

## CUCS Worship in December

### Sunday 2 December Advent Sunday

9.00am	<b>St N</b>	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30am	<b>SBC</b>	Morning Worship <i>Revd Graham Woogar</i>
	<b>Trinity</b>	Morning Worship Communion <i>Revd Dr David Dickinson</i>
	<b>St N</b>	Holy Communion <i>Revd David Butlin</i>

**6.30pm Trinity United Advent Service  
with united CUCS Choir**

### Sunday 9 December

9.00am	<b>St N</b>	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30am	<b>SBC</b>	Morning Worship Communion <i>Revd Graham Woogar</i>
	<b>Trinity</b>	Morning Worship <i>Mr Sang Wook Han</i>
	<b>St N</b>	Holy Communion <i>Revd Naomi Whittle</i>
6.30pm	<b>Trinity</b>	<b>CUCS United Service</b>

### Sunday 16 December

9.00am	<b>St N</b>	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30am	<b>SBC</b>	Morning Worship <i>Mr Ian Knowles</i>
	<b>Trinity</b>	Morning Worship <b>Junior Church Nativity</b>
	<b>St N</b>	Holy Communion <i>Revd David Butlin</i>
6.30pm	<b>Trinity</b>	<b>CUCS United Service</b>

### Sunday 23 December

9.00am	<b>St N</b>	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30am	<b>SBC</b>	Morning Worship <i>led by the Deacons</i>
	<b>Trinity</b>	Morning Worship <i>Revd Dr David Dickinson</i>
	<b>St N</b>	Holy Communion <i>Revd David Butlin</i>

**6.30pm CUCS United Carol Service  
at St Nicholas**

**Services on Christmas Eve and  
Christmas Day in  
"News from the Churches"**

### Sunday 30 December

9.00am	<b>St N</b>	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30am	<b>St N</b>	<b>United Morning Worship</b> <i>Revd Naomi Whittle</i>

**No evening service**

**for help or information please contact**

**Carole Adams** (Sutton Baptist Church) 07711 879645  
carole.adams@btinternet.com

**Revd Dr David Dickinson** (Trinity)  
Office: 020 8643 6884  
Home: 020 8643 0963  
todaviddickinson@gmail.com

**Ginny Haizelden** (Administrator St Nicholas)  
020 8643 8271  
administrator@suttonteamministry.org



**December 2018/January 2019**

Dear Readers,

Every religious festival may have deep social, political and personal significance for its followers. Neil MacGregor spells out the truth of this by telling the story of a Hindu festival. In Bengal, Hindus annually celebrate the return of the goddess Durga after her triumph over the forces of evil. Each autumn they make a new statue of the deity for the festival. Each statue is made, not by a single artist but in effect by the whole community. Supported by a wicker frame, the bulk of the body is composed of clay. Great efforts are made to incorporate pieces of earth from all the different parts of the locality, from rich areas as well as poor. The convention is that, for the final mix, the priests should beg some soil from a sex worker's house, and there should ideally also be some clay from the banks of the Ganges, as Durga has a close connection with the river.

The result is that every part of the community – rich and poor, weak and powerful, respected and disrespected – is represented and honoured in the effigy, and connected to the endlessly renewing, life-giving river. Thus, the effigy that Durga inhabits for the duration of the festival incorporates the entire community physically and symbolically. It is repeatedly made, destroyed and remade.

Hearing of this festival took my thoughts to our celebration of Christmas when God became flesh among us: one of Charles Wesley's Christmas hymns says, "He laid his glory by, He wrapped him in our **clay**" (StF 208). It reminds me that God is incarnated in our world always, and draws my attention to the infinite changeability of Christ who is the same everywhere and at all times. When we set up our nativity scenes, we are unlikely to make a new baby Jesus but will use the one we used last year (and perhaps for several previous years!). Yet Christ is new to us and every situation – always.

Among my small collection of nativity sets I have one in a box. It makes the set portable. We carry Christmas beyond Christmastide into every succeeding day.



*David Dickinson*

Revd Dr David Dickinson



# Devotions

Through every minute of this day  
Be with me Lord!  
Through every day of this week,  
Be with me Lord!  
Through every week of all this year,  
Be with me Lord!  
Through all the years of this life,  
Be with me Lord!  
So shall the days and weeks and years  
Be threaded on a golden chord,  
And all draw on with sweet accord  
Unto thy fullness, Lord.  
That so, when time is past,  
By grace I may, at last,  
Be with thee, Lord.

