

Welcome to our fifth set of Advent Windows. We are on the brink of a momentous year for Greenwich: becoming a royal borough, the London Olympics, the opening of the new pier and a fully restored Cutty Sark, the thousandth anniversary celebrations for our own saint, St Alfege, martyred here in 1012, and a major restoration appeal to keep our church building safe, attractive and accessible, all in one year.

So, in one way or another, we will be welcoming even more people to Greenwich than usual as visitors, pilgrims, guests, shoppers and permanent or temporary residents. So what better theme this year than 'Fling wide the gates'? It could be very exciting and rewarding, but testing at the same time, depending on how ready we are, how patient and hospitable.

Opening the door is always a vulnerable moment, especially when you don't know completely what or who you are opening the door to. What sort of difference is it going to make to my life? Will we ever be able to get back to the way things were before? Who are all these people? How are we going to cope with them all? When Christ arrived at Bethlehem they all got it totally wrong and no room was found for him at the inn. But the world's Saviour still managed to find his way in nevertheless. Our best hope is that as we welcome the crowds of people we expect his message of hope and peace may find its way into our hearts as well.

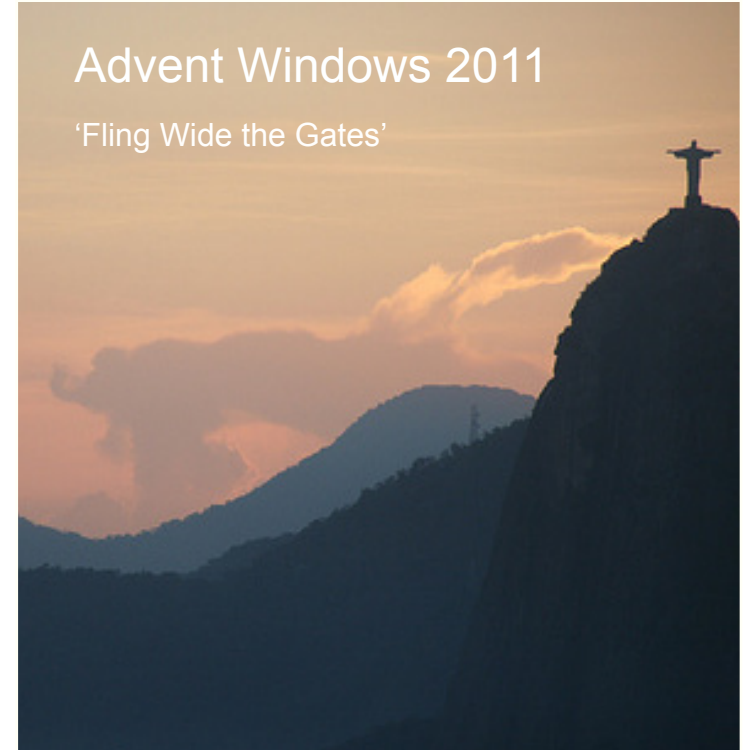
Happy Christmas

Revd Chris Moody, Vicar of St. Alfege Church, Greenwich



## Advent Windows 2011

'Fling Wide the Gates'



Every year St Alfege Church, at the heart of Greenwich, runs an Advent Windows event whereby the town centre is brought alive by 24 unique offerings in the lead up to Christmas. This year's theme is 'Fling Wide the Gates'

Shops, homes, schools and pubs are bending their imagination and artistry to produce the living Advent Calendar. A newly decorated window will be revealed, or 'opened', on each day of Advent (1-24 December) in different parts of Greenwich. A variety of media will be used, including multimedia installations, models and paintings.

'All around the world!'

1 24hrs So Organic,  
22 Nelson Road, SE10 9JB

'We three kings'

2 24hrs Ben Oakley Gallery,  
9 Turnpin Lane, SE10 9JA

'A tutor Christmas'

3 24hrs Mevali, 17 Greenwich  
Church Street, SE10 4JB

'No gate can withstand love'

4 24hrs Biscuit Ceramic Cafe, 3-4  
Nelson Road, SE10 9JB

'Fling wide the gates'

5 24hrs Meridian Primary School,  
Old Woolwich Rd, SE10 9NY

'Fling wide the gates'

6 ☽ SBS Printing, 7 Greenwich  
South Street, SE10 8NW

'Countdown to Christmas'

7 24hrs James Wolfe School,  
Randall Place, SE10 9LA

'Step in the right direction!!'

8 24hrs Pickwick Papers, 6 Nelson Rd  
SE10 9JB

'Gates of glory'

9 ☽ St Alfege + St Peter's Primary  
School, Creek Rd, SE10 9RB

'Here comes Santa Claus!'

10 24hrs 213 Greenwich High Road  
SE10 8NB

'Let parrots and angels fly'

11 24hrs The Green Parrot Gallery,  
73 Lassell Street, SE10 9PJ

'Jesus the light of the world'

12 24hrs 88 Ashburnham Grove  
SE10 8UJ

Seeing all of the Advent Windows usually takes around 3 hours on foot, a perfect stroll around Greenwich. Those marked ☽ are best viewed after dusk and those marked ☀ are best during the daytime.

For more details about the programme visit:  
[www.adventwindows.com](http://www.adventwindows.com)

For further information about us and our church visit:  
[www.st-alfege.org](http://www.st-alfege.org)



'Radical hospitality'

13 ☀ 67 Maidenstone Hill  
SE10 8SY

'Challenges of the year ahead'

14 ☀ 15 Crane Street  
SE10 9NP

'Walk down the red carpet'

15 24hrs Belle,  
20 College Approach, SE10 9HY

'A soldier brave ascended'

16 24hrs 16 St Alfege Passage  
SE10 9JS

'Welcome!'

17 ☽ Sunday School,  
17 Point Hill, SE10 8QW

'Gates of horn and gates of ivory'

18 24hrs The Vicarage,  
33 Park Vista, SE10 9LZ

'Welcome home'

19 24hrs 4 Egerton Drive  
SE10 8JS

'Green gate'

20 24hrs 51 Hyde Vale  
SE10 8QQ

'Home is where...'

21 ☽ 34 Coltman House, Welland St  
SE10 9DW

'Park life'

22 ☽ 30 Crooms Hill  
SE10 8ER

'Freedom'

23 ☽ 58 Royal Hill  
SE10 8RT

'Christmas Eve at St Alfege,'

24 from 5pm  
St Alfege Church,  
Greenwich Church Street SE10  
9BJ