

**MINCE PIES:** Contributions of Mince Pies will still be welcome for after the Carol Service this evening. Many thanks.

**FAMILY CAROLS (CHRISTMAS EVE 3.00pm):** Come along dressed as a character from the Christmas story (Mary, Joseph, Shepherd, Sheep...) and join in our instant Nativity.

**DIARY DATES:**

**Christmas Eve 3.00pm:** Family Carols

**Christmas Eve 11.30pm:** Midnight Communion

**Christmas Day 08.00:** Holy Communion

**Christmas Day 10:00:** Christmas Communion

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2019 10am:**

Revd Andy Wilson to be licensed as Priest-in-Charge of St John the Baptist, Purbrook (no 10.30 service at Christ Church)

**CONTACTS**

<b>Vicar</b>	<b>Revd Andy Wilson</b> (day off Monday) vicar@christchurchportsdown.org
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For other contacts, see the back of Portsdown Post, available at rear of church

**Mission of the Month: Children's Society**



Visit us at [www.christchurchportsdown.org](http://www.christchurchportsdown.org)



**Welcome** to our services today  
**Please join us for refreshments**  
after The 10.30 Service and after Carols by Candlelight

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2018 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

0800 The 8.00 Service (Holy Communion 2)

1030 The 10.30 Service (Christingle)

1900 Carols by Candlelight

**This Week's Activities**

Wednesday 0900 Morning Prayer  
1300 Homegroup (Jacqui Wilson)  
Saturday 0900 Church Cleaning  
1000 Wedding Rehearsal in church

**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2018 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent**

0800 The 8.00 Service (Holy Communion 1)

1030 The 10.30 Service  
(with Baptism of Hunter Anthony Dyke)

## ADVENT 3

### COLLECT

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

### FIRST READING: Philippians 4:4-7

<sup>4</sup> Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! <sup>5</sup> Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. <sup>6</sup> Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. <sup>7</sup> And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

*This is the Word of the Lord*  
**Thanks be to God**

### SECOND READING: Luke 3:7-18

*Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.*

**Glory to you O Lord**

<sup>7</sup> John said to the crowds coming out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? <sup>8</sup> Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham.<sup>9</sup> The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire." <sup>10</sup> "What should we do then?" the crowd asked. <sup>11</sup> John answered, "Anyone who has two shirts should share with the one who has none, and anyone who has food should do the same." <sup>12</sup> Even tax collectors came to be baptized. "Teacher," they asked, "what should we do?" <sup>13</sup> "Don't collect any more than you are required to," he told them. <sup>14</sup> Then some soldiers asked him, "And what should we do?" He replied, "Don't extort money and don't accuse people falsely—be content with your pay." <sup>15</sup> The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Messiah. <sup>16</sup> John answered them all, "I baptize you with water. But one who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>17</sup> His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire." <sup>18</sup> And with many other words John exhorted the people and proclaimed the good news to them.

*This is the Gospel of the Lord*  
**Praise to you O Christ**