



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

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THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - B

Isaiah 61:1-2,10-11 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 John 1:6-8, 19-28

13th December 2020

Parish Mass Book p87

LIVESTREAMING MASSES

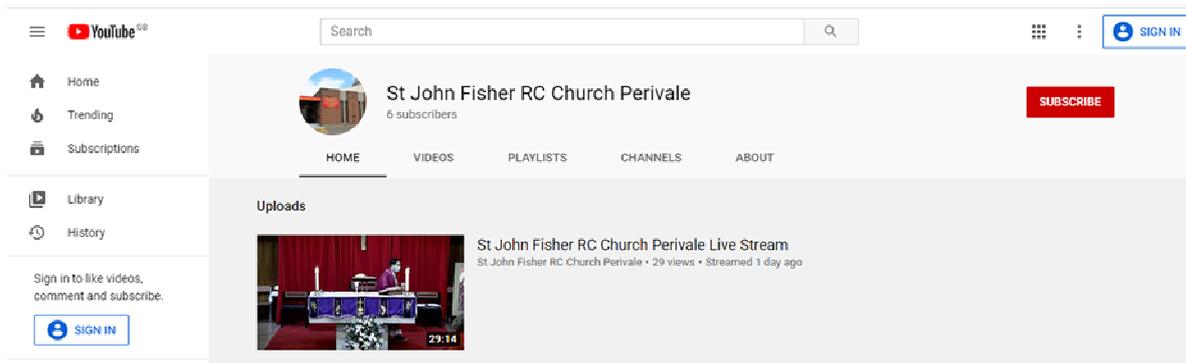
I am delighted to say that livestreaming equipment has now been installed in the church and that the first Mass which will be streamed, will be on

Sunday 13th December at 11.30am

Livestream Masses can be viewed via YouTube, by accessing the parish YouTube channel (link below)

[St John Fisher RC Church Perivale - YouTube](#)

When you logon, the screen should look something like this



Masses that are available for viewing will appear here. We'll be starting slowly, with only certain Masses livestreamed.

We strongly recommend that you 'Subscribe' to our parish YouTube channel by clicking on 'Subscribe'.

This will make it easier to access the YouTube channel and find our Masses going forward. Each week, we will publish in the newsletter and on our website, the Masses that will be livestreamed.

If you do watch one of our Masses online, please let us know what you think - feedback is always welcome.

Thanks to new technologies, the livestreaming of Masses has become widespread and for many who are ill, vulnerable or cannot travel to the church, this is a fantastic grace. However, as Pope Francis has warned, "Be careful, do not make the Church virtual, do not make the sacraments virtual, do not make the people of God virtual. The Church, the sacraments, the people of God are concrete".

Therefore, if you are able, please do come to a Mass. The obligation to attend a Sunday Mass is still suspended and weekday Masses have lower attendance. If you have not been to the church for a while and would like to see what it now looks like and all the measures we have put in place to ensure your safety, please let us know, we'll be happy to show you around.

Fr Agustin

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.

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.....”

Resources - for more ideas, activities for Advent see:

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

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

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

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 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”

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/>

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 available in the church lobby - £1.00

MASSES DURING THE CHRISTMAS PERIOD

Below are the Mass times for this Christmas. **You must book a place in advance for some of the Masses and these are indicated below.** If you do not have access to the parish website to book a place, please contact the parish office.

As capacity is limited this year, Masses will be booked up very quickly therefore, please book as soon as possible to guarantee a place. **You will not be able to attend certain Masses unless you have booked.**

It is also really important that you book a place for the right Mass and you are certain you can attend. If you need to cancel, please do so as soon as possible to allow other parishioners to come.

Please 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 10.00pm Mass during the Night	FULLY BOOKED BOOKING ESSENTIAL
<i>There will be no nativity play and no carol service this year</i>		
Friday 25th	THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (Christmas Day) 9.30am Mass 11.30am Mass	BOOKING ESSENTIAL BOOKING ESSENTIAL
Saturday 26th	HOLY FAMILY (Boxing Day) 6.30pm Vigil Mass	BOOKING ESSENTIAL
<i>There will be no enrolment of Altar Servers this year</i>		
Sunday 27th	HOLY FAMILY 9.30am Mass 11.30am Mass	BOOKING ESSENTIAL 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 11.30am Mass	BOOKING ESSENTIAL 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.

CRIB OFFERING: CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

We will soon be putting up the crib and you are invited to make a Crib Offering, which will be donated to the Catholic Children's Society **to support their work with disadvantaged children and families.** This will help provide mental health services, family support and emergency grants for vulnerable children in our diocese.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

As in previous years we would like to decorate the Crib with poinsettias in memory of loved ones. We invite you to bring your poinsettias along with a card with their name/s if you wish and place it by the crib.

You can bring your poinsettias to the church from the 19th of December.

We will remember them all on **Saturday 26th December and Sunday 27th December** during each of the weekend Masses.

The Book of Remembrance will also be on display during Christmas Week until 5th January.

BISHOPS' CONFERENCE STATEMENT ON COVID 19 VACCINES

*A statement by Bishop Richard Moth, Chair of the Department of Social Justice
at the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, released on 3rd December 2020.*

In September 2020 the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales issued a statement 'COVID-19 and Vaccination' (24th September 2020). In the light of the recent breakthrough in vaccine development we now wish to issue a follow up statement.

The development of a vaccine against COVID-19 presents an important breakthrough in protecting others as well as oneself from the virus; a virus which has not only caused a global pandemic and led to a huge loss of life but has also placed a great burden on healthcare workers and systems.

Each of us has a duty to protect others from infection with its danger of serious illness, and for some, death. A vaccine is the most effective way to achieve this unless one decides to self-isolate.

At present, debate concerns the use of the vaccines developed by Pfizer & BioNTech, Moderna, and Astra Zeneca. Some have questioned the use of the Astra Zeneca vaccine since it has been developed from cell-lines originating from the cells of an aborted foetus in 1983. The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith and the Pontifical Academy of Life have expressed the view that one may in good conscience and for a grave reason receive a vaccine sourced in this way, provided that there is a sufficient moral distance between the present administration of the vaccine and the original wrongful action. In the COVID-19 pandemic, we judge that this grave reason exists and that one does not sin by receiving the vaccine.

Both the Pfizer & BioNTech and Moderna vaccines have a different source since they are mRNA-based vaccines. On 2 December 2020, the Pfizer & BioNTech vaccine was approved for use in the UK.

Each Catholic must educate his or her conscience on this matter and decide what to do, also bearing in mind that a vaccine must be safe, effective, and universally available, especially to the poor of the world.

Catholics may in good conscience receive any of these vaccines for the good of others and themselves. In good conscience, one may refuse a particular vaccine but continues to have a duty to protect others from infection.

To read the previous statement issued on 24th September, please click on the following link
[Catholic Bishops Conference of England and Wales \(cbcew.org.uk\)](http://catholicbishopsconference.org.uk)

CONGRATULATIONS

To **JAYDEN ROBERTS** who was baptised last Sunday and to **CHELSEA GRACIAS**, who is being baptised this Saturday.
Please pray for them as they are welcomed into the Holy Church, their parents and godparents.

LITURGY TIMES THIS WEEK

Saturday	12	Mass	6.30pm	Alcinda Ramos RIP
Sunday	13	Mass	9.30am	Elsie & Gerry Randall RIP
			11.30am	Nicholas Fardey RIP (Anniv)
Monday	14	Mass	10.00am	Joanna Coutinho RIP
Tuesday	15	Mass	10.00am	Mary O'Donovan RIP
Wednesday	16	No Masses		
Thursday	17	Mass	10.00am	Maria Fonseca RIP (Anniv)
Friday	18	Mass	10.00am	Alcinda Ramos RIP
Saturday	19	Mass	6.30pm	Nora Keigher RIP (Anniv)
4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT - B				
Sunday	20	Mass	9.30am	Bridget Markey RIP (Anniv)
			11.30am	Pushpa Fernando 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: Virginia (Ginny) Robbins, Mary Young, Eileen Elston, Bridie Reynolds, Raymond Carter, Margaret Walsh, John Burke, Anna Sleater, Nicholas Fardey, Bridget Markey, Michael O'Neill, Monica Strabel, Nora Keigher, Pushpa Fernando and James Mulcahy.

CANDLELIGHT

This week for
RON BRISTER