

THE BLESSED SACRAMENT CATHOLIC CHURCH

Copenhagen Street

Clergy: Mgr. Séamus O'Boyle (Parish Priest) Fr Allan Alvarado Gil
Fr Larry Milby (retired, in residence)

Pastoral Assistant: Sister Miriam Bruder SSND (home: 020 7837 8378)

Parish Secretary: Lisa Mulvaney **Parish Tel:** 020 7226 3277

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Parish Office opening times: Tuesday-Friday 10.00am -2.00pm



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT 'Gaudete' Sunday

16th December 2018

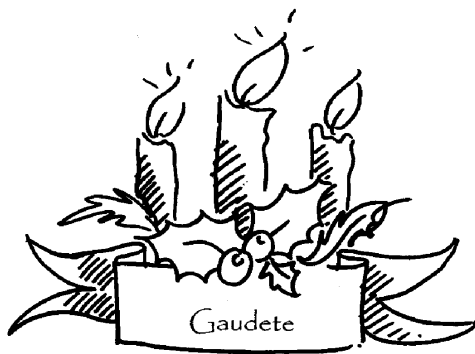
Joy to the World

Today John the Baptist points his finger at the scribes and the Pharisees. As religious leaders, the scribes and the Pharisees might have thought they were beyond repentance, but John makes no distinction between the sinners and the religious.

Repentance is a challenge for each and every one of us to take a good long look at ourselves. We might be nice people; we might have kind and caring dispositions; we might have values and good intentions, but what legacy do we leave in practical terms? How important is it to a starving child on the other side of the world that we go to church on Sunday? How much does it matter to someone lonely, sick poor or marginalised that we sit and read our bibles each

night? Today we are being asked to put our money where our mouths are. Our faith is void if we don't live by it. We are asked to share by giving up our time and our money. We are asked to share by not exploiting others.

Before we can firmly celebrate the joy of Christmas, we are asked to ensure that the less well-off are also experiencing the joy of Christmas in practical terms, food warmth and security. We have all experienced the joy of giving a gift. Today we are asked to experience the same pleasure in sharing what we have with those who have nothing. Most importantly this Christmas, we remember that happiness comes from being content with what we've got.



* CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES *

Christmas Eve 24th December: Carols and First Mass of Christmas 6.30pm

Christmas Day 25th December: Mass at 8.30 & 11.00am

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR AND RAFFLE: there will be a brief meeting after the 11am Mass today to discuss how it all went and what to remember for next year.

CHRISTMAS CARDS, CALENDARS, ETC.: Available for purchase after Mass at the front of the church.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: First Communion registration forms and other requested items are due in today please.

ADVENT PRAYER: next Friday, 21st December, from 7:00 – 8:30pm here in the Church there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Advent Prayer / Reflection and the opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

ROTAS FOR CHRISTMAS: Readers and Communion Ministers if you have not yet indicated if / when you are available for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses please do so today by signing the paper on the table by the organ or by e-mailing Sr Miriam (ssnd27@yahoo.co.uk)

FLOWERS FOR CHRISTMAS: To decorate the church for Christmas, we ask you once again to bring poinsettia plants which can be tagged in memory of loved ones if you wish. Please bring them by Saturday 22nd December.

CONFIRMATION 2019: The Confirmation Enrolment Forms for 2019 are available at the back of the Church. Please return them before **Friday 11th January 2019**. For more details please contact Fr Allan

LAST SUNDAY'S OFFERTORY COLLECTION: Envelopes: £244.60 loose cash: £180.66

Thank you for your generosity.

REQUESTS FOR PRAYERS:

Please remember to pray for Dora Best, Lady Elizabeth Uzoma Nzekwe (Valentines' mother) & Clarence Clarke who died recently and for all those whose anniversaries are about this time. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

HEALING FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK: especially Liam Buckley, Doreen Clayton, Tom Hunt, Sophia O'Donnell, Monica Smith (O'Leary), Cassie Robinson, Tessa Charlton, Michael Hehir, Emmanuel Tala, Mary Wallace, Nina & Jocelyn Hillgarth, Filomena Barbo, Colin Harris, Nora Moran, Maria Carrano, May Cullen., Gordana Tancevska, Irene Bryan, Phuong Quach, Albert Boateng, Anne & Thomas Griffin, Freddie Mudd, Margaret Cross, Catherine Barnes, Ellen Hunt, Hazel Hoyte, Angela Neary, Irene Cullen, Gerry Twomey, Barbara Johnson, Josephine Onwuka, Pauline Timlin, Kevin Corcoran, Patrick McShane, Margaret Walsh, Russell Blanco, Florence S Philip, Amidu (Blessing) Yamba, Evelyn Corcoran, Gerry Corcoran, Eamon Hanahoe, Mary Paditey, Kieran Vos, Bridget Ryan.

MASSES THIS WEEK:			
DATE	FEAST DAYS	TIME	INTENTION
Sunday 16 th December	THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT <i>(Parish Mass Book p.87)</i>	8.30am	Catherine Hunt RIP
		11.00am	Jerry & Mary O'Donnell RIP
Monday 17 th Dec.	<i>Advent feria</i>	10.30am	Private Intention
Tuesday 18 th Dec.	<i>Advent feria</i>	10.30am	Private Intention
Wednesday 19 th Dec.	<i>Advent feria</i>	10.30am	Private Intention
Saturday 22 nd Dec	<i>Advent feria</i>	10.30am	All our Parishioners
Sunday 23 rd Dec.	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT <i>(Parish Mass Book p.90)</i>	8.30am	Helen Wyatt RIP
		11.00am	Dora Best RIP

Weekday Masses: Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday 10.30am

Weekend Masses: Saturday 10.30am, Sunday 8.30am & 11.00am

Confessions: Sunday 8am-8.20am: 10.30am – 10.50am

Weekday Mass at St John the Evangelist Monday - Friday at 10.00am – All welcome

Confessions at St John's on Saturday 10.30-11.15am and 5.15-5.45pm