

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

SICK & HOUSEBOUND: *Richeldis Paxton, Wilma Primmer, PC, Yee Wing, CPO, Gillian Gibb, Bridie Burns, Phyllis Coffey, Ann Hull, Margaret O'Hanlon, Chris, RC, Theresa Mulvaney, Jodie Clarke, Kieran Maher, Rose Knights, Mary Honey, Peggy & John Cox, Diego Campigotto, Edel Rickard, Polly Thompson, Jean McGrath, Antonio Rodrigues, Julie & Lawrence Hayes, Margaret O'Brien, Michael Rynne, Mary Geaghan, Annemarie Dax, Special Intention, Terry Highland, Colleen Thomas, Joe Nemeth, Helen Faria,, Margaret Callighne, Frank Hunt, Maggie Kirrane, Vera Hylton, Monica Wisniewicz, Geraldine O'Toole, Eileen Harrison, Billy Brennan, Patsy Kenny, Ian Measham, David Colville, Maureen McCready, Josephine Smullen, Edward Reilly, Fr. Francis Rozario (Goan Chaplaincy), Betty Cain, James McHugh, Callum Stewart-Robert, Betty Hickey, Bernie Marren, Sadie Burgess, Shayanayaki Kaithampillai, Richard Howes, Mia Harrison, Special Intention, Ann Nemeth, Marjorie Hoareau, Max Perera, Nick Holmes, Michael Howard, George McDermott, Josie Redmond., Michael Fahy, Victor Jude Booth, Mary E. Malone, Manal Francis Luca, Antonio Dilieto Snr, Androulla Koutsoumbi.*

ANNIVERSARIES OF THE DEPARTED: *Agripino Gutierrez, Bridget and Johnny Tarpy.*

INTENTIONS OF POPE FRANCIS FOR DECEMBER

Universal: That all may experience the mercy of God, who never tires of forgiving.

Evangelization: That families, especially those who suffer, may find in the birth of Jesus a sign of certain hope

PRAYER FOR ADVENT I

**Come, long-expected
Jesus. Excite in me the joy
and love and peace it is
right to bring to the
manger of my Lord.
Raise in me, too, sober
reverence for the God who
acted there, hearty
gratitude for the life begun
there, and spirited
resolution to serve the
Father and Son. I pray in
the name of Jesus Christ,
whose advent I hail. Amen**

SANCTUARY LAMP THIS WEEK
Sponsored in memory of the Deceased
members of the McDonagh Family.
**LAMP AT THE ALTAR OF OUR LADY OF
WALSINGHAM** is sponsored for the
intentions of the McDonagh Family.

MAKING CONTACT AT ST. GEORGE'S

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Hall Bookings: via the office or sudbury@rcdow.org.uk
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Sunday cycle
readings Year C
Weekday readings
Advent week 1
Divine Office
Advent Week 1

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



**Sunday 29th November 2015
FIRST 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

"Your liberation is near at hand"

We have no reason to fear the second coming of Christ if we allow God to teach us how to grow in holiness. We ask him to help us to love one another with generosity and integrity. In this way we will be able to hold our heads high and have the strength necessary to survive all that will happen in our lives so that when the time comes we will stand in confidence before Christ and his saints.

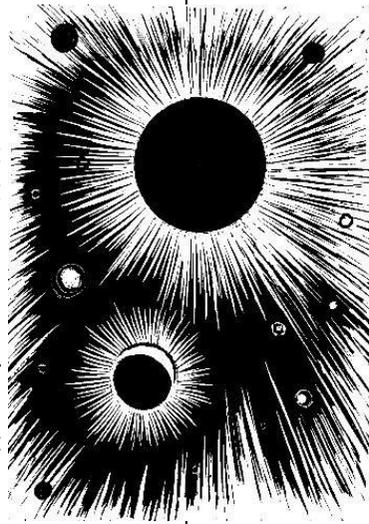
First Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-16
The voice of the prophet Jeremiah greets us as we enter the season of Advent. Called by God, Jeremiah preached a message of hope to the people. In today's reading we hear the promise that God will raise up, from the ancestors of King David, a ruler who will "do what is right and just."

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 3:12, 4:2
St. Paul's letter is addressed to the newly formed Christian community at Thessalonica, the capital of Macedonia. He expresses his love for them and his urgent desire that they continue to make progress in living as followers of Jesus Christ. He reminds them of the second coming of Christ at the end of the world. How will they prepare? By loving one another.

Gospel: Luke 21:25-28, 34-36
Just as we are beginning the new liturgical year, we hear Jesus' reminders to "be vigilant" and "pray." Advent is a time of preparation for Jesus' final coming. Jesus, the just one, who will judge us in the final days of human history, wants us to be able to stand up like true Christians when that time comes.

Sunday reflection by Mgr. Jeremy

Jesus, during his public ministry performed numerous signs: turning water into wine, calming the storm at sea and walking on water, multiplying seven loaves of bread in the wilderness to feed 5000 people, healing the blind and the lame, expelling demons, and raising the dead. While many believed in Jesus, many also questioned his signs and refused to believe his claim to be the Messiah sent by the Father to suffer and die for our sake on the cross. Jesus' last and greatest sign during his earthly ministry was his rising from the tomb on the third day after his crucifixion. This sign demonstrated his power to defeat death itself and to give abundant everlasting life to all who believed in him.



Jesus told his disciples that his final great sign would be his return in glory at the end of the age. He would come this second time as Judge and Merciful Redeemer to vindicate those who accepted him as Lord and Saviour and to punish those who rejected him. Jesus declared that this last sign at the end of the world would be unmistakable. All would recognize and "see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory". The title which Jesus most often used to describe his Messianic role was the expression "Son of Man". The image

of a "Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory" was given in a vision where the prophet Daniel saw heaven opened before the throne of God.

When the Lord comes again as our Judge and merciful Redeemer he will right every wrong, vindicate every person who has accepted him as Lord and Saviour, and remove all sorrow, pain, and death itself. The world around us is plagued with greed, envy, strife, and uncertainty. It has lost hope in God and in his promise to restore the human race and all of creation when the Lord Jesus comes again. The anticipation of his final judgment is a sign of hope for all who trust in him. But what can keep us from recognizing the signs of the Lord's presence and

action today? weighed down with troubles. The Lord knows our shortcomings and struggles and he gives us the strength to bear our burdens and to walk in his way of holiness. The Advent season which precedes Christmas and Epiphany reminds us that we are a pilgrim people, aliens and exiles in this age who long for our true home with God in his heavenly kingdom, and who await with joyful hope the return of the Lord Jesus at the end of the age.

Happy Advent!

PARISH DAY OF RECOLLECTION introducing the Year of Mercy. 9.30am Mass followed by talks/discussion in the Parish Centre.

OPENING OF THE JUBILEE OF YEAR OF MERCY AND SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION—Tuesday 8th December Mass at 9.30am & Sung Mass at 8.00pm

PARISH RECONCILIATION LITURGY with the opportunity for individual confