



ST JOHN FISHER CATHOLIC CHURCH
41/42 LANGDALE GARDENS, PERIVALE, UB6 8DQ

Parish Priest: Fr. Agustin Conesa

Tel: (020) 8997 3164

Email: perivale@rcdow.org.uk

Website: <http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/perivale/>

Follow us on Instagram @ST.JOHN FISHER_PERIVALE

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - B

Isaiah 40: 1-5,9-11

2 Peter 3: 8-14

Mark 1: 1-8

6th December 2020

Parish Mass Book p85

MAKING THE MOST OF ADVENT

As we continue through this season, let us remind ourselves that it is not Christmas just yet and that we should take time to prepare ourselves for what is to come.

- I would encourage you to find some time for prayer - you can use the Advent booklet ‘**Walk with Me**’, which is available in the lobby and has daily readings and meditations for each day during Advent and Christmas.
- Have a look at other resources available online. Details of these and other suggestions of what you can do as a family, are inside this newsletter.
- Think about coming to Mass during the week, if you can. There is no need to book in advance on a weekday.
- Think about supporting one of our Advent Charities.

Fr Agustin

RESOURCES DURING ADVENT

journeying to the crib with hope & faith, peace, love & joy

Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight

ADVENT PRAYER CORNER – particularly at this time, a small space set aside at home can help the whole family prepare for Christmas; with a crib, an Advent candle, pictures and symbols, photographs of family, a couple of cushions. For a few minutes, perhaps just before bedtime, we can gather to light the candle and pray: “God bless.....”

Immaculate Conception Novena -

<https://www.divinemercyapostolate.co.uk/copy-of-divine-mercy-sunday-2>

Resources - for more ideas, activities for Advent see:

<https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year/advent/>

WALK WITH ME BOOKLETS -

A journey of prayer and contemplation for Advent and Christmas with daily reflections of the Gospel from the daily and Sunday liturgy for the season. Booklets are

JESSE TREE - a fun way for the whole family to learn about the Biblical characters, events and prophecies leading to the birth of Jesus. **ORDER FREE RESOURCE**

<https://www.godwhospeaks.uk/the-god-who-speaks/education/advent-jesse-tree/>

REPOSITORY -

With Advent calendars, Christmas cards, gifts, rosaries and other items. The little shop is situated in the servers sacristy at the back of the church. Come & have a look!

Please - enter only 1 person at a time and sanitise your hands before you enter.

Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger

PREPARING OUR NATIVITY SCENE -

I wish to encourage the beautiful family tradition of preparing the nativity scene in the days before Christmas’ – Pope Francis Admirable Signum 2019.

http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost_letters/documents/papa-francesco-lettera-ap_20191201_admirabile-signum.html

What will we use & where will we place our nativity scene: in a prayer corner; by the tree; at the table; in our heart? What has our journey to the crib been like this year? Full of fears & worries? What do we need to bring for healing or/and thanks?

A BLESSING OF THE CRIB (for all to say) - “God of

all creation, in our need you sent your Son Jesus, born of Mary, to be our Saviour, who brings us peace and joy. Lord, bless all who gaze upon this crib. As we recall his humble birth may we always raise our thoughts to him, our Emmanuel, who lives and reigns for ever. Amen”



SYCAMORE - Advent Course 4 weeks Searching for God in life – a renewal of faith

<https://www.sycamore.fm/pathways/b-formation-pathways/advent-course/>

NATIVITY - Reflections by Cardinal Vincent Nichols on ‘The Nativity at Night’ by Geertgen tot Sint Jans

<https://www.godwhospeaks.uk/thegod-who-speaks/art-and-culture/nativity-at-night/>

**ADVENT GIVING
CHARITY 2 - EALING FOODBANK**



Thank you to everyone who has been buying items to support our local foodbanks. The donations that have been brought into the church will be delivered to the Ealing foodbank on Wednesday.

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS CAN CONTINUE TO BE DONATED THROUGHOUT DECEMBER:

Tinned Veg	UHT Milk (Whole and Semi-Skimmed only)	
Tinned Soup	Long-life Fruit Juice	
Tinned Fruit	Ready made custard	
Instant Coffee / Drinking Chocolate	Tomato ketchup	
Tinned Fish / Meat	Savoury Biscuits (e.g. for cheese)	
Jam/Peanut Butter/Honey	Sweet Biscuits / Chocolates	
Shower Gel	Shampoo	
Shaving Gear - Foam/Razors	Hand wash	
Laundry Products - Powder, Liquid, Tablets (small sizes only)	No Pasta please! They have plenty	

HOW TO DONATE:

AT YOUR SUPERMARKET

Most major supermarkets collect for local Foodbanks; Tesco Hoover Building and Asda Park Royal collect for the Ealing foodbank, Sainsbury's in Alperton collects for the Brent Foodbank. Why not pick up a few extra items whilst you're shopping and then before you leave you can place them in the collection boxes, usually near the store exit.

