

The Catholic Parish of Carpenters Park & South Oxhey
St Joseph's Church, Oxhey Drive Watford WD19 7SW
carpenterspark@rcdow.org.uk www.carpenterspark.org.uk

The Catholic Parishes of Borehamwood
St Teresa of the Child Jesus 291 Shenley Road, WD6 1TG
SS John Fisher & Thomas More 28 Rossington Ave, WD6 4LA



2nd Sunday of Advent : (Year C) 5th December 2021

Fr John Warnaby	Asst Priest (based at St Joseph's)	Tel: 0208 428 0088
Jackie Faria	Parish Admin (based at St Joseph's)	Tel: 0208 428 0088
<i>Tuesday 10am—12noon & Friday 10am—3pm. carpenterspark@rcdow.org.uk</i>		
Fr Dominic McKenna	Parish Priest (based at St Teresa's)	Tel: 020 8953 1294
Sue Partington	Parish Admin (based at St Teresa's)	Tel: 020 8953 1294

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 4th December	Vigil: 2nd Sunday of Advent	6.00pm	Larry Lyons RIP
Sunday 5th December	2nd Sunday of Advent	8.30am	Joan Perera RIP
		10.30am	Helen Birch
Thursday 9th December	Advent Feria	9.15am	Bebe Ryan
Friday 10th December	Sr Francis Xavier	9.15am	Lucy Apikian RIP
Saturday 11th December	Vigil: 3rd Sunday of Advent	6.00pm	Clare Christina Baxter RIP

CONFESSIONS Saturday 5.30, or see Fr John.

Mass intentions, please leave plenty of time if you want a special date

Liturgy of the Word: 5th December 2021

Entrance Antiphon: *O People of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.*

Responsorial Psalm: *What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we are glad.*

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia! Prepare a way for the Lord, make his path straight, and all mankind shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!*

Next week's readings: *Zephaniah 3:14-18, Psalm 12:2-6, Philippians 4:4-7, Luke 3:10-18*

Fr John writes:

Luke 3: 1-6

In our Gospel this week St Luke goes to some pains to establish as a matter of history who were the movers and shakers in the part of the world where Jesus was born and lived.

In doing so he tells us about John the Baptist, who stands in the line of the earlier prophets recorded in the old testament. He is to be the last of the line, since the word of God which is given to him is to proclaim the coming of Jesus. For Luke, human history changes direction with John the Baptist. He begins his Gospel with the story of the announcement of John's birth; the son of a Temple priest and descended on his mother's side from Aaron, the brother of Moses. The archangel Gabriel, no less, appears to his father and tells him that John will be filled with the Holy Spirit and that through him a prepared people would be made ready for the Lord. When Gabriel returns to tell Mary that she is to bear the child Jesus, she is also told that her cousin Elizabeth is already six months pregnant, although she was thought to be unable to have children. Mary rushes to see her cousin and Elizabeth tells her that as soon as she heard Mary's voice, her unborn child, John the Baptist, leapt for joy in her womb.

30 years later, in the 15th year of Tiberius, the second of the roman emperors, (CE 28-29) the Baptist is calling on the people to prepare a way for the Lord.

Every year, the Church offers us the season of Advent to prepare for our celebration at Christmas of Jesus coming amongst us in the flesh. We are called to make rough roads smooth in readiness. Amid our many practical plans for Christmas, we are invited to find time for spiritual preparation.

"Advent is an incessant call to hope: it reminds us that God is present in history to lead it to its ultimate end, to lead it to its fullness, which is the Lord, the Lord Jesus Christ." (Pope Francis)

IMPORTANT NOTICE - BOOKING for MASS

The **Christmas Masses** are now open for bookings
It is essential that you book the mass that you wish to attend.

To Book log into carpenterspark@rcdow.org.uk and select EVENTS.

As part of our Advent preparations, there will be a Service of Reconciliation on Thursday 16th December at 7pm. This will include exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and an opportunity for private confession.

