## **1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

# ST ALBA

# PARISH NEWSLETTER - 3rd December 2023

Isaiah 63:16-17: 64:1, 3-8 First reading

God of hosts, bring us back; let your **Psalm:** 

face shine on us and we shall be saved.

1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28 Second reading:

**Gospel:** Matthew 13:33-37

PARISH MASS BOOK: PREFACE ADVENT 1, EUCHARISTIC PRAYER RECONCILIATION 2

MASS TIMES & MASS INTENTIONS WEEK **COMMENCING 2ND DECEMBER** 

**Saturday 2nd December** 6pm Guiseppe Moia (RIP)

**Sunday 3rd December** 9:30am Nora O'Malley (RIP) 11:30am Wilfred & Maria Ida Pereira (RIP)

> **Monday 4th December** 9.30am Norah Sliman (RIP)

**Tuesday 5th December** 9.30am Janet Vince (RIP) Alex Akerele (RIP) & Akerele family (INT)

**Wednesday 6th December** 11.30am REQUIEM JILL KUDLACEK

Thursday 7th December-St Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor 9.30am John Came (RIP) Jeremias Ferrao (RIP)

Friday 8th December-THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE **BLESSED VIGIN MARY, Patron of the Diocese** 9.30am Carmene Pisano (RIP)

#### Please remember in your prayers All the sick

Seamus Dolan, Adam Bogusz, Adriano Grazioli, Noreen Ellisdon, Bob Smith, Bernadette McGann, Janet Crawley, Gabriel Hadid, Brendan O'Brien, Robert Rowe

> All the recently departed and their loved ones Laura Archer, James Murphy, Jill Kudlacek

and the faithful departed whose anniversaries occur at about this time:

Carmene Pisano, John Hogan, Jeremias Ferrao

# CONTACT INFORMATION

In preparation for the 2025 Jubilee Year 'Pilgrims of Hope', 2024 has been designated a year of prayer by Pope Francis. The official letter from Pope Francis states:

In this time of preparation, I would greatly desire that we devote 2024, the year preceding the Jubilee event, to a great "symphony" of prayer. Prayer, above all else, to renew our desire to be in the presence of the Lord, to listen to him and to adore him. Prayer, moreover, to thank God for many gifts of his love for us and to praise his work in creation, which summons everyone to respect it and to take concrete and responsible steps to protect it. Prayer as the expression of a single "heart and soul" (cf. Acts 4:32), which then translates into solidarity and the sharing of our daily bread. Prayer that makes it possible for every man and woman in this world to turn to the one God and to reveal to him what lies hidden in the depths of their heart. Prayer as the royal road to holiness, which enables us to be contemplative even in the midst of activity. In a word, may it be an intense year of prayer in which hearts are opened to receive the outpouring of God's grace and to make the "Our Father," the prayer Jesus taught us, the life programme of each of his disciples."

# Gluten free communion hosts

We have coeliac Hosts in this church which are gluten free. If you wish to receive Holy Communion with gluten free hosts please let Fr Dermot know before which ever mass you will be attending.

Parish Priest - Rev Dermot O'Neill

Parish Secretary - Alison McKinnie (Office hours: Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 9.00-1.00pm, Friday 9.00-12noon 51 Nether Street, North Finchley, London N12 7NN. Tel: 0208 446 0224 email: finchleynorth@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Website - Visit our website for all weekly updates at parish.rcdow.org.uk/finchleynorth

Safeguarding - Claudia Clayman - Email: finchleynorthsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

Childrens Liturgy - Takes place at the Family Mass at 9.30am on Sundays.

**Repository** - Open after both Sunday Masses.

#### **SACRAMENTS**

**BAPTISMS**: To arrange a baptism please contact Fr Dermot.

**FUNERALS**: It is normal procedure to first contact your chosen Funeral Director.

They will liaise with Fr Dermot.

**WEDDINGS**: Preparation for marriage: Six months' notice is required. Please contact Fr Dermot.

**CONFESSIONS**: Saturday from 5.15pm

**REGISTRATION IN THE PARISH**: Registration forms are available from the porch. Complete and return to the Presbytery. Thank you.

ST BANABAS FOODBANK: Accepts donations of food each Saturday between 9.30 & 12.30. They are open for those in need on Monday's 12.30-2pm. 913 High Road, North Finchley.

**NEWSLETTER**: If you wish to receive a copy of our weekly newsletter by email, please sign up by using the website e-Alert or, email the parish office to request.

## **CHRISTMAS TREAT APPEAL**

As in previous years, there will be a collection box in the porch for donations of small gifts for the sick who are housebound in our parish from 12th November. Gift ideas - biscuits, chocolates, toiletries, Xmas goodies and other small items. If you know of anyone who would appreciate a gift from the parish please contact the parish office by email finchleynorth@rcdow.org.uk Thank you in advance for you for your generosity.

#### Christmas tree

Our Christmas tree will be erected in the sanctuary by the 3rd Sunday of Advent. As usual it will be decorated with cards bearing the names of your loved ones who have died. The cards will be in Our Lady's side chapel from this weekend. Please feel free to fill in the names you want on the tree. Remember, you can write several names on a card. The cards will be attached to the tree when it is in place.

# Thursday Club Christmas Party, 14 December 2023 1.00pm - 3.00pm.

All are welcome to our annual Christmas Party. To get in the spirit, Barnet U3A Ukulele Band will play all your favourite tunes. We'll have a festive sandwich lunch, a raffle and Christmas presents to take home. All welcome. Tickets £5pp from Mo Colmans tel: 020 8446 4029.

#### REPOSITORY

The repository is open after Saturday mass in December & both Sunday masses. They have a wonderful selection of gifts for Christmas, Christmas cards, Christmas cribs and a few advent calendars still available.

# Funeral Laura Archer

The Requiem Mass of Laura Archer will take place on Monday 11th December at 10.30am.

#### CHRISTMAS SING ALONG CONCERT

The parish is holding a sing along concert in the church on Friday 8th December at 7.30pm in aid of CAFOD disaster fund. A collection will be held and refreshments served after the concert.

#### THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone that came to the quiz night and all that helped to make the event such a success. We raised a staggering £1,022 We will be donating the money to the CAVOD disaster fund.

#### FINCHLEY FOOD BANK

Thank you for your continued support of Finchley Foodbank. The cost of living crisis means fewer donations and more demand, so we're really grateful for your generosity - the foodbank supports 500-600 people every week with 3 days' worth of food & toiletries. We ask for dried or tinned items that are in-date - there's a list in the porch if you need inspiration!



CODE

Parish QR code For online donations The church will remain open during the day for private prayer.