



# St John's Cathedral 聖公會聖約翰座堂

Anglican Diocese of Hong Kong Island  
Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui

*'St John's Cathedral is a place of God's grace, welcoming all,  
following Christ and changing lives in the heart of Hong Kong.'*

## 15TH DECEMBER 2019 THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### **8.00am Said Eucharist**

Celebrant and Preacher: The Revd Canon Dwight dela Torre  
Reader: Dolores Dayao

### **9.00am Sung Eucharist**

Celebrant: The Dean  
Preacher: The Revd Canon Dwight dela Torre  
Deacon: The Revd Jenny Wong Nam  
Communion Setting: St Anne's Mass (James MacMillan)  
Psalm: 146.4-10 (Naylor)  
Hymns: 3ii, 8, 169, 18  
Anthem: O Adonai (Vytautas Miškinis)  
Voluntary: Toccata on Veni Emmanuel (Andrew Carter)  
Readers/Intercessor: Mary Szeto, Barbara Bispham/Simon Fong

### **10.30am Sung Eucharist (in Mandarin)**

Celebrant: The Revd Canon Peter Koon  
Preacher: The Revd Wu Wai Ho

### **11.45am Responsorial Eucharist (See insert)**

Celebrant: The Revd Franklin Lee  
Preacher: The Revd Sharon Langbis  
Reader/Intercessor: Karman Kar/Andrew Ashley

### **1.15pm Sung Eucharist (in Filipino)**

Celebrant and Preacher: The Revd Sharon Langbis

### **5.00pm 'Blue Christmas' Eucharist (See separate service book)**

Celebrant: The Revd Canon Dwight dela Torre  
Preacher: The Revd Franklin Lee  
Reader/Intercessor: Mark Tse/Saki Tsoi

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Welcome to all who worship here today. Visiting communicants, of whatever Christian tradition, are invited to receive communion here. Gluten-free communion wafers are available on request at all Eucharists in this Cathedral. Please enquire of the Sidesmen or Servers for directions to the distribution. **No unauthorized photography, video filming or sound recording during the service.**

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## THIS WEEK AT ST JOHN'S CATHEDRAL

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<b>SUN 15th December</b>	12.00noon	<i>Chinese Congregation Fellowship</i>
<b>MON 16th</b>	8.00am	Said Eucharist
	12.30pm	<i>Meditation Group</i>
	1.00pm	One o'clock Prayer
<b>TUE 17th</b>	8.00am	Said Eucharist
	1.00pm	One o'clock Prayer
	7.00pm	<i>Bible Reading Fellowship (English)</i>
<b>WED 18th</b>	8.00am	Said Eucharist
	9.30am	CLARES
	1.15pm	<i>NO Lunchtime Recital (Christmas Services preparation)</i>
	2.30pm	<i>Bible Reading Prayer Fellowship (Chinese)</i>
	6.00pm	Said Eucharist
<b>THU 19th</b>	8.30am	Said Eucharist
	12.45pm	<i>Traditional Christmas Carols with Cathedral Brass in the Cathedral Garden</i>
	1.00pm	One o'clock Prayer
	2.30pm	<i>Parents and Toddlers</i>
<b>FRI 20th</b>	8.00am	Said Eucharist
	1.00pm	One o'clock Prayer
	3.00pm	<i>Friday Fellowship Group</i>
<b>SAT 21st</b>	8.30am	Said Eucharist
	12.00noon	Said Eucharist (Filipino)
	3.00pm	Crib Service (30 minutes)
	6.00pm	Chinese Carol Service with Eucharist
<b>SUN 22nd December</b>	<b>The Fourth Sunday of Advent</b>	
<i>Isaiah 7.10-16</i>	8.00am	Said Eucharist
<i>Psalms 80.1-8, 18-20</i>		Celebrant and Preacher: The Revd Franklin Lee
<i>Romans 1.1-7</i>	9.00am	Worship for All (with Sunday School Nativity Play)
<i>Matthew 1.18-end</i>		Celebrant: The Revd Sharon Langbis
	10.30am	Sung Eucharist (Mandarin)
		Celebrant: The Revd Canon Peter Koon
		Preacher: Ms Kwok Meng Yong
	11.45am	Responsorial Eucharist
		Celebrant: The Revd Sharon Langbis
		Preacher: The Revd Franklin Lee
	<b>1.15pm</b>	Sung Eucharist (Filipino)
		Celebrant and Preacher: The Revd Sharon Langbis
	<b>5.00pm</b>	Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols
		Officiant: The Revd Will Newman



### ***THEFT PREVENTION***

*As with any big city centre, please keep your valuables with you. If you feel unsafe at any time, please let a staff member or sidesman know.*

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

*Voice one*—On this third week of Advent we light the first candle, a symbol of our anticipation and longing (*lights one purple candle*).

*Voice two*—We light the second candle again, remembering God's promise to be with us and to comfort us (*lights another purple candle*).

*Voice one*—We also light a third candle to remind us of God's call to rejoice, even in difficult circumstances (*lights the pink candle*).

*Voice two*—This candle is a symbol of the joy we experience because of God's presence in our lives and in the world.

**All     O God, come journey with us through Advent. Give us courage to spread joy in the world. Amen.**

## 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    Isaiah 35.1-10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, 'Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come

with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you.'

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveller, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

This is the word of the Lord.

**All    Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 146.4-10

4 Blessed is he that hath the God of Jacob for his help : and whose hope is in the Lord his God;

5 Who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that therein is : who keepeth his promise for ever.

6 Who helpeth them to right that suffer wrong : who feedeth the hungry.

7 The Lord looseth men out of prison : the Lord giveth sight to the blind.

8 The Lord helpeth them that are fallen : the Lord careth for the righteous.

9 The Lord careth for the strangers; he defendeth the fatherless and widow : as for the way of the ungodly, he turneth it upside down.

10 The Lord thy God, O Sion, shall be King for evermore : and throughout all generations.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son : and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

**SECOND READING**

**James 5.7-10**

A reading from the letter of James.

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

This is the word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL READING**

**Matthew 11.2-11**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

**All Glory to you, O Lord.**

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?' Jesus answered them, 'Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me.'

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you."

Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**All Praise to you, O Christ.**

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts; kindle in us the fire of your Spirit that when your Christ comes again we may shine as lights before his face; who is alive and reigns now and for ever. **Amen.**

**FOR YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK**

**In the worldwide Anglican**

**Communion** we pray for Sokoto, Nigeria, the Rt Revd Augustin Omole; and El Salvador, Central America, the Rt Revd Juan David Alvarado Melgar.

**We pray for the Province of Hong**

**Kong Sheng Kung Hui** (Anglican Province of Hong Kong & Macau); for the Most Revd Dr Paul Kwong, our archbishop and primate; and for all bishops, priests and deacons within our diocese and province.

**We pray for St Paul's Church Macau**, the Revd Odette Pun, the Revd Woo Kak Pui and all council members; for the ministries in Northern District of Macau, the lay leadership training, Bible study groups, reading groups, the life-mentorship programme, the ministries of music and sports; for the ministries in SKH Choi Kou Secondary and Primary School (Macau), for all their teachers, staff and students.

**Within the Cathedral Parish** we pray for the Cathedral church and its various congregations, for the Dean and the chaplains; for our daughter churches; St Stephen's Chapel, Stanley, Discovery Bay Church and Emmanuel Church, Pokfulam; and their Priests in Charge. We also remember 'Grace in a Busy Week', Bible Reading Fellowship, Chinese Bible Reading Prayer Fellowship, Andrew Fellowship, Friday Fellowship Group, Filipino Fellowship, and the IFI Fellowship

**We also pray for our link Diocese of Toungoo, Myanmar;** for the Rt Revd Dr Saw Shee Sho, his priests, people and ministry.

### PRAYER REQUESTS

*Please pray for those who are sick:*

Lila Szweda, Lene Bille Hoegh, Justin Ching, Luke Inkin, Annie Kwan, Kong Siu-Ming, Benjamin Ng, Elaine Cogan, Anthony Chan, Chow Pak Kwan, Geoff Walsh, Nie Shi Fa, Chen Kuk Tye, Mike Chan, Shirley Nie, Toun Ming, May Cheng, Margaret Pini, Marianne Felch, John McIntosh, Catherine Chan, Roger Bebbington, Jennifer D. Ambatcan, Tai Yu Hei, Christina Chan, Eunice Chan, Irene Lo Oi Lin, Daisy Tai, Ron Fast, John David, Timothy Moreno, Chong Yuk Lau, Jeshu Yau, Andrew Wong, Donna Gail Willis, Caroline Yu, Monica Cornelius, Leslie Henderson Phyllis Schmitz, Raymond Yuen, Meena Tsui, Kathryn Lewis, Richard Jones, Susan Westlake and Kathryn McCallen.

