonards.co.uk



Christ Church

St Leonards on Sea

ENTRANCE ON
SILCHESTER
ROAD
TN38 0JB

Welcome to Christ Church!

Whoever you are and wherever you are from, know you are very welcome to join us for our worship this morning as we begin this season of Advent – a time of quiet and prayerful preparation to celebrate the First Coming of the Lord and look forward to the Second.

The Blessed Sacrament is exposed for Adoration on the Altar from 10am, during which time we also offer Morning Prayer. All are welcome to join, using the booklets at the back of church. Please remember to be reverent when Our Lord is exposed on the altar and not to disrespect Him.

After the Mass, please join us for refreshments at the back of church.

The Advent Course then follows at 12.30pm to 1.30pm: **The Meaning of the Mass – the Source & Summit of the Christian Life**

Children & families

Children and families are very welcome here: our Sunday School meets at the back of Church and there is also a 'Children's Chapel' space with books and toys in the South Aisle, for young children and their parents to use at any point during Mass. Toilets are available at the back of church and in the crypt, accessed via the stairs at the end of the South Aisle.

During the Mass - *'Talk to God before Mass, and each other afterwards!'*

Please follow the directions to *sit, stand or kneel in italics* and join with the words in bold. Please remember that people are trying to pray before Mass, so keep silence as much as possible and don't disturb those at prayer. Please also remember that the time after receiving Holy Communion is for prayer and contemplation – not to have conversations.

Holy Communion

At the Giving of Holy Communion, if you are confirmed and wish to receive the Sacrament, please come forward to receive Communion via the main aisle following the directions of the sidesmen.

Everyone is very welcome to come forward for a blessing: if you would like one, please bow your head.

Holy Communion is offered at the communion rail in both forms. Please kneel, unless you are unable. The Host is received on the tongue, (or if preferred on the hands). If you wish to receive from the Chalice, please assist the Eucharistic Ministers by guiding the Chalice towards your lips and not bowing your head forward.

Stay in touch:

christchurchstleonards.co.uk/subscribe-to-our-newsletter



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Christ Church

St Leonards on Sea

ENTRANCE ON
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RORATE MASS

SATURDAYS IN ADVENT

6.30AM

6TH, 13TH & 20TH
DECEMBER

*'Rorate, caeli, desuper, et nubes pluant justum,
aperiatur terra, et germinet Salvatorem'*

Drop down dew, ye heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain the
just: let the earth be opened and bud forth a Saviour

**A MASS OFFERED BEFORE DAWN IN HONOUR OF
THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, LIT BY CANDLES AS
A SYMBOL OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN'S ROLE IN
BRINGING FORTH THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD**

Please stand when the bell rings for the entrance of the sanctuary party

Introit Hymn

1. O come, O come,
Emmanuel!
Redeem thy captive Israel,
That into exile drear is gone
Far from the face of God's dear
Son.

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

2. O come, thou Wisdom from
on high!
Who madest all in earth and sky,
Creating man from dust and clay:
To us reveal salvation's way.
Rejoice...

3. O come, O come, Adonai,
Who in thy glorious majesty
From Sinai's mountain, clothed
with awe,
Gavest thy folk the ancient law.
Rejoice...

4. O come, thou Root of Jesse!
draw
The quarry from the lion's claw;
From those dread caverns of the
grave,
From nether hell, thy people
save. *Rejoice...*

The choir lead the singing of the Advent Prose, whilst the altar is censed

**Drop down, ye heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down
righteousness.**

We have sinned and are as an unclean thing, and we all do fade as a leaf;
and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away: thou hast hid thy
face from us and hast consumed us, because of our iniquities.

Drop down...

Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, my salvation shall not tarry: I have
blotted out as a thick cloud thy transgressions: fear not, for I will save
thee: for I am the Lord thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Redeemer.

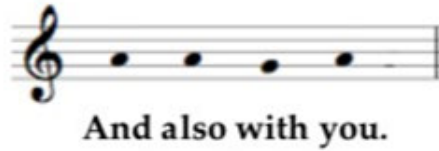
Drop down...

The Greeting

In the name of the Father ✠ and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit



The Lord be with you.



The Priest introduces the Mass, and the children of the parish come forward to light the Advent Wreath, receive their bible and blessing, and the items to prepare their altar.

*The Mass then continues with **The Penitential Rite** as the Priest invites us to prepare to confess to God with the Collect for purity:*

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen

*The Priest invites us to consider our sins in silence, before we confess them to the Lord saying: **Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against thee and against our neighbour, in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We are heartily sorry and repent of all our sins. For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past, and grant that we may serve thee in newness of life to the glory of thy name. Amen.***

The Priest pronounces the absolution:

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, ✠ pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

*The Choir lead the **Kyrie***

Kyrie Eleison **Kyrie Eleison**
Christe Eleison **Christe Eleison**
Kyrie Eleison **Kyrie Eleison**

Lord have mercy, **Lord have mercy**
Christ have mercy, **Christ have**
mercy
Lord have mercy, **Lord have mercy**

*The Priest sings the **Collect:***

Grant your faithful, we pray, almighty God,
the resolve to run forth to meet your Christ
with righteous deeds at his coming,
so that, gathered at his right hand,
they may be worthy to possess the heavenly kingdom.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Isaiah 2.1-5; Romans 13.11-14; Matthew 24:37-44

Please sit for the readings

First Reading A reading from the Prophet Isaiah

The word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 122– R/ I was glad when they said, ‘ Let us go to the house of the Lord

1 I was glad when they said to me,
‘Let us go to the house of the Lord.’

2 And now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem;

3 Jerusalem, built as a city that is at
unity in itself.

4 Thither the tribes go up, the tribes
of the Lord, as is decreed for Israel,
to give thanks to the name of the
Lord.

5 For there are set the thrones of
judgement, the thrones of the house
of David.

6 O pray for the peace of Jerusalem:
‘May they prosper who love you.

7 ‘Peace be within your walls and
tranquillity within your palaces.’

8 For my kindred and companions’
sake, I will pray that peace be with
you.

9 For the sake of the house of the
Lord our God, I will seek to do you
good.

Second Reading A reading from the Letter to the Romans

The word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

Please turn to face the Gospel, proclaimed from the midst of the people

The Lord be with you **And also with you.**

Hear the Gospel (✠) of Our Lord Jesus Christ (✠) according to St Matthew
(✠) **Glory to you, O Lord.**

The Gospel of the Lord **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

Please sit for the Homily - *The homily is followed by a time of silent reflection.*

The Creed – *please stand.*

I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord

(all bow)

*who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,*

suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
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 life everlasting. Amen.

Please remain standing for the **Intercessions**

After each petition: Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer.**

As we pray for the dead: Rest eternal, grant unto them O Lord,
and let light perpetual shine upon them.

*After the final petition we entrust all our prayer and petitions to the unceasing prayers of the Saints in heaven, especially to the Blessed Virgin Mary who we greet saying: **Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; Blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death.***

*The Priest concludes the prayer, and all respond: **Amen***

The Peace

The Priest introduces the peace, then shares it with the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you **And also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace

All share a sign of peace with those near them

Please then sit for the offertory hymn as bread and wine are brought forward for the preparation of the altar.

During this hymn a collection is taken towards the costs of Christ Church's ministries – if you don't have cash, there is a contactless reader by the entrance or you can donate online here:

christchurchstleonards.co.uk/donate



THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

Please stand when the congregation is censed by the thurifer.

Offertory Hymn

1. Hark! a herald voice is
calling:
'Christ is nigh,' it seems to say;
'Cast away the dreams of
darkness,
O ye children of the day!'
2. Startled at the solemn
warning,
Let the earth-bound soul arise;
Christ, her Sun, all sloth
dispelling,
Shines upon the morning skies.
3. Lo! the Lamb, so long
expected,
Comes with pardon down from
heaven;
Let us haste, with tears of
sorrow,
One and all to be forgiven.
4. So when next he comes in
glory,
And earth's final hour draws
near,
May he then as our defender
On the clouds of heaven appear.
5. Honour, glory, virtue, merit,
To the Father and the Son,
With the co-eternal Spirit,
While unending ages run. Amen.

Pray, my brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God our almighty Father.

May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

The Priest offers the Prayer over the Gifts, and all respond. Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you **And also with you**
Lift up your hearts **We lift them up to the Lord**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God
It is right to give Him thanks and praise

*The Priest continues with the Opening (Preface) of the Prayer of Thanksgiving at the end of which the choir leads the **Sanctus** [Mass of St Thomas]*

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.

Please kneel as the Priest continues the Prayer of Thanksgiving.

He first invokes the Holy Spirit to sanctify the offerings of bread and wine. He then recalls the Lord's actions the night before he died. A bell is rung as the Priest elevates the consecrated Host and Chalice.

He then says:

Great is the mystery of faith.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

The Priest continues with the Eucharistic Prayer.

At the end, all respond:



A-men.

The Lord's Prayer

Please remain kneeling as all pray:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

As the Priest breaks the bread, he says:

We break this bread, to share in the Body of Christ **Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.**

*As the bread is broken, the choir lead the **Agnus Dei** [Mass of St Thomas]*

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

Giving of Communion

***Please remain kneeling** as the Priest shows the Body of Christ*

Behold the Lamb of God. Behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

Before coming forward to receive Holy Communion, all pray together:

We do not presume to come to this thy table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We

are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy table.

But thou art the same Lord whose nature is always to have mercy.

Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son

Jesus Christ and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

As the Priest receives Holy Communion, a bell is rung & the people begin to come forward. If you are confirmed and wish to receive Holy Communion, please come forward via the main aisle, following the directions of the stewards.

All are welcome to come forward for a blessing: if you would like one, please bow your head.

Holy Communion is offered in both forms at the Communion Rail. Please kneel, unless you are unable. The Host is received on the tongue (or, if preferred, on the hands.) If you wish to receive from the Chalice, please assist the Eucharistic Ministers by guiding the Chalice towards your lips and not bowing your head forward. If you don't wish to receive from the Chalice, you can return to your seat after receiving the Host.

Intinction (dipping the Host in the Chalice) is not permitted.

During the receiving of Holy Communion, the Choir sing:

A tender shoot - Goldschmidt

All then join in the Communion Hymn

**Blessed Jesu, Mary's son,
For mankind to earth thou
camest,
But the saving battle won,
Now at God's right hand thou
reignest:
On thy people pour thy blessing,
Gathered here, thy name
confessing.**

**By this sacramental sign,
Token of thy bitter passion,
Through these gifts of bread and
wine
Thine own image in us fashion:
By this food thy grace doth send
us
From all ills of soul defend us.**

**In this mystery of grace
Which we celebrate before thee,
Come, O Saviour, show thy face
To the faithful who adore thee:
All our sins by thee forgiven,
Grant us here the joys of heaven.**

*As the Sacred Vessels are cleansed in the Lady Chapel, the Priest & servers lead the people in the **Prayer of Thanksgiving after Holy Communion***

Almighty God, we thank thee for feeding us with the body and blood of thy Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer thee our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of thy Spirit to live and work to thy praise and glory. Amen.

The Priest & servers then return to the Sanctuary for a time of silent prayer.

Please stand for the Priest to sing the **Prayer after Communion**

May these mysteries, O Lord,
in which we have participated
profit us, we pray,
for even now, as we walk amid passing things,
you teach us by them to love the things of heaven
and hold fast to what endures.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen

Please sit for the **Notices**

Please stand for **The Blessing and Dismissal**

Bow your heads and pray for God's blessing:

May the almighty and merciful God,
by whose grace you have placed your faith
in the First Coming of his Only Begotten Son
and yearn for his coming again
sanctify you by the radiance of Christ's Advent
and enrich you with his blessing. **Amen.**

As you run the race of this present life,
may he make you firm in faith,
joyful in hope and active in charity. **Amen.**

So that, rejoicing now with devotion
at the Redeemer's coming in the flesh,
you may be endowed with the rich reward of eternal life
when he comes again in majesty. **Amen.**

And may the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the
Holy Spirit, come down on you and remain with you forever. **Amen.**

The Mass is ended, let us go in the peace of Christ! **Thanks be to God!**

*As the Sanctuary party prepares to depart, all sing the **Recessional Hymn***

**1. Lo! he comes with clouds
descending,
Once for favoured sinners slain;
Thousand thousand saints
attending
Swell the triumph of his train:
Alleluya!
God appears, on earth to reign.**

**2. Every eye shall now behold
him
Robed in dreadful majesty;
Those who set at nought and
sold him,
Pierced and nailed him to the
tree,
Deeply wailing
Shall the true Messiah see.**

3. Those dear tokens of his
passion
Still his dazzling body bears,
Cause of endless exultation
To his ransomed worshippers:
With what rapture
Gaze we on those glorious
scars!

4. Yea, Amen! let all adore
thee,
High on thine eternal throne;
Saviour, take the power and
glory:
Claim the kingdom for thine
own:
O come quickly!
Alleluya! Come, Lord, come!

*As the procession approaches the Image of Our Lady, **all turn** to focus on the Blessed Virgin as the Priest leads the singing of the Angelus*

The angel of the Lord brought glad tidings to Mary
And she conceived by the Holy Ghost

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among
women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of
our death. Amen

Behold the handmaid of the Lord **Be it unto me according to thy word**
Hail Mary...

And the Word was made flesh **And dwelt among us.**
Hail Mary....

Pray for us, O holy Mother of God
That we may be worthy of the promises of Christ

The Priest sings the collect, and all respond Amen.

Organ Voluntary

We invite you to join us for
EVENSONG & SUPPER
followed by a guest speaker
all free of charge -
donations invited for our 150th Fundraiser

‘Why is everything pink today?’



On one of the two days in the year when the church vestments are all pink, the Rector will explain how the colours of the Church Year are about much more than simple decoration.

Why do we use certain colours at certain times?

What do they represent?

Why is it still important?

SUNDAY 14TH DECEMBER
6PM

1875  2025

Christ Church

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150TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

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**THE IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION OF THE
BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

MONDAY 8TH DECEMBER

LOW MASS 1030AM

SUNG MASS 7PM

followed by trip to the nags head