

merry CHRISTMAS

Brooklands Church Update—Sunday #26 December

Dear Friends

"Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. 11 Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord." – Luke 2:10.

A huge thanks to those of you who braved the cold on Tuesday evening to sing carols in the local community. I didn't realise it at the time but Tuesday was actually the winter solstice – the shortest and darkest day of the year. What a beautiful and prophetic thing we did as we sang songs of hope and joy whilst carrying our candles around the estate literally bringing light (and chocolate to passers-by) into the darkness! I've received a whole bunch of encouraging notes from neighbours and from some involved in the event who expressed their appreciation. One neighbour, who brought their whole family out to listen posted on social media that it 'made their night!'

This is the final Update of 2021 and what a year it has been – full of ups and downs! But I have to say I am so excited for what God is doing among us as a church. Even in another season of uncertainty we as a church leadership are planning ways we can continue to Love, Grow and Serve our communities for the glory of God and the bringing in of His Kingdom. More in the new year!

As I write this, we are making plans to meet as a church family in the sanctuary over Christmas and New Year. We'll continue to follow all the guidelines that have served us well up til now – masks and sanitising stations in the sanctuary, ventilated spaces and of course a reminder to all to test regularly and stay away if positive or experiencing symptoms. Of course, we'll continue to broadcast our services on YouTube and I am aware that more people have taken up this option to worship with us online in recent weeks. Should government guidance change we will switch to the model of fully online Sunday worship like we did from March 2020 to Summer 2021. We'll look to communicate this through email and our social media outlets so please keep an eye out for this.

A very happy Christmas to you and your loved ones from all at Brooklands Church of the Nazarene. May you know the truth of Immanuel – God is with us – in the days and weeks ahead.

Peace,

Mick

ADVENT

And you, my child, will
be called a prophet of the

Most High

Luke 1:76



CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

Brooklands Church of the Nazarene

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Important Church News about COVID-19

COVID-19: Guidance for the safe use of Places of Worship

The government has announced that England will move to Plan B in response to the risks of the Omicron variant.

What this means for places of worship

Face coverings

Face coverings are required by law in most indoor public places, including places of worship, and on public transport. Face coverings are not be required in hospitality settings such as cafes, restaurants and pubs. This is because it is not practical for customers to keep removing their face coverings to eat or drink. This means that in a café within a place of worship, face coverings are not required, but they are mandatory in the rest of the premises.

Steps everyone can take to reduce the risk of transmission

- *Anyone with symptoms of COVID-19, should not attend church. They should self-isolate immediately and get a PCR test.
- *If someone has been instructed by NHS Test and Trace to self-isolate because they have tested positive for COVID-19, or they are the close contact of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, they must self-isolate and not attend.
- *Social distancing in a place of worship is now a personal choice. We ask you to respect other attendees and those working who may wish to adopt a more cautious approach.
- *Several simple and effective personal hygiene behaviours can also continue to reduce the risk of catching or spreading COVID-19. These include:
 - *washing your hands with soap and water or using hand sanitiser regularly throughout the day
 - *avoiding touching your eyes, nose and mouth, and washing your hands before and after if you do need to touch your face (for example to put on or take off your face covering)
 - *covering your mouth and nose with disposable tissues when you cough or sneeze, or sneezing into the crook of your elbow (not your hands) if you do not have a tissue

Social distancing and capacity

You do not need to implement social distancing. However, you may choose to limit the close contact you have with people you do not live with. This can help reduce your risk of catching or spreading COVID-19.

Singing

We would encourage everyone to continue to wear their face coverings while singing if they feel able to do so.

Other measures

The church will be ventilated where possible. Surfaces will be regularly disinfected. Face coverings will be available for those who do not have them, and hand sanitising gels will be readily available.

Please help us to protect those attending church from becoming infected with COVID-19.



Church Meetings and Events

Date	Event
Saturday 25 December 2021	Christmas Morning celebration, 10:00 am to 10:30 am
Sunday 26 December 2021	Boxing Day Family Service, 10:30 am
Wednesday 29 December 2021	Toddle-In, 10:00 am
Wednesday 29 December 2021	Church Zoom Prayer Meeting , 10:30 am
Wednesday 29 December 2021	FoodCycle free community meal at church at 5:00pm
Sunday 2 January 2022	Sunday Worship, Lucy Frost is preaching
Wednesday 5 January 2022	Toddle-In, 10:00 am
Wednesday 5 January 2022	Church Zoom Prayer Meeting , 10:30 am
Wednesday 5 January 2022	FoodCycle free community meal at church at 5:00pm
Sunday 9 January 2022	Sunday Worship, Rev. Dr Deirdre Brower-Latz is our speaker
28-30 January 2022	Regional weekend of prayer. Information to follow
Sunday 30 January 2022	British Isles South District joint communion service, 11:30am
11-13 February 2022	Ladies' Weekend - Created to Create

Not on this week

Not on this week

Not on this week

Christmas Prayers

- ✚ For those we know who grieve, that they might know the hope and comfort of Immanuel – God is with us!
- ✚ For those we know who are sick, that they might know the healing power in the truth of Immanuel – God is with us!
- ✚ For those we know who are lonely, poor, and hungry, may we be bringers of the truth of Immanuel – God is with us – as we reach out to them.
- ✚ For those who are persecuted, may they know the power of the truth of Immanuel – God is with us!
- ✚ For those who are far from God, may they be brought to the truth and know also Immanuel – God is with us!



Speaker	Mick Kane
Title	Forgotten Characters of Christmas – Joseph
Reading	Matthew chapter 1 verses 18 to 25

18 This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about[d]: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. 19 Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet[e] did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

20 But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. 21 She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, [f] because he will save his people from their sins.”

22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: 23 “The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel”[g] (which means “God with us”).

24 When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. 25 But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.



Church Prayer and Daily Reading Diary

Sunday 26 December 2021

Bible reading: Revelation chapters 15 and 16

Pray for: Mark, Joanne & Tom Bolton

Monday 27 December 2021

Bible reading: Revelation chapter 17

Pray for: Audrey Bolton & family. Pray also for Audrey's niece Claire, who recently had surgery to remove cancer from her thyroid.

Tuesday 28 December 2021

Bible reading: Revelation chapter 18 verse 1 to Revelation chapter 19 verse 5

Pray for: Jack & Leah Bolton

Wednesday 29 December 2021

Bible reading: Revelation chapter 19 verse 6 to Revelation chapter 20 verse 15

Pray for: Robert Bond & Annette

Thursday 30 December 2021

Bible reading: Revelation chapter 21

Pray for: Bob & Eveline Branan

Friday 31 December 2021

Bible reading: Revelation chapter 22

Pray for: Ruth Copeland-Holtz

Saturday 1 January 2022

Bible reading: Catch up

Pray for: Josh, Molly, Miley-Rose, Jonah & Ezra Jenkinson

Sunday 2 January 2022

Bible reading: Genesis chapter 1 verses 1 to 12

Pray for: Katie & Scott Cameron