This is the best way to donate!

BRING YOUR ITEMS TO US

You can also bring the items either to the church, when it is open,
or to the parish office between 12:00-2.00pm Mon-Fri.

**CHARITY 3 - MARY'S MEALS
'BIG FAMILY CHRISTMAS**

The next charity we would like to support is Mary's Meals, however due to the coronavirus, **the charity is unable to accept clothing or other textile donations this year. Instead they would like you to support their 'Big Family Christmas' campaign.**

So much has been turned upside down this year, so many plans have been halted and so many challenges have appeared in our lives. Even our Christmas celebrations may need to be different this year, with many of us feeling the pain of not being with people we love. For some of us at our Christmas tables this year, there may well be a place where someone should have been.

For those who Mary Meals supports, such as the children living in the prisons of Madagascar, the HIV positive children on the streets of Zimbabwe and the little ones in war-ravaged South Sudan, many of them will have no invitation to anyone's Christmas table this year.

However, despite the many daily challenges, these children are determined to go to school - to eat a good meal every day, that fuels their learning and their dreams for the future.

Via a virtual Christmas table, you are invited to set a place by making a donation to feed a child for a year.

SET A PLACE AT OUR BIG FAMILY CHRISTMAS DINNER TABLE!

This year, the cost of a typical Christmas dinner could be up to £20 per person. But by setting a place at our virtual table for just £15.90 you can help feed a child at a place of education in some of the world's poorest communities for an entire school year.

And it gets even better!

Give until 31 January 2021 and your donation will be doubled by the UK government, up to £2 million – meaning we can reach even more hungry children in Liberia with life-changing school meals.

Thanks to Double The Love, your donation will now feed two children for a whole school year with Mary's Meals for just £15.90!

To donate please visit [Big Family Christmas | Mary's Meals](#)

If you are unable to donate online, please place your donation in an envelope and we will donate on your behalf.

MASSES DURING THE CHRISTMAS PERIOD

Below are the Mass times this Christmas. Please note that there are some changes from previous years.

For some of the Masses, you must book a place in advance and these are indicated below. Places can be booked online from next week. If you do not have access to the internet, you can contact the parish office.

Christmas Masses are always well attended so **book early** to ensure you have a place. **It is really important that you book a place for the right Mass and you are sure you can attend. If you need to cancel, please do so as soon as possible to allow other parishioners to come.**

Please also remember that the obligation to attend Sunday Mass or a Mass on a Holy Day of Obligation remains suspended. Consider carefully whether you should come to Mass and when or whether it is better to follow Mass online at home.

DECEMBER 2020

Thursday 24th	THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (Christmas Eve)		
	6.30pm	Vigil Mass	BOOKING ESSENTIAL
	10.00pm	Mass during the Night	BOOKING ESSENTIAL

There will be no nativity play and no carol service this year

Friday 25th	THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (Christmas Day)		
	9.30am	Mass	BOOKING ESSENTIAL
	11.30am	Mass	BOOKING ESSENTIAL

Saturday 26th	HOLY FAMILY (Boxing Day)		
	6.30pm	Vigil Mass	BOOKING ESSENTIAL

There will be no enrolment of Altar Servers this year

Sunday 27th	HOLY FAMILY		
	9.30am	Mass	BOOKING ESSENTIAL
	11.30am	Mass	BOOKING ESSENTIAL

Monday 28th	THE HOLY INNOCENTS		
	10.00am	Mass	

Tuesday 29th	10.00am	Mass	
Wednesday 30th	No Masses - church closed		
Thursday 31st	10.00am	Mass	

JANUARY 2021

Friday 1st	NEW YEAR'S DAY, SOLEMNITY OF MARY MOTHER OF GOD		
	12.00noon	Mass	BOOKING ESSENTIAL

Saturday 2nd	6.30pm	Mass	BOOKING ESSENTIAL
---------------------	--------	------	--------------------------

Sunday 3rd	9.30am	Mass	BOOKING ESSENTIAL
	11.30am	Mass	BOOKING ESSENTIAL

Monday 4th	10.00am	Mass	
-------------------	---------	------	--

Tuesday 5th	10.00am	Mass	
	7.30pm	Vigil Mass - Epiphany of the Lord	BOOKING ESSENTIAL

Wednesday 6th	THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD		
	10.00am	Mass	BOOKING ESSENTIAL

Please share the details of these Mass times with anyone who may not have access to a newsletter.

