

7th January 2018 ~
1st Sunday of Epiphany ~ The Baptism of Christ
10.00 am Holy Communion

President: Revd Sr. Elizabeth Shearcroft, C.A.

Preacher: Dr. Marion Gray

Genesis 1:1-5	OT page	1
Acts 19:1-7	NT page	135
Mark 1:4-11	NT page	33



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<http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/immanuelstandrew>

Vicar	Revd Sr Elizabeth Shearcroft CA
Wardens	(Vacant) (Vacant)
Treasurer	Caroline Hewitt
Envelope Sec	Lorraine Thomas
Stewardship	Lorraine Thomas
Safeguarding	Laura Reynolds (Children)
Officers	Maureen Boothe (Vulnerable Adults)
Office	Tuesdays and Thursdays (school hours) 8679 6888 office@immanuelstreatham.org.uk

452 Streatham High Road, London, SW16 3PY

OPEN DOOR

Our weekly newsletter for you to take home



Immanuel and St Andrew

Registered Charity no:1131245
www.immanuelstreatham.org.uk

31st December 2017 ~
First Sunday of Christmas
10.00 am Holy Communion

President & Preacher: Revd Sr. Elizabeth Shearcroft, C.A.

Isaiah 61:10-62:3	OT page	702
Galatians 4:4-7	NT page	186
Luke 2:15-21	NT page	56

Collect

1st Sunday of Christmas—31st December

Almighty God,
who wonderfully created us in your own image
and yet more wonderfully restored us
through your Son Jesus Christ:
grant that, as he came to share in our humanity,
so we may share the life of his divinity;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.



Diary Dates

January 2018

Immanuel Prays ~ next meeting Thursday 4th January, 7.30pm in Church Chapel.

MAP group preparation ~ Monday 8th January, 2 pm in Church Chapel, with deanery and diocesan support.

CAIAS ~ returns on Thursday 11th January.

Immanuel review ~ Wednesday 17th January, 10.30 am ~ small group meeting exploring the concerns raised in the autumn by our PCC.

PCC ~ Wednesday 17th January, 7.45pm for 8pm In Common Room.

February 2018

Admission to Communion/ Confirmation ~ exploration and preparation sessions from Thursday 1st February in Church~ see flyer.

PCC Away-Day ~ Saturday 3rd February ~ The away day is at home! PCC, interested church members with deanery and diocesan representatives will meet in our church buildings throughout the day to prioritise elements of the 5 year rolling plan to present to the full church.

Prayer Pointers

- Pray for our Christmas celebrations and the Services ~that we can share God's Love with others.
Knowing Jesus ~ Making Him known
- For those of our congregation facing the limitations of ill health or who are alone this Christmas. For those facing Christmas without loved ones for the first time.
- For those who will find Christmas difficult—that they will know God's love.
- Pray for the ministry of CAIAS ~ **CAIAS ~ next meeting on 11th January 2018**

Immanuel Prays!

Our next meeting will be on **Thursday 4th January at 7.30pm in the Chapel**. Please do join us if you can, as we continue to pray for the life of our church and for one another. If there is someone or something you wish to pray for but cannot be present, please contact Lorraine or Marion. There will be no meeting in the week after Christmas—hopefully we will all find time to pray on our own!

Thank you

A huge thank you to all who contributed to make our Christmas celebration a special time at Immanuel & St. Andrew.

Christmas Cards

Please check the table and shelf in the church foyer for Christmas cards with your name on them or to check any that you have left for others have been collected.

Cards will be cleared away on Sunday 14th January and it will be a great shame if your greetings do not reach their intended recipients!



So what is this indescribable gift?

Isaiah this morning tells us ~

I delight greatly in the LORD;
my soul rejoices in my God.

For he has clothed me with garments of salvation
and arrayed me in a robe of his righteousness,
as a bridegroom adorns his head like a priest,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

Do we allow God to prepare us as a bridegroom or a bride?

God wants us, as His children, to know we are adopted and
therefore inheritors of His kingdom ~ Galatians 4: 4-7.

Luke describes throughout his Nativity narratives how all who heard
and saw this amazing event rejoiced in God's Glory and were
compelled to tell others of their experience. Those experiences
enabled their obedience to God to develop and continue.

Mary pondered everything in her heart. Do you ponder on what
God does for you or do you take God for granted? If you take
God for granted how can you be obedient to His Will in your life?
When Mary and Joseph took their firstborn Son to be circumcised
and named ~they called Him Jesus as the angel had directed
before His conception.

Seek to be a bridegroom or a bride of Christ in your developing
'Knowing Jesus ~ Making Him known'.



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