John Oxenham (1853– 1941)



## CUCS Services in January 2019

### Sunday 6 January

9.00am	<b>St N</b>	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30am	<b>SBC</b>	Morning Worship <i>Mr Richard Bainbridge</i>
	<b>Trinity</b>	Covenant Sunday <i>Revd Dr David Dickinson</i>
	<b>St N</b>	Holy Communion <i>Revd Naomi Whittle</i>
6.30pm	<b>SBC</b>	<b>United Evening Service</b>

### Sunday 13 January

9.00am	<b>St N</b>	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30am	<b>SBC</b>	Morning Worship <i>Mr Mark Tomlinson</i>
	<b>Trinity</b>	Morning Worship <i>Revd Dr David Dickinson</i>
	<b>St N</b>	Holy Communion <i>Revd David Butlin</i>
6.30pm	<b>SBC</b>	<b>United Evening Service</b>

### Sunday 20 January

9.00am	<b>St N</b>	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30am	<b>St N</b>	<b>CUCS United Service</b> <b>for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity</b> <i>the Venerable Moira Astin Assistant Archdeacon</i> <i>of Croydon and Revd Dr David Dickinson</i>
6.30pm		<b>United Service at Christ Church</b> <b>Churches Together in Sutton and Cheam</b>

### Sunday 27 January

9.00am	<b>St N</b>	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30am	<b>SBC</b>	Morning Worship <i>Revd Graham Woolgar</i>
	<b>Trinity</b>	Morning Worship <i>Revd Dr David Dickinson</i>
	<b>St N</b>	Holy Communion <i>Revd David Butlin</i>
6.30pm	<b>SBC</b>	<b>United Evening Service</b>

# Regular Events

CUCS is Sutton Baptist Church, St Nicholas and Trinity URC/Methodist who are Churches Uniting in Central Sutton, and who regularly meet together for prayer, worship and shared activities. All members of CUCS are warmly welcomed at these activities

**Saturday Prayer Meeting (1st and 3rd Saturdays)**  
10.00am - 11.00am at Sutton Baptist Church.

**Sunday Prayer Meeting** after the morning service in the Terrace Room at Trinity.

**Meditation Group** meets on the last Saturday of the month 11.00am-12 midday at the home of Sylvia Robinson. For more details contact:  
Segun Akindele segun.akindele@yahoo.co.uk  
020 8395 3243  
Rosa Sawyer 020 8643 1374  
Sylvia Robinson srobinson968@yahoo.com  
020 8642 1391

**St Nicholas' Mothers' Union** All are welcome  
Contact: Emma Cann 020 8641 6530

**Women in Touch (WIT)** meets fortnightly on a Monday at 10.30am at different venues, to enjoy a variety of activities including coffee, films and outings. It is open to women of any age. For further details of the programme contact: Carole Adams 07711879645 or see: [www.trinitychurchsutton.org.uk](http://www.trinitychurchsutton.org.uk)

**Trinity Toddler Group** meets on Tuesdays in term time in Trinity Hall, 9.00-11.00am.  
Contact: Sheila Booth 8715 0514

**Bunker**, the youth club for CUCS, meets in Trinity Hall on Sunday evenings in term time from 6.30-8.00pm for young people at senior school. A chance to get to know other young people in CUCS and have fun together.  
Contact Jane Oliver: 01883 346261.

**Badminton Club** meets 7.45-10.00pm every Monday in Trinity Hall.

**Sutton Churches Tennis Club** can be found between 99 and 101 Gander Green Lane, Sutton. All ages and abilities are welcome. See our website at [www.clubtennis.co.uk](http://www.clubtennis.co.uk)

**Art and Fellowship Group** meets most weeks on Tuesday at 2.30pm in the Minor Hall at Trinity. Painting, drawing and other media with fellowship and mutual support.

## Oasis

at Trinity Church is open Monday to Friday from 9.30 am to 2pm for refreshments, light lunches and a chance to chat.



# News from the Churches

## CUCS Christmas Services



### Monday 24 December Christmas Eve

Trinity 3.30 pm	Crib Service
St Nicholas 4.00pm	Christingle
Trinity 11.15pm	Candlelight Service
St Nicholas 11.30pm	Midnight Mass

### Tuesday 25 December Christmas Day

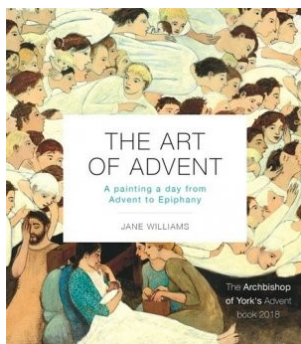
Trinity 10.30am	All Age Worship united with Sutton Baptist Church
St Nicholas 10.30am	Family Communion

## Carol Singers wanted!



<b>When?</b>	Friday 14 December 6.00-7.00pm
<b>Where?</b>	outside Sutton Station
<b>Why?</b>	to support <b>Action for Children</b>
<b>Who?</b>	both adults and children from all our churches to sing or collect!

## An Advent book recommendation



Recently reviewed in the URC magazine *Reform*, "The Art of Advent" by Jane Williams offers a painting a day from Advent to Epiphany each with a reflection. This is the Archbishop of York's Advent book choice this year. It is available as a book or on Kindle at prices between £5-£10.

## Planning ahead!

There will be CUCS Lent Study Groups in 2019 starting in the week beginning March 11th.

