



PRAYING TOGETHER FOR THE CHURCH, THE WORLD, THE PARISH & ONE ANOTHER

SICK & HOUSEBOUND: Ann Hull, Michael Griffin Snr., Titus Fernandes, Mary Malone, Margaret Cournane, Annie Phillips, Sadie & Tony Burgess, Mavis Hinton, Tom Fernandes, Cath Kervill, John Flynn, All in Copland Nursing Home, Gerard Perera, Margaret Macdonald, Gillian Gibb, Joe Nemeth, Frank Hunt, Ann Nemeth, Ken Fernandes, Michael Fahey, Marie Rego, Peter Bell.

RECENTLY BAPTISED:

RECENTLY DEPARTED: Pamela Greenope, Susan Reynolds, Frank Hunt.

ANNIVERSARIES OF THE DEPARTED: Martin & Nora Driscoll, Hugh Gilmartin, John Tierney.

INTENTIONS OF POPE FRANCIS FOR DECEMBER

The Elderly: That the elderly, sustained by families and Christian communities, may apply their wisdom and experience to spreading the faith and forming the new generations.

Word Search Puzzle

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W H A B D S W A M C P
I A F A O T O S O O R
T V T P W O R A R M O
H E E T N O T N E I C
A W R I M P H D H N L
N H H Z A O Y A O G A
P O W E R F U L L B I
O N E D K H I S Y U M
W I L L S P I R I T E
W A T E R U N T I E D
T H E T H O N G Y O U

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PROCLAIMED POWERFUL BAPTIZED SANDALS WORTHY
SPIRIT COMING WATER UNTIE THONG STOOP AFTER
WITH WILL THAN MORE MARK HOLY HAVE DOWN YOU
WHO THE ONE NOT HIS BUT OF AM

ADVENT II

O shepherd of Israel, hearken,
O guide of the flock of Joseph!

Rouse your power,
and come to save us.

O Lord of hosts, restore us,
if your face shine upon us,
then we shall be safe.

O Lord of hosts, how long will you burn
with anger while your people pray?

You have fed them
with the bread of tears
and given them tears to drink in
ample measure.

You have left us to be fought over by our
neighbours,
and our enemies mock us.

O Lord of hosts, restore us,
if your face shine upon us,
then we shall be safe.

SANCTUARY LAMP

has been sponsored this week
In Memory of
BRIAN DRAKE RIP

**LAMP AT THE ALTAR OF
OUR LADY OF WALSHINGHAM**
has been sponsored this week

IN MEMORY OF
JIM QUINN RIP



**TURN OFF
ALL MOBILE
PHONES**

MAKING CONTACT AT ST. GEORGE'S

Parish Priest: Mgr. Jeremy Fairhead
Assistant Priest: Fr. Tony Thomas
Catechetical Coordinator: Mr. Peter Kingsley
Secretary: Mrs. Toni Miles
Director of Music: Mr. Scott Price
Hall Bookings: via the office or

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4. Fr. Tony; 5. Pastoral Assistant. Charity No: 233699
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Sunday cycle
Readings Year B
Weekday Readings
Season of Advent
Divine Office
Week 2

**The Catholic Parish
of St George, Sudbury**



Sunday 10th December 2017 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Welcome to all at Mass today, especially to any visitors and particularly those who are here for the first time. Please take this sheet home with you which will tell you about this week's celebration and the activities during the week and also to remind you of our Liturgy today.

TODAY'S MASS



**ONE MORE
POWERFUL THAN I
IS TO COME - MK 1:7**

In today's Gospel John says that he has baptized with water, but that the one who is to come will baptize with the Holy Spirit. John's baptism was not yet a Christian baptism, but a preparation for the Sacrament of Baptism through which sins are forgiven and the gift of the Holy Spirit is received. John the Baptist is presented to us as a model during Advent. We, too, are called upon to prepare a way for the Lord. Like John the Baptist, we are messengers in service to one who is greater than we are. Our

Baptism commissions us to call others to life as disciples of Jesus.

First Reading: Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11

Isaiah tells the people to prepare a way for the Lord.

Second Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-14

St. Peter teaches that we must always be holy because the return of the Lord cannot be predicted.

Gospel Reading: Mark 1:1-8

St. John the Baptist preached repentance and baptized the people, in preparation for the one who would baptize with the Holy Spirit.