Prayers will be offered for those named above during the weekday Eucharist. To include someone in this prayer list, please contact Elisa, **Tel.: 2523 4157**.

### A PRAYER FOR HONG KONG

O Saviour Christ, in whose love lies the secret of all life and the hope of all people, we pray for quiet courage to match this hour. We did not choose to be born or live in such an age; but let its problems challenge us, its discoveries exhilarate us, its injustices anger us, its possibilities inspire us and its vigour renew us, for your Kingdom's sake. Amen.

### POVERTY ALLEVIATION PROGRAMME

#### Senior's Christmas party Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> December

St John's will host a Christmas party for 50 seniors from the Western District. This is in partnership with the HKSKH Welfare Council. A big thank you to our church volunteers who will welcome, serve and entertain the seniors, bringing them some warm Christmas joy in this cold month.

### SJC BOOKSTORE

#### Opening Hours during the Festive Season:

15<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2019 (Sundays)  
The Third & Fourth Sunday of Advent  
10.00am - 5.00pm

24<sup>th</sup> December 2019 (Tuesday)  
Christmas Eve  
9.00am - late in the evening

25<sup>th</sup> December 2019 (Wednesday)  
Christmas Day  
9.00am - 2.00pm

26<sup>th</sup> December 2019 (Thursday)  
Boxing Day  
10.00am - 2.00pm

29<sup>th</sup> December 2019 (Sunday)  
9.00am - 3.30 pm

1<sup>st</sup> January 2020 (Wednesday)  
New Year's Day  
10.00am - 2.00pm

2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2020  
(Thursday & Friday)  
Closed for Stock-Take

### PARENTS AND TODDLERS

There will be no Parents and Toddlers meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> December 2019 and 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2020.



## FLOWERS

The flowers today are from the Inglis family in memory of Allister who died 21 years ago today.

## ‘FAITH BEGINS’

**Wednesday evenings  
5<sup>th</sup> February—16<sup>th</sup> May 2020**

‘Faith Begins’ is a course for adult baptism and confirmation at St John's Cathedral. The course is for people who have been worshipping for at least three months in the cathedral parish.

The course explores the Christian faith in a relaxed atmosphere with a meal and informal discussion. ‘Faith Begins’ is rooted in the Anglican tradition which values the bible, tradition, and reason, and interprets them in the light of a modern understanding about life and the world we live in.

For further information please see the ‘Faith Begins’ leaflet.

**How do I enrol?** Just send your contact details to Fr Mark at [rogers@stjohnscathedral.org.hk](mailto:rogers@stjohnscathedral.org.hk)

**Registration deadline:  
15<sup>th</sup> January 2020**

## LOVE CHOCOLATE SALE

**TODAY**  
in the Li Hall  
after the 9.00am Sung Eucharist



A sale of  
charity chocolate  
in support of  
St Christopher's Home

Great news for  
chocolate lovers!



St John's Cathedral  
Life Enrichment Centre  
聖約翰座堂生命啟進中心



## Chill Corner – Chill with Music & Christmas Party



**Guest Performers:  
St Paul's College**

Date: TODAY  
Venue: Harold Smyth Room  
Time: 2.30pm – 4.30pm

All are welcome.



**Come Join  
Our Popular  
Sing-Along**

## Traditional Christmas Carols

*In the Garden*  
with **Cathedral Brass**

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December  
12.45pm Cathedral Garden**

**2019 ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SERVICES  
AT ST JOHN'S CATHEDRAL**

**15<sup>th</sup> December (TODAY)**

*The Third Sunday of Advent*  
(Sunday Services as normal)

5.00pm 'Blue Christmas' Eucharist  
A service for those mourning  
a loss this Christmas season

**21<sup>st</sup> December (Sat)**

3.00pm Crib Service (30 mins)  
6.00pm Chinese Carol Service  
with Eucharist

**22<sup>nd</sup> December (Sun)**

*The Fourth Sunday of Advent*

8.00am Said Eucharist  
9.00am Worship for All with  
Sunday School Nativity  
10.30am Sung Eucharist (Mandarin)  
11.45am Responsorial Eucharist  
1.15pm Sung Eucharist (Filipino)  
5.00pm Festival of Nine Lessons  
and Carols

**24<sup>th</sup> December (Tue)**

*Christmas Eve*

4.30 pm Christingle Service  
11.00 pm Midnight Mass of the  
Nativity and Blessing  
of the Crib

**25<sup>th</sup> December (Wed)**

*Christmas Day*

8.00 am Said Eucharist  
9.00 am Sung Eucharist  
10.30 am Sung Eucharist (Mandarin)  
11.45 am Responsorial Eucharist  
with Carols  
1.15 pm Sung Eucharist (Filipino)  
(No evening service)

**TICKETS FOR CHRISTMAS EVE  
MIDNIGHT MASS**

**24<sup>th</sup> December (Tue) at 11.00pm**

Each Christmas Eve we welcome over 1300 people to our Midnight Mass of the Nativity and the numbers are growing. We will be issuing tickets again this year to ensure that there is a fair distribution to members of the Cathedral congregations and the wider community.

**Please note that all tickets for  
the Midnight Mass have now  
been issued.**

**The remaining 100 tickets will be  
distributed at the main door at  
9.00pm on the 24<sup>th</sup> December.**

**PLEASE ALSO NOTE**

- 1) On the night of 24<sup>th</sup> December, ticket holders will be admitted from 10.00pm, using the North and South Transept doors of the Church.
- 2) All ticket holders are requested to be seated by 10.30pm when the Devotion before Midnight Mass begins.
- 3) At 10.45pm any unoccupied seats will be released to non-ticket holders under the supervision of the sidesmen.
- 4) Overflow provision will be prepared for worshippers in both the Li Hall and the North lawn.

*\*Due to the current situation in Hong Kong,  
the service schedule is subject to change.*

*\*\*If your plans change and you cannot join the Midnight Mass,  
please kindly return the tickets to the Cathedral office. Thanks.*

## ST JOHN'S CATHEDRAL MINISTRY TEAM

**Dean:** The Very Revd Matthias Der

### Clergy Ministry Co-ordinators:

Community Building — The Revd Franklin Lee

Christian Education — The Revd Will Newman  
(*Priest-In-Charge of St Stephen's Chapel, Stanley*)

Outreach Ministry — The Revd Mark Rogers  
(*Priest-In-Charge of Discovery Bay Church*)

Liturgy and Spirituality — The Revd Robert Martin  
(*Priest-In-Charge of Emmanuel Church, Pokfulam*)

Filipino Ministry —  
The Revd Canon Dwight dela Torre  
The Revd Sharon Langbis

Chinese Ministry —  
The Revd Canon Peter Koon  
The Revd Wu Wai Ho

### Honorary Chaplain:

The Revd Jenny Wong Nam

### Executive Administrator:

Mrs Viola Ip

### Serving the wider community:

SJC Counselling Service  
HELP for Domestic Workers  
Mission for Migrant Workers  
SJC Life Enrichment Centre  
Cathedral Bookstore  
CLARES/Castaways  
Prison Ministry



*Information about St John's Cathedral and its ministries can be found on the notice boards and on the website: [www.stjohnscathedral.org.hk](http://www.stjohnscathedral.org.hk).*

*Clergy are here to listen and help. Please feel free to speak to one of them after the services, or make contact during the week: St John's Cathedral, 4-8 Garden Road, Central Tel: 2523 4157*

## Welcome to St John's Cathedral!

Please complete this form and hand it to one of the Clergy, a Sidesman or the Welcome Table.

Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of spouse (if applicable)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Names and ages of children (if applicable)

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please circle as appropriate:*

*I attend the 8.00am/9.00am/10.30am/11.45am/2.00pm/6.00pm service.*

*I am interested in finding out about: Sunday School / Cathedral Choir / CLARES / Baptism & Confirmation / Flower Guild / Sidesman / Servers Guild / Fellowship Group / Stewardship Scheme / Uniformed Group.*

*Other questions / information:*

☐ I do not agree to receive any promotional materials from St John's Cathedral.

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