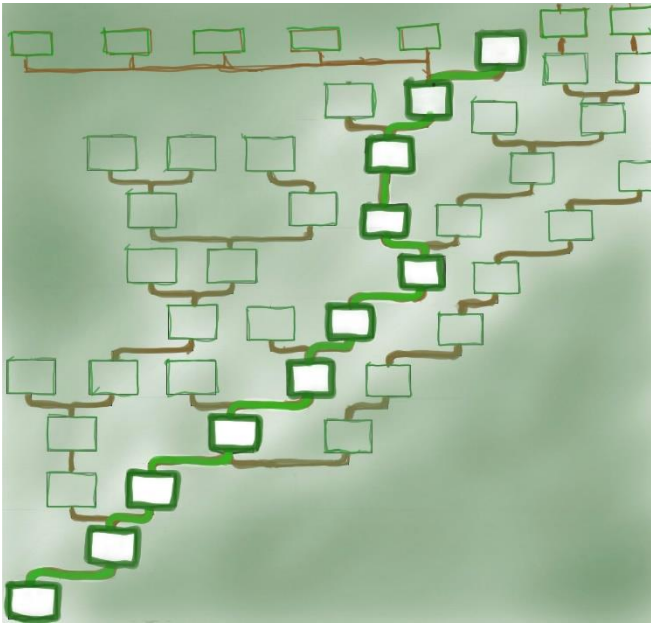




Church of the
Good Shepherd

Advent Sunday 1st December 2025



'I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David.'
Jeremiah 33.15. Image by Revd Jess, see Bible Art
below for commentary.

We begin the Advent season this Sunday and our preparations for Christmas and the incarnation. This Sunday's 10am is **not** an all-age service, as the children will instead be rehearsing in the hall for the Crib Service. Advent marks the beginning of the new church year. This liturgical year, in our lectionary, we are in what is called 'Year C' and there is a particular focus on the Gospel of Luke. All are welcome to join us.

Collect

Almighty God,
as your kingdom dawns,
turn us from the darkness of sin to the
light of holiness,

that we may be ready to meet you
in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Readings

Jeremiah 33.14-16

Psalms 25.1-9

1 Thessalonians 3.9-13

Luke 21.25-36



Sea Lights

Sea Lights
meets in the
hall this
Sunday at

10am, with rehearsals beginning for the Crib Service. New children are always welcome to join the fun.

Taizé for Healing A candlelit time for peace and reflection at the beginning of Advent with beautiful chants from the Taizé Community. There is individual healing prayer at the close of the service for those who would like to receive this ministry.



Advent course We are delighted that Mthr Anne-Marie will offer an Advent course, on Tuesday 3rd, 10th and 17th December, in the side chapel at 10.15am – 11.15am. It will focus on the birth of Jesus through the lens of the three Gospel writers: Week 1 Matthew (chapters 1 and 2), Week 2 Luke (chapter 1 and chapter 2 verses 1-40), Week 3 John

(chapter 1 verses 1-18).

The only preparation people need to do is to read the gospel accounts before the meeting.

Healing Prayer is offered most Sundays after the 10am in one of the side chapels.

Christmas Fellowship Lunch at the Shoreham Yacht Club, Sunday December 15th with a two-course meal, including a veggie option, followed by tea/coffee and mince pies at the same price as last year. With a Fellowship subsidy, it'll be £15.00 per head, with places for 30 members of the church. Please speak with *Chris & Michael* if you are interested in attending.

Hall garden We need someone to look after the raised garden bed alongside the hall patio. If you would like this gardening opportunity, please speak with our wardens, Kay or Nix.

Christmas Services

Sunday 8th December 3pm
Children's Christingle

Sunday 15th December 6pm
Carol Service

Sunday 22nd December 6pm
Quiet Christmas

Christmas Eve 4pm
Children's Crib Service

Christmas Eve 9pm
Bethlehem Midnight Mass

Christmas Day 10am
Family Communion


Church of the
Good Shepherd
Kings Walk, Shoreham Beach

Christmas Services All are welcome to join us for our Christmas services. Why not invite a friend to join us for the **Carol Service**.

There will be mulled wine and mince pies to follow! We take a collection for Embrace the Middle East.