SPIRITUAL QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Truthful soul, prepare your heart for this Bridegroom, that he may come to you and dwell with you"

St. Thomas a Kempis

Sunday Reflection



When John the Baptist makes the announcement to get ready for the Lord he makes it clear that the highway for the Lord leads to our hearts. John the Baptist takes his prophetic call seriously and lives a life of prayer and fasting. His message is a simple message, “repent.” He does a baptism of repentance for those who accept his call. A baptism that is meant to prepare them to recognize and accept Jesus as Messiah and Lord. John was a charismatic figure whose deep faith, austere life-style, and bold message attracted people. Some had their brief time in his presence watching him, listening to him, and repenting before moving on changed because of their encounter with him. Others came and remained with John as his disciples. John could easily have basked in the fame and following he had, but he did not lose sight of his call. He was called, not to be the Messiah, but to prepare the way for Him, and he did this dutifully and humbly.

This leads us to ask ourselves the question, “How am I doing at preparing the way of the Lord, by building that

highway for the Lord to get into my heart?” No matter what God has called us to it takes humility, sincerity of heart, and fortitude to do it well. It involves filling in the emptiness of valley, and cutting away the mountains that blind us. It means removing detours that we sometimes take so as to avoid conversion, and removing the toll booths that we put up to make travel costly. In doing this well we are making way for the Lord. The Lord doesn’t limit his visits to us to Christmas. He is present to us always and the more we work on our highway the easier it is for us to see him.

Ideally each of us becomes a John the Baptist in that others may be pointed in the direction of Jesus because of us. This takes imitating John’s humility and the seriousness in which he took his call. John realised that it wasn’t all about him. This is something that we should also realise when we look at the highway. It’s not about us, it is about Jesus coming to us. It’s not about us, it’s about Jesus and our humbling ourselves by not trying to have the light shine on us, but to shine on Jesus.

This second Sunday of Advent is a good time to take to heart both the message and the example of John the Baptist. As we say “Come, Lord Jesus” we will have a highway for him to come to our hearts, and we will have the humility to point others to Jesus.

HOLY BAPTISM: Information packs are available from the parish office. You can sign up there for the preparation evening. Parents to be, i.e. before birth, are welcome to attend. The next baptism preparation evening will be on **Friday 26th January 2018 at 7.30pm** in the parish centre.

EARLY CHRISTMAS CHEER IN THE CAFE BAR - The café bar will be open this coming **Thursday 14th December from 10am-12pm**. There will be mulled wine, mince pies and a little early festive cheer. All are welcome!

CEILIDH CHRISTMAS PARTY on Friday 15th December at 8pm in the Parish Centre. Music by “Luckpenny”. For more details please contact Pat on 07932008547

CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE on Sunday 17th December at 7pm. Followed by mulled wine and mince pies in the parish centre. All welcome.

THE LIST OF THE SICK has now been renewed. If you know someone who needs to be included please let the office know.

HELPERS AT 9.45AM FAMILY MASS - We are extremely grateful to all who help the children read at the 9.45am Family Mass. We are **urgently looking for new volunteers** to help on a monthly basis. If you might be open to help or would like further information please speak to Marcia Taylor at the 9.45am Family Mass or email bumbletaylor@btinternet.com. Thank you.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY - Might you be open to help with the Children's Liturgy at the 9.45am Family Mass? If you might consider joining our team of Catechists/Helpers please contact Una Moran on 07932 620 504. Thank you.

CONFIRMATION ENROLMENT - The Information Evening for those wishing to enrol on the Confirmation Programme during the coming year will be on **Monday 8th January 2018**.

FRIENDS OF JESUS - The Friends of Jesus Programme takes place on Fridays from 5.30-6.30pm providing a little religious education to those children in the Parish not attending a Catholic school. An Information Leaflet is available in the porch. The classes will resume on Friday 12th January 2018.

EXTRA-ORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION - Might you be open to serve the Parish as an Extra-Ordinary Minister of Holy Communion? We are always grateful to those people who assist the Priest with administering the Sacrament at Mass and taking Holy Communion to the sick and housebound. If you are interested and like to be considered please speak to Fr. Tony

CALLING BAPTISM PREPARATION CATECHISTS -Might you consider helping to prepare Parents/Carers for the Baptism of their Infants If you are interested or would like further information please speak to Fr. Tony.

BEFRIENDING SERVICE - If you know of anyone in the Parish who might like to be befriended please let us know as we have a small group of befrienders who would be only too happy to help.

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED to help with the **CHURCH FLOWERS**. You do not have to be professional just committed to coming to help on Fridays and at major celebrations. If you can help please contact the parish team.

CHURCH LAMPS: If you would like to sponsor the blessed sacrament lamp or the lamp by the altar of Our Lady of Walsingham with a particular intention, the cost is £10 for the week - Please see Toni in the Parish Office. We now have cards (akin to Mass Cards) for the sponsoring of the Sacrament lamp or Walsingham Lamp if you’d like to use these if you are sponsoring a lamp in memory of someone. They can be obtained from the parish office. PLEASE REMEMBER to book your anniversary Masses early. We are now booked up until June 2018.

CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH: ANYONE contemplating the prospect of spending Christmas Day alone has another option in our community. We arrange a traditional Christmas lunch and volunteers will provide transport to those in need of a lift. If you would like to attend as a guest and/or you know of someone who would benefit, please email us. We will need the help and support of volunteers on the day. Any queries email Christmaslunch25@gmail.com or telephone Catherine on 07985350181.

FAMILY LOOKING FOR 3-4 BEDROOM HOUSE to rent in Sudbury. Call Lency on 07954096398

CLEANER WANTED for mornings only. Tel: 020 8904 3894.

WHITE/YELLOW FOLDER INFORMATION FOR THE FOLLOWING: (See in church porch)
BEGINNING EXPERIENCE helps separated, divorced or widowed Catholics.

SMART LOVING SEMINAR for married couples.

CATHOLIC SINGLES information

RETROUVAILLE—a lifeline for married couples.

WIDOWED YOUNG—support events.

CALIX CENTRE—A Catholic ministry to addicts.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION COURSES. —new information

DIOCESAN VACANCIES: Latest diocesan vacancies in folder in porch or go to website.

FOLDERS in the church porch: look for pilgrimages & retreats, job opportunities, schools & college.

NEWS & VIEWS

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION EVENING

Tickets on sale today along with raffle tickets. All proceeds of the great evening will go towards automating our two bells so that they can ring regularly, especially the angelus and at funerals

WELCOME to all who have come to Mass today. Please stay on if you are able, for TEA & COFFEE after the 9.45am and 11.15am Masses, in the Café-Bar of the Parish Centre.

THE TUCK SHOP will be open in the Parish Centre after the 9.45am Mass.

NEW TO THE PARISH? if you are, please know you are very welcome. Please fill in one of the new parishioners forms at the back of church and we'll get back to you.

PLEASE LEAVE THE PEW NEAT AND TIDY AS YOU DEPART CHURCH TODAY.

PARISH DIARY FOR THE WEEK

Sunday 10 December 2017:

Teas and coffees after 9.45am and 11.15am Masses –

Monday 11 December:

Keep Fit 2.30pm

Tuesday 12 December:

Over 60's Group: 1.00pm

Ceilidh/Set Dancing 8.45pm

Wednesday 13 December:

Knights of St. Columba 8.00pm

Thursday 14 December:

Café/Bar open 9-11am

Church Cleaning Group B 10.30am

Prayer Group 8.00pm

Friday 15 December:

Teas after morning Mass

Art Class 2.00pm

Christmas Ceilidh 8.00pm

Saturday 16 December:

Christmas Celebration Dinner/Dance 7.00pm

PARISH ADVENT LEAFLETS are available at the back of the church. Full details of Christmas services next week.

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION EVENING on Saturday 16th December 7.00-11.30pm. Tickets for this event are available from the Parish Office. Adults £15; Children 5-16yrs £7; under 5's free. 3 course dinner (English and Asian food), live band, dancing, bar, raffle with many great prizes. All proceeds to the parish to help raise money to automate our two bells so they can ring the Angelus every day.

THANK YOU for your very generous donations towards our Christmas flowers last week. Our Christmas flowers raffle and collection raised £754.56

THANK YOU again to all who responded to our Stewardship Campaign and renewed their commitment. There is still time to return your forms or to pick them up from the back of church if you have not yet done so.

CHILDREN'S NATIVITY, CHRISTMAS EVE VIGIL MASS - After the success of last year we are happy to let you know that there will once again be a Children's Nativity at the Christmas Eve Vigil Mass this year. If your **child is in Year 3 or above** and would like to take part (or you would like to help in any way) please contact Monica Mortali (Tel 07427 897787 or monicamortali@hotmail.co.uk). Thank you.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION - A massive thank you to all our Catechists, Parents & Carers who helped make the Reconciliation Service such a blessed occasion for all our children on Tuesday evening. Please note that the next session, for **Parents & Carers Only**, is on **Tuesday 16th January at 7.30pm**. Thank you.

REPOSITORY - Please note that, from this Sunday onwards, the **Repository will only be open after the Saturday 6.15pm Vigil, 9.45am & 11.15am Masses**. Advent Calendars, Candles, Christmas cards, cribs & wreaths are all available.

ADVENT SMALL GROUP - A small group will be meeting after Mass on the Mondays in Advent from 10.15-11.45am in the Parish Café Bar. All are welcome!

SAFEGUARDING TRAINING - Would you like to help contribute to making your Parish community safer for all? Until the summer of 2018 **free online training** is available through the Diocese. To register your interest please see the poster in the Porch for further details or email: safeguardingadmin@rcdow.org.uk

St. George's Catholic Church, Sudbury

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION EVENING

Saturday 16th December 2017

from 7.00pm-11.30pm
in the Parish Centre

Live Band - Dancing - Bar - Raffle -
3 Course Dinner (English & Asian food)

[Raffle: Many, many great prizes]

Tickets:

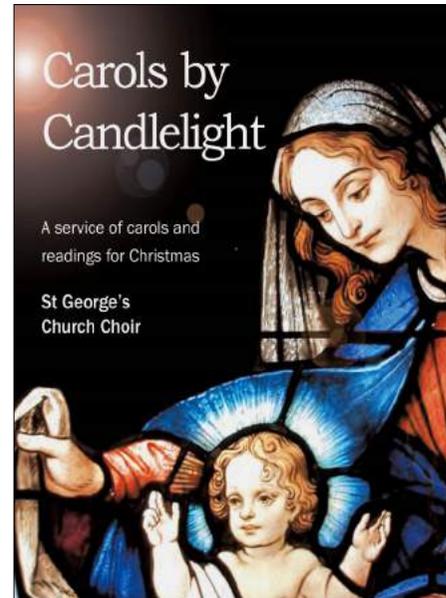
Adult £15.00

5-16 yrs £7.00

Children under 5 yrs: Free

Tickets available after Sunday
Masses, from the Repository
and the Parish Office

TICKETS ON SALE TODAY



Sunday 17th December 2017 7pm

St George's Church, Sudbury

Followed by mulled wine and mince pies in the parish centre

LITURGICAL CALENDAR & MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY MASS: 6.15pm (Saturday Vigil), 8.30am, 9.45am (Family) & 11.15am (Solemn), 5.30pm.

WEEKDAY MASS: Monday – Saturday 9.30am.

HOLIDAYS OF OBLIGATION: 9.30am, 8.00pm.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Saturday 5.15-6.00pm.

CONFESSIONS: Saturday 5.15pm - 6.00pm. *and any time by appointment.*

DIVINE MERCY: Tuesday 10.30am.

ROSARY: Daily after Mass.

Sunday 10 Dec	2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT
6.15pm (Sat. Vigil)	Tom & Mary Higgins RIP
8.30am	Darren O'Sullivan RIP
9.45am	PRO POPULO
11.15am	Martin & Nora Driscoll RIP
5.30pm	Katie & John McDermott RIP

Mon 11 Dec	<i>S. Damasus I</i>
9.30am	Edward Johnston Snr RIP

Tues 12 Dec	<i>Our Lady of Guadalupe</i>
9.30am	Mary O'Sullivan RIP

Weds 13 Dec	<i>S. Lucy</i>
9.30am	Norbert Cusack Intentions

Thur 14 Dec	<i>S. John of the Cross</i>
9.30am	Peggy Kelly RIP

Fri 15 Dec	<i>Advent feria</i>
9.30am	Willie Moran RIP
11.00am	FUNERAL MASS
	Frank Hunt RIP

Sat 16 Dec	<i>Advent feria</i>
9.30am	Patrick Hughes RIP

TODAY'S MASS

Entrance Antiphon: *Cf. Is 30: 19, 30*

O people of Sion, behold,
the Lord will come to save the nations,
and the Lord will make the glory of his
voice heard
in the joy of your heart.