**And look out for CUCSCAC!**

## In Memoriam Sylvia Evelyn Worker

Sylvia, who died at the age of 95, began her association with Trinity Church in 1942 when she transferred her membership from the Methodist Church in Bournemouth, which she had joined while her office in the civil service had been evacuated from the capital. A loyal member of several women's groups in the churches and the host of a regular house group, Sylvia was well-known across CUCS. We remember her children, Frances and Philip, and her granddaughters in our prayers.

## Trinity at Christmas



Trinity Church is hosting a **Christmas Lunch** between 11.30 and 3.30 on 25 December. Places must be booked in advance.

We are also planning to open a **Christmas Lounge** during the middle of the day on weekdays from 27 December until 1 January (exact times to be confirmed). This will provide space for relaxation including board games and other activities and offer light refreshments and will be open to all.

If you would like an invitation to the Christmas lunch, please contact David Jones (020 8643 5438), Malcolm Booth (m.s.booth@blueyonder.co.uk) or David Ovenden (07874 643659) for further details.

## Carolyn's 125 CHALLENGE

In 2013 when the Girls' Brigade celebrated its 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary I decided to set myself the challenge of cycling 100km around London in one night as part of the Nightrider challenge to raise funds for Girls' Brigade.

In 2018 I decided to set myself a different challenge which was to run, walk or cycle 125km within the year at different organised events eg the weekly 5km Parkrun at Nonsuch Park on Saturdays, several 5km & 10km runs in London; the Marsden March etc. I started my challenge in February with the London 10k winter run from Trafalgar Square to Mansion House and achieved my target with a 50 km cycle in September when I visited 30 Churches in the Surrey area as part of the Surrey Churches Preservation Trust annual Ride and Stride event.

At the end I donated £125 to GB funds to further the work of GB both in this country and overseas to acknowledge the variety of opportunities that being a member of GB has given me over the years. I hope to enable other girls and young women to share the fun, fellowship and Christian love that being a member of GB gives as part of its mission to grow faithful and fruitful lives.

By Carolyn Graham (SBC)





## Join us at Sutton Baptist Church on 6 December at 8.00pm

It will be a truly joyful evening of Christmas songs and carols to usher in the festive season, led by the

**Impromptu Choir**  
supported by  
**Indian Dance Group**  
**Sarah Botting**

Donations will be given to three charities:

Habitat for Humanity,  
Teens Unite against Cancer  
SeeAbility's Heather House in Tadley,  
(caring for people with Juvenile Batten disease)

A poster for a Christmas charity concert. The background is dark with many colorful, out-of-focus circular lights in shades of red, green, blue, and yellow. At the top right, the word 'Impromptu' is written in a white, stylized font with wavy lines above it. In the center, the words 'FREE CHRISTMAS CHARITY CONCERT' are written in large, bold, white capital letters. Below this, the date and time 'Thursday 6 December 8pm' are written in a smaller white font. The venue 'Sutton Baptist Church, 21 Cheam Road, Sutton, SM1 1SN' is listed below. A quote in italics reads 'A joyful evening of Christmas songs and carols to usher in the festive season!'. At the bottom, the website 'www.impromptu.org.uk' and 'for more information' are written, along with 'Registered charity 1111601'. A small logo for 'Arts Network Sutton' is in the bottom left corner.

Impromptu

**FREE**  
**CHRISTMAS**  
**CHARITY**  
**CONCERT**

Thursday 6 December  
8pm

Sutton Baptist Church  
21 Cheam Road  
Sutton, SM1 1SN

*A joyful evening of  
Christmas songs and carols  
to usher in the festive season!*

www.impromptu.org.uk  
for more information

Registered charity 1111601

Arts Network Sutton

### Trinity Advent Lecture 2018

Tuesday 4 December  
7.30pm

London's religion: An exceptional case or a sign of things to come?

A talk by Prof. Grace Davie



All welcome - tickets £5 available online at  
[www.trinitychurchsutton.org.uk](http://www.trinitychurchsutton.org.uk)

**Come and listen to  
Professor Grace Davie speaking  
about religion in London!**

**Oasis will be open from 6.00pm  
to buy light suppers**

**Tickets (£5) available in churches, online at  
[www.trinitychurchsutton.org.uk](http://www.trinitychurchsutton.org.uk)  
and at the door**

## Trinity Epiphany Lecture 2019

**Tuesday 29 January 7.30pm**

### Laughter and Tears

Come and explore the well known Biblical story of Sarah, Ishmael and Isaac with a Jewish Rabbi. Contemplate a dysfunctional family and its effect on the individuals involved and their descendants.



**Rabbi Dr Andrew Goldstein, is  
Rabbi Emeritus at Northwood and Pinner  
Liberal Synagogue**

Tickets £5

**From the Editor** I would be delighted to receive comments and suggestions on the future of *Unite!* Contact me by my new email: [olwenmedwards@gmail.com](mailto:olwenmedwards@gmail.com) or by phone: 020 8643 2525. Copy date for the February issue is 16 January. Links to the electronic version of *Unite!* can be found on each church's website.