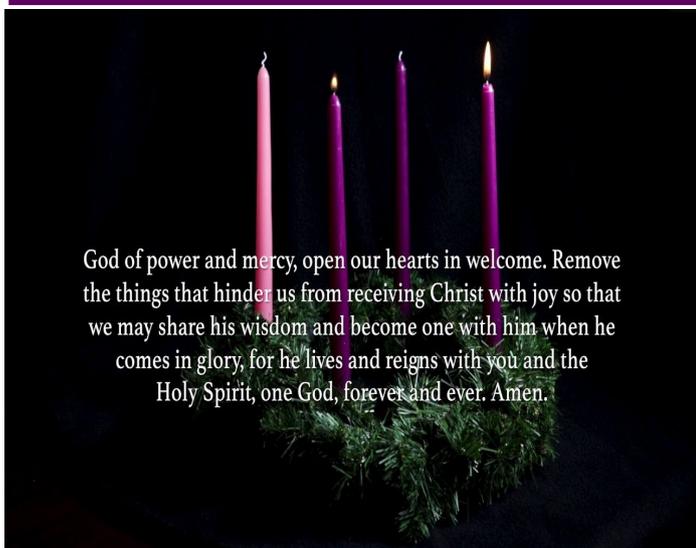
The Bishops' Conference of England and Wales has released a statement entitled Honouring Sunday. The statement emphasises the importance of Sunday as The Day of the Lord and the celebration of Mass gathered as the Body of Christ on that day. It also speaks of the difficulty that some will have in fulfilling the Sunday Obligation at this time. It invites reflection on the practice of Sunday Worship. The following is an extract:

The Gift of the Sunday Eucharist

The Sunday Eucharist is a gift; as God's holy people we are called to praise and thank God in the most sublime way possible. When the Church speaks of the Sunday obligation, it reminds us that attending Mass is a personal response to the selfless offering of Christ's love.

At this time, we recognise that for some people there may be certain factors which hinder attendance at Sunday Mass. The pandemic is clearly not over. The risk of infection is still present. For some, there is legitimate fear in gathering together. As your bishops, we recognise that these prevailing circumstances suggest that not everyone is yet in the position to fulfil the absolute duty to attend freely Sunday Mass.

The full statement may be found at <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/bishops-statement-honouring-Sunday/>



God of power and mercy, open our hearts in welcome. Remove the things that hinder us from receiving Christ with joy so that we may share his wisdom and become one with him when he comes in glory, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

The Passage, a Catholic charity working with homeless people is raising funds through the Big Give a matched giving scheme from 12.00 noon. Every £1 donated online between 12.00 noon on Tuesday 30 November and 12.00 noon on Tuesday 7 December makes £2 and £2.25 if you are a taxpayer through Gift Aid. At a time when The Passage's finances are stretched and they are helping more homeless people please consider supporting this charity through the link

<https://bit.ly/PassageBG2021>

FLAT TO LET

The flat comprises entrance lobby, bedroom, large kitchen, bathroom and lounge. It is situated within the grounds of St Joseph's Church. The property is available immediately on an unfurnished basis.

Subject to references.

Please email carpenderspark@rcdow.org.uk or call 020 8428 0088 for more details.

Our prayers are asked for Helen Birch and for the success of her hospital treatment.

Teams of Our Lady GB – would you like to explore the spirituality of marriage & learn & be part of the team?
<https://teamsgb.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Newsletter-Oct-2021.pdf>

Catholic Listeners Telephone Helpline - Are you a good listener? Do you enjoy helping others with their queries? Can you assist with finding basic information about a service or an organisation? Catholic Listeners Helpline Service is staffed by volunteers who are trained and operate with the ethos of compassionate listening. All calls and the caller's needs are dealt with sensitivity and due diligence. Catholic Listeners is funded by the Cardinal's Appeal and operates in the Diocese of Westminster. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, email Ade for details at catholiclisteners@gmail.com

CHILDREN'S LITURGY At the 6pm Mass Children from Reception up to Year 3 (who have not yet received their First Holy Communion).



The Financials....

Total offertory for the month of October

Envelopes £1105.64

Loose Plate £1452.50

October Virgin Money Donations via web £50.00

October Monthly Standing Orders: £1322.50

Last Years Standing Orders for October: £934.98

