

THE BLESSED SACRAMENT CATHOLIC CHURCH

Copenhagen Street N1 0SR

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)

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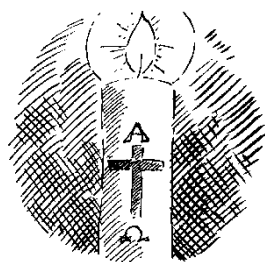
Parish Office opening times: Tuesday-Friday 10.00am -2.00pm



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

1st December 2019

The Here and Now



Does Christmas seem to come round faster every year? Do you ever feel that the sand of time is running fast though your fingers and that life is passing you by?

The hardest thing about living our lives is finding time to live our lives! Our days are ruled by the clock. Few of us can wake up and choose what to do. Our time is dictated by routine and before we know it life has passed us by before we've had time to live it. The biggest theme of Advent is 'change' but in the busy run up to Christmas, changing the way we live our lives is probably the last thing on our minds. We are

much more likely to be comparing prices of the latest Iphone!

Today we are given the biggest life changing piece of advice that we could ever have. Preparation! Preparation is essential whether we are setting out to buy a new washing machine or setting out to change the world. Without preparation we will end up wasting years of our time and missing all those heaven sent opportunities. We might not think that we have the time to live our lives any differently from the way we do now, but with the right kind of planning we can transform who we are and what we do and still manage to fit in the day job. We hear a lot in the news of natural disasters around the world. Men women and children across the globe have lost their lives unexpectedly and prematurely. Death comes like a thief in the night, and so we must keep focussed and live in perpetual readiness. Jesus doesn't tell us this to frighten us but to encourage us to take responsibility for the here and now.



BAZAAR AND RAFFLE: Thanks to all who prepared for, contributed to and took part in the bazaar. Raffle winners are posted by the stairs. Please bring your ticket to claim your prize as soon as possible.

FIRST COMMUNION: Classes for children who have registered begin next Sunday, 8 December at 9:45 a.m. Please bring your children to the hall in good time for a 9:45 start and return to the hall at 10:45 to take your children to Mass. There is an important meeting for parents on Monday the 9th of December at 7:00 p.m. (not on the 5th as originally announced)

CONFIRMATION 2020: The Confirmation Enrolment Forms for 2020 are available at the back of the Church. Please return them before **Friday 17th January 2020**. For more details please contact Fr Allan.

THE GOD WHO SPEAKS – YEAR OF THE WORD 2020: The launch of this special year is at Solemn Vespers at the Cathedral today at 3:30. Throughout the year there will be many opportunities in the diocese for “celebrating, living and sharing” the Word of God. Here in the parish opportunities can be provided to learn more about the Bible and other aspects of our faith and to pray with the Scriptures. Attached to the newsletter is a questionnaire that will help us plan based on what parishioners need and want. Please fill it in and return it by the 15th of December.

ADVENT PRAYER: On Thursday, 12 December, there will be an Advent Prayer hour, 7:30 – 8:30 during which there will be opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

MARIA FIDELIS SENIOR CITIZENS' CHRISTMAS PARTY 2019: Maria Fidelis Catholic School near Euston is throwing a free Christmas Party for local and elderly residents on Wednesday 11th December from 6pm – 9pm. Our guests will be given a full Christmas dinner with drinks and there will be entertainment, throughout the evening. If you would like to come, or know somebody

REQUESTS FOR PRAYERS:

Please remember to pray for Doreen Hoyte (Hazel's mother) and Collingwood George Ronald Glynn who died recently, and for 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, Jocelyn Hillgarth, Filomena Barbo, Colin Harris, Maria Carrano, May Cullen., Gordana Tancevska, Irene Bryan, Phuong Quach, Albert Boateng, Freddie Mudd, Margaret Cross, Catherine Barnes, Hazel Hoyte, Angela Neary, Irene Cullen, Gerry Twomey, Barbara Johnson, Josephine Onwuka, Pauline Timlin, Kevin Corcoran, Patrick McShane, Margaret Walsh, Florence S Philip, Amidu (Blessing) Yamba, Evelyn Corcoran, Gerry Corcoran, Eamon Hanahoe, Mary Paditey, Kieran Vos, Bridget Ryan, Barbara Baggs, Mary Morgan, Pritti Depala.

MASSES THIS WEEK:			
DATE	FEAST DAYS	TIME	INTENTION
Sunday 1 st December	FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT <i>(Parish Mass Book p.82)</i>	8.30am	All our Parishioners
		11.00am	Mario Carrano RIP (Anniv.)
Monday 2 nd Dec	Advent feria	10.30am	Private Intention
Tuesday 3 rd Dec	St Francis Xavier	10.30am	Intention of Glead Family
Wednesday 4 th Dec	Advent feria	10.30am	Brian O'Flaherty RIP
Saturday 7 th Dec	St Ambrose	10.30am	Private Intention
Sunday 8 th December	SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT <i>(Parish Mass Book p.85)</i>	8.30am	All our Parishioners
		11.00am	Patrick Valentine Morgan RIP (13 Anniv.)

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