Collect

Almighty and merciful God,
may no earthly undertaking hinder those
who set out in haste to meet your Son,
but may our learning of heavenly wisdom
gain us admittance to his company.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity
of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

First reading: Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11

'Console my people, console them'
says your God.
'Speak to the heart of Jerusalem
and call to her
that her time of service is ended,
that her sin is atoned for,
that she has received from the hand of
the Lord
double punishment for all her crimes.'
A voice cries, 'Prepare in the wilderness
a way for the Lord.
Make a straight highway for our God
across the desert.
Let every valley be filled in,
every mountain and hill be laid low.
Let every cliff become a plain,
and the ridges a valley;
then the glory of the Lord shall be re-
vealed
and all mankind shall see it;

for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'
Go up on a high mountain,
joyful messenger to Zion.
Shout with a loud voice,
joyful messenger to Jerusalem.
Shout without fear,
say to the towns of Judah,
'Here is your God.'
Here is the Lord coming with power,
his arm subduing all things to him.
The prize of his victory is with him,
his trophies all go before him.
He is like a shepherd feeding his flock,
gathering lambs in his arms,
holding them against his breast
and leading to their rest the mother
ewes.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 84:9-14

***R/. Let us see, O Lord, your mercy, and
give us your saving help.***

1. I will hear what the Lord God has to
say,
a voice that speaks of peace,
peace for his people.
His help is near for those who fear him
and his glory will dwell in our land. ***R/.***
2. Mercy and faithfulness have met;
justice and peace have embraced.
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth
and justice look down from heaven. ***R/.***
3. The Lord will make us prosper
and our earth shall yield its fruit.
Justice shall march before him
and peace shall follow his steps. ***R/.***

Second reading: 2 Peter 3:8-14

There is one thing, my friends, that you
must never forget: that with the Lord, 'a
day' can mean a thousand years, and a
thousand years is like a day. The Lord is
not being slow to carry out his promis-
es, as anybody else might be called
slow; but he is being patient with you
all, wanting nobody to be lost and eve-
rybody to be brought to change his
ways. The Day of the Lord will come like
a thief, and then with a roar the sky will
vanish, the elements will catch fire and
fall apart, the earth and all that it con-
tains will be burnt up.
Since everything is coming to an end
like this, you should be living holy and
saintly lives while you wait and long for
the Day of God to come, when the sky
will dissolve in flames and the elements
melt in the heat. What we are waiting
for is what he promised: the new heav-
ens and new earth, the place where
righteousness will be at home. So then,
my friends, while you are waiting, do
your best to live lives without spot or
stain so that he will find you at peace.

Gospel Acclamation: Lk3:4,6

***Alleluia, alleluia!
Prepare a way for the Lord,
make his paths straight,
and all mankind shall see the salvation
of God. Alleluia!***

Gospel: Mark 1:1-8

The beginning of the Good News about
Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is written
in the book of the prophet Isaiah:
Look, I am going to send my messenger
before you;

he will prepare your way.

A voice cries in the wilderness:
Prepare a way for the Lord, make his
paths straight.

and so it was that John the Baptist
appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming
a baptism of repentance for the
forgiveness of sins. All Judaea and all
the people of Jerusalem made their way
to him, and as they were baptised by
him in the river Jordan they confessed
their sins. John wore a garment of
camel-skin, and he lived on locusts and
wild honey. In the course of his
preaching he said, 'Someone is
following me, someone who is more
powerful than I am, and I am not fit to
kneel down and undo the strap of his
sandals. I have baptised you with water,
but he will baptise you with the Holy
Spirit.'

Prayer over the Offerings

Be pleased, O Lord, with our humble
prayers and offerings,
and, since we have no merits
to plead our cause, come, we pray, to
our rescue with the protection of your
mercy. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon: Bar 5: 5; 4: 36

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the
heights, and behold the joy which
comes to you from God.

Prayer after Communion

Replenished by the food of spiritual
nourishment, we humbly beseech you,
O Lord, that, through our partaking in
this mystery, you may teach us to judge
wisely the things of earth and hold firm
to the things of heaven.