

2nd Sunday of Advent

Year A Week 2



THIS WEEK



Sun 4th 2nd Sunday of Advent

- 6.00pm*: Mary Harris+
- 8.30am: Paddy McDonagh (ints)
- 10.30am: Maurice Hunt+
- 6.00pm: Graham Hammond (ints)

Mon 5th

- 5pm: Funeral Reception of Colum Giblin
- 6pm: Phillips Evans+

Tue 6th St Nicholas

- 9.30am: Morning Prayer
- 10.00am: Funeral of Colum Giblin
- 10.30am: Life Ascending Group (JP11 Room)

Wed 7th No Mass

Thurs 8th THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

- 10.00am: Deceased Members of the Life Ascending Group+
- 10.30am: Coffee Morning (JP Room)
- 7.30pm: William Loh+

Friday 9th St Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin

- 9.30am: Morning Prayer (Church)
- 10.00am: Mary Harris+
- 2.00pm: Christian Meditation (Church)
- 6.00pm: Adoration

Sat 10th

- 6pm*: Rosemary Dawson (ints)

Sun 11th 3rd Sunday of Advent

- 8.30am: George Buhagiar+
- 10.30am: Linda Atkinson+
- 6.00pm: Mary Harris+
- (Christmas Fair 9.30am - 12.30pm)

Fire of the Holy Spirit

I baptise you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

Why did John the Baptist prophesy that the Messiah would come and "baptise with the Holy Spirit and with fire"? Fire in biblical times was often associated with God's presence and with his action in the lives of his people. God sometimes manifested his presence by use of fire, such as the burning bush which was not consumed when God spoke to Moses (Exodus 3:2). The image of fire was also used to symbolise God's glory (Ezekiel 1:4, 13), his protective presence (2 Kings 6:17), his holiness (Deuteronomy 4:24), righteous judgment (Zechariah 13:9), and his wrath against sin (Isaiah 66:15-16). Fire was also used as a sign of the Holy Spirit's power and presence (Matthew 3:11). When the Holy Spirit was poured out on the day of Pentecost, tongues of fire appeared over the heads of the apostles and disciples of Jesus (Acts 2:3). The fire of the Holy Spirit purifies and cleanses us of sin, and it inspires a reverent fear of God and of his word in us. On this Second Sunday of Advent may we as a Parish community desire to be on fire for God and for the return of the Lord Jesus Christ when he comes again in his glory.

John's baptism was for repentance - turning away from sin and taking on a new way of life according to God's word. Our baptism in Jesus Christ by water and the Spirit results in a new birth and entry into God's kingdom as his beloved sons and daughters. The Lord Jesus Christ gives us the fire of his Spirit so that we may radiate the joy and truth of the Gospel to a world in desperate need of God's light and truth.

Fr John

Advent Quote from the Early Church Fathers: The voice of the one crying in the wilderness, by Theodoret of Cyr 393-466 A.D. "The true consolation, the genuine comfort and the real deliverance from the iniquities of humankind is the incarnation of our God and Saviour. Now the first who acted as herald of this event was the inspired John the Baptist. Accordingly, the prophetic text proclaims the realities that relate to him in advance, for that is what the three blessed Evangelists have taught us and that the most divine Mark has even made the prologue of his work. As for the inspired John, whom the Pharisees asked whether he himself was the Christ, he declared on his part: 'I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness, Make straight the way of the Lord' as the prophet Isaiah said. Meditations may be freely reprinted for non-commercial use - please cite: copyright © 2022 Servants of the Word, source: dailyscripture.net, author Don Schwager.

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Christmas Fair Appeal

Thank you to everyone who has kindly contributed goods for our Christmas fair. We still need your help to fill our stalls - a box is in the porch for your donations:

Bottles (preferably filled!)

Chocolates

Any unwanted 'gifts' for our nearly new gift stall

Sweets for our jars (no jars needed)

Home-made cakes or muffins (list is near the box) and...

if possible a donation towards our grand raffle.

HELP IS NEEDED on the day (even if it is only an hour). Please email Janet: janetnestor@hotmail.com she will be in touch!

GRAND RAFFLE: Tickets will be on sale after all weekend masses TODAY and 3rd/4th December: £1.00 a ticket.

FIRST PRIZE: £200.00 cash.

SECOND PRIZE: Christmas Hamper.

THIRD PRIZE: Bottle of Champagne plus more.... Draw will take place half an hour before the Fair closes. 'You have to be in it; to win it!' Don't miss out!

PLEASE SUPPORT US ON THE DAY:

SUNDAY 11 DECEMBER: 9.30AM TO 12.30PM – TOMBOLAS, GIFT STALL, CAKES, REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE AND MUCH MORE...

RCIA

Are you thinking about joining the Catholic Church? Would you like to share your faith with those who are considering becoming Catholics? An introductory evening for the "RCIA Group" will take place on Tuesday 13th December at 7.30pm in the JP Room.

Starting on 10th January 2023

Sessions: 7.30pm - 9.00pm

For more information contact David Williams (davidinbarnet@hotmail.com)

NOTICES

WELCOME

PARISH NOVENA

I am delighted to present our new parish novena and consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Our novena began on 30th November. This is a wonderful way to journey through the Advent season and prepare for our Patronal Feast on 8th December. We will conclude with a parish-wide consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary at all parish masses at the weekend of December 10th/11th.

We will be praying this together with full confidence in Our Lady's blessings and God's continued work in our parish. So let us step out in faith together.

Fr. John

Road Closure

Please note from Sunday 4th December 7.30am - 7pm High Street and adjoining roads are closed due to the Barnet Christmas Fayre.

FAMILIES TOGETHER



Please join us for our Families Together afternoon of prayer, activities, and refreshments in the JP Room this **Monday 5th December at 3.45pm, - 5pm.** For more details email anitahammond@rcdow.org.uk

Funeral Reception & Mass

The Reception into Church for Colum Giblin will take place on Monday 5th December at 5pm and the Requiem Mass on 6th December at 10am. Please pray for his reposed soul and for family and friends.

Thank you

John Harris and Family would like to say a massive thank you to all the Parishioners for the love and support received at this time. HARRIS FAMILY

Saturday RE Classes

Classes for children at non-Catholic primary schools are welcome to come and learn about their Catholic Faith.

During the sessions we pray together, we talk, sing songs and make new friends. **Venue:**

The JP Room

Time: From 9.30am to 10.45am

Dates: Sunday 18th December

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Please remember in your prayers the Sick and Homebound including:

Steven Hunt, Janine Kelly, Gabriel Dempsey, Suzanne Greig, Sinead Mayes, Monica Thompson, Rosemary Chester, Paul Reed, Marian Darby, Ken Quigley, Mary Geraghty, Edel O'Sullivan, Linda Quilter, Emanuele & Carlotta Brunelli, Stuart Atkinson, Pat Cosgrove, Bernadette Hunt, Roberto Lusignani, Elaine Brennan, Mark O'Brien, Rita Rawlings, Joe Connolly, Eric Power, Michael Keyes, Eileen Robbins, John Chuter, Margaret Greaney, Veronica Soosay, John Thompson, Lucretia Olivier-Hall, David John Hall, Paul and Nicola Dempsey,

Recently Deceased: Ann Coggins & Colum Giblin

Parish Staff Contact Information

Anita Hammond - Catechetical Co-ordinator: anitahammond@rcdow.org.uk

Jonathan Stephens - Evangelisation Co-ordinator: jonathanstephens@rcdow.org.uk

Georgina Awan - Parish Administrator: **Parish Office** - barnet@rcdow.org.uk (office is closed every Wednesday)