FIRST RECONCILIATION / HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME 2021

Applications for the next First Holy Communion programme are now open. If you would like your child to join the next programme, please contact the Parish Office.

**All applications must be received by
Friday 18th December**

Forms received after this date will not be accepted.

CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME 2021

Registration is now open for the next Confirmation programme. **Young people in Year 8 or above**, who feel ready to prepare for this Sacrament, can apply. The programme will start during the spring term with Masses later in the year, in October 2021.

If you would like to apply, please contact the parish office.
Email: perivale@rcdow.org.uk or Telephone: 0208 997 3164

**The closing date for applications is
Friday 8th January 2021**

POPES PRAYER INTENTION - DECEMBER

FOR A LIFE OF PRAYER ✦ We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.

In a video message for his December prayer intention, Pope Francis speaks about the power of prayer to change reality and our hearts, and prays that, through a life of prayer, we may nourish our relationship with Jesus Christ.

The heart of the Church’s mission is prayer.

Prayer is the key for us to be able to enter into dialogue with the Father.

Every time we read a short passage from the Gospel we hear Jesus speaking to us.

We have a conversation with Jesus.

We listen to Jesus and we reply.

And this is prayer.

By praying, we change reality.

And we change our hearts.

Our heart changes when we pray.

We can do many things, but without prayer, it does not work.

We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.

What truly is prayer?

It is first of all a dialogue, a personal relationship with God. Man was created as a being in a personal relationship with God who finds his complete fulfilment only in the encounter with his Creator. The path of life leads toward the definitive encounter with the Lord.

Pausing in silence with Jesus. From this mysterious silence of God springs his Word which resonates in our heart. Jesus himself teaches us how it is truly possible to “be” with the Father and he shows us this with his prayer. The Gospels show us Jesus who withdraws to secluded places to pray; seeing his intimate relationship with God, the disciples feel the desire to be able to take part in it, and they ask him: “Lord, teach us to pray” (Lk 11:1).

In our relationship with the Lord, in prayer — I ask — do we let ourselves be astonished or do we think that prayer is speaking with God as parrots do? No, it is trusting and opening the heart so as to let ourselves be astonished. Do we allow ourselves to be surprised by God who is always the God of surprises? Because the encounter with the Lord is always a living encounter; it is not a museum encounter. It is a living encounter, and we go to Mass, not to a museum. We go to a living encounter with the Lord.

Extract from THE POPE’S GENERAL AUDIENCE 15 November 2017
© Copyright - Libreria Editrice Vaticana

CANDLELIGHT

This week in memory of
JAMES FLYNN RIP
&
CATHERINE BOURKE RIP

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.

LITURGY TIMES THIS WEEK

Saturday	5	Mass	6.30pm	McCahill Family
Sunday	6	Mass	9.30am	Evelyn Silva RIP (Anniv)
			11.30am	Philomena Feighery RIP
Monday	7	Mass	10.00am	Philomena Feighery RIP
Tuesday	8	THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY		
		Mass	10.00am	Pat Rooney RIP
Wednesday	9	No Masses		
Thursday	10	Mass	10.00am	Breda Connellan RIP
Friday	11	Mass	10.00am	Antonio Teles Pereira & Arzelina Noronha RIP
Saturday	12	Mass	6.30pm	Alcinda Ramos RIP
		3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT - B		
Sunday	13	Mass	9.30am	Elsie & Gerry Randall RIP
			11.30am	Nicholas Fardey RIP (Anniv)

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Mondays after morning Mass from 10.30am - 11.00am, Confession: Saturdays 5.15pm - 6.00pm or by appointment.

Please pray for: Louise and Mary Dykes, Gigi Reale, Jo Dearlove, Malgorzata Myrkwa, Terril Park, George Brum, Chris Keeffe, David Newbert, Teresa Oatway, Stephen Connellan, Stanley Cummins, Avit Castillo, Avelina Pelaez Siddiqi, Marlene Lock, Michael Delaney, Maria Wales, Suzanne Acton, Carl Bryan,
for those who died recently: Breda Connellan, William Talbutt and Philomena Feighery
and for those whose anniversaries occur about this time: Charles Taylor, Gwendoline Hughes, Richard Travers, Sheila O’Connor, Tim Hillier, Mary O’Reilly, Anne Leung Ki Fun, Tommy Bradley, Virginia (Ginny) Robbins, Mary Young, Eileen Elston, Bridie Reynolds, Raymond Carter, Margaret Walsh, John Burke and Anna Sleater,