The Quiet Christmas Service is for anyone who struggles at this time of year, for whatever reason, perhaps a bereavement or another sadness. Note that our **Midnight Mass** is at the earlier time of 9pm this year, the same time as midnight in Bethlehem.

Bible Art (see image at top of newsletter)

Jeremiah 33 I will cause a righteous branch to spring up for David

This is a lovely reading for the beginning of Advent, especially considering it comes from the Book of Jeremiah and some of his more sombre prophecies. The promise of a whole righteous branch of David's descendants, which we now know included Jesus's family tree. The promise which we will be thinking about during Advent.

Originally, I was just going to draw the one line, the green 'righteous' branch, but I felt drawn to putting in the other branches arising from David, and branching off the branch of righteousness, and that made me think of the significance of those other branches? The branches arising further back and the branches arising from Jesus's brothers and sisters? Who are their descendants? With so much mixing of populations during the 2 thousand years since then, and probably nearly 200 generations; could I be descended from King David, and could you? How does that make you feel? **Revd Jess**

Sunday 7am labyrinth walk in the hall this week – a contemplative preparation for the Sunday services.

Christmas services for children. If you would like to come to the **Christingle service** and make your Christingle, drop into the hall from 2.30pm, oranges and all materials will

be provided. There will be hot chocolate served in the hall after the service. We take a collection for the work of the Children's Society.

On Christmas Eve our **Crib service** has a nativity performance by the Sea Lights children. Our collection will be for Embrace the Middle East. All welcome at both services.



Christmas for Children
Christingle Service
Sunday 8th December 3pm

Join us in the hall from 2.30pm to make your Christingle. Hot chocolate after the service!

Crib Service
Christmas Eve 4pm



Church of the Good Shepherd
Kings Walk, Shoreham Beach

New Treasurer We are delighted that Chris Diebel has offered to become our next church treasurer. She comes with experience, having had this role in a previous parish. She was co-opted onto the PCC at our last meeting and will take over from Barry Ward from 1st January. Barry is providing a full hand-over. Thank you to Chris for serving the church in this important way. And thank you to Barry too for all his work.

Celtic Evening Prayer, Wednesdays at 6pm, will use special Celtic liturgy for the Advent Season. It's a peaceful and reflective

service online, lasting about 20 minutes. All welcome. See the end of the newsletter for the link.



And finally... A big thank you to everyone who came and helped with the Christmas Fayre. It was a merry local community event, and we raised a magnificent **£2536.62** for church funds. Special thanks go to our 'funraising'



team for all their work, and the marvellous cakes and crafts.

I work half-time and the usual days when I am available are Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday mornings. I wish you all a blessed week, Revd Jane

Services this week

Sunday 1st December

8am – Holy Communion with Revd Jane and Fr Jerry

10am – Parish Communion with Revd Jane and Fr Jerry.

This service will be live streamed onto our Facebook and You Tube channel.

You Tube page [CLICK HERE](#)

Church Facebook page [CLICK HERE](#)

Please note that we don't stream our all-age service on the first Sunday of the month.

Tuesday 3rd December

9.30am – Holy Communion with Fr Jerry and Mthr Anne-Marie.

Wednesday 4th December

6pm – Celtic Evening Prayer on

Zoom [CLICK HERE](#)

Meeting ID: 868 1252 3106 Passcode: 960274

Friday 6th December

8am – Meditation with Morning

Prayer A benefice service at St Mary de Haura

Saturday 7th December

8am – Morning meditation – in

the Good Shepherd and also on Zoom
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81286470381>

Meeting ID: 812 8647 0381

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81286470381>

Meeting ID: 812 8647 0381



To donate to the Church of the Good Shepherd online [CLICK HERE](#) Thank you

Church website:

www.goodshepherdshorehambeach.org.uk

If you are reading this newsletter on a paper copy and would like to receive it each week through email please contact: cogsenews@gmail.com

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Parish Centre smdh.office@gmail.com

01273 440202. Open: Tues, Thurs 10am-1pm.

Good Shepherd Hall bookings

goodshepherdhall@gmail.com

Tel: 01273 440202

Prayer chain (for emergency prayer) Liz

Beeston 01273 454685