

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

Hymn 282: Hills of the north rejoice

Future Services St Lazarus, Pissouri

24 December 6pm Christmas Communion
8 January 6pm Holy Communion
22 January 6pm Holy Communion
12 February 6pm Holy Communion

St Barnabas, Limassol

18 December 10am Holy Eucharist
24 December 11pm Midnight Mass
25 December 10am Family Communion
1 January 10am Holy Eucharist
8 January 10am Holy Eucharist

Notices



Monday 12 December 6.30pm Church Learning Group – Reading the Bible and personality type.



Friday 16 December St Lazarus pre-Christmas Lunch is to be held at The Two Friends Restaurant this year. Please contact Stanley for details and to book your place.

TABLE TOP



Saturday 17 December Table Top Sale at St Barnabas



Saturdays 7 and 14 January 10am in the School Room at St Barnabas - Working party to make Palm Crosses – please come along and help.

The Christmas Bazaar at St Barnabas raised the amazing amount of €6033 so thanks to all those who helped on the day.

Thank you to Denise for her work organising and setting up, and to the Pine Bay Centre for allowing us to use the hall for the Carol Service last Sunday. There has been very positive feed-back from those who attended.

The Diocesan Intercession booklets have now arrived – please take one after the service.

ISAIAH 58

All donations of dry food, toiletries and money are gratefully received and can be brought on the 4th Sunday of the month to the room below Pissouri Amphitheatre between 5.30 and 6 pm



Pissouri amphitheatre

Our services are held here in the room under the amphitheatre on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of every month. Please join us for refreshments afterwards.

Welcome to St Lazarus' Anglican Church Pissouri

Part of the Limassol Chaplaincy in the Diocese
of Cyprus & the Gulf

Website: <http://stlazaruspissouri.org>



Sunday 11th December 2016

3rd Sunday of Advent

6pm Holy Communion

President: Derek

Those who receive Communion in their home Church are welcome to join us at the Lord's Table, or please ask for a blessing.

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|--------------|--|----------|
| Chaplain | Rev Canon Derek Smith | 96612371 |
| | stbac@spidernet.com.cy | |
| Curate | Rev Christine Goldsmith | 99284763 |
| | christineg@live.com | |
| Churchwarden | Stanley Hooper | 25221956 |
| | shooper@cytanet.com.cy | |
| Secretary | Denise Weaver | 97745286 |
| | denise.weaver@wisenexus.com | |
| Treasurer | Denise Weaver | 97745286 |
| | denise.weaver@wisenexus.com | |

Clergy days off – Derek on Fridays and Chris on Tuesdays

Duties for today

Sides Person: Stanley

“Organist”: Sue

Readings: Denise – Isaiah 35: 1-10
+ Psalm 146: 5-10
Stanley – James 5: 7-10
Gospel – Matthew 11: 2-11

Server: Stanley

Duties for 24th December Christmas Night

Sides Person: Denise

“Organist”: Michael

Readings: Stanley – Isaiah 52: 7-10
+ Psalm 96

Andrea – Titus 2: 11-14

Gospel – John 1: 1-14

Server: Denise

UK Visitors

If you would like to Gift Aid your offertory, please ask for a blue envelope.

Carol of the Advent ring

Kyrie 962: Lord have mercy

Collect for today

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 vv. 1-10

The desert and the parched land will be glad; the wilderness will rejoice and blossom.

Like the crocus, it will burst into bloom; it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy. The glory of Lebanon will be given to it, the splendour of Carmel and Sharon; they will see the glory of the Lord, the splendour of our God.

Strengthen the feeble hands, steady the knees that give way; say to those with fearful hearts, 'Be strong, do not fear; your God will come, he will come with vengeance; with divine retribution he will come to save you.'

Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped.

Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy.

Water will gush forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert.

The burning sand will become a pool, the thirsty ground bubbling springs. In the haunts where jackals once lay, grass and reeds and papyrus will grow.

And a highway will be there; it will be called the Way of Holiness; it will be for those who walk on that Way.

The unclean will not journey on it; wicked fools will not go about on it.

No lion will be there, nor any ravenous beast; they will not be found there.

But only the redeemed will walk there, and those the Lord has rescued will return.

They will enter Zion with singing; everlasting joy will crown their heads. Gladness and joy will overtake them, and sorrow and sighing will flee away.

Psalm 146 vv. 5-10

5. Blessed are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God.

6. He is the Maker of heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in them – he remains faithful for ever.

7. He upholds the cause of the oppressed and gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets prisoners free,

8. the Lord gives sight to the blind, the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down, the Lord loves the righteous.

9. The Lord watches over the foreigner and sustains the fatherless and the widow, but he frustrates the ways of the wicked.

10. The Lord reigns for ever, your God, O Zion, for all generations.

Praise the Lord.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now and shall be forever. Amen.

Second Reading – James 5 vv. 7-10

Be patient, then, brothers and sisters, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop, patiently waiting for the autumn and spring rains. You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near. Don't grumble against one another, brothers and sisters, or you will be judged. The Judge is standing at the door!

Brothers and sisters, as an example of patience in the face of suffering, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Hymn 527 : On Jordan's bank

Gospel – Matthew 11 vv. 2-11

When John, who was in prison, heard about the deeds of the Messiah, he sent his disciples to ask him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?'

Jesus replied, 'Go back and report to John what you hear and see: the blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor. Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me.'

As John's disciples were leaving, Jesus began to speak to the crowd about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swayed by the wind? If not, what did you go out to see? A man dressed in fine clothes? No, those who wear fine clothes are in kings' palaces. Then what 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:

"I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you."

Truly I tell you, among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet whoever is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.'

Offertory Hymn 580 : Rejoice the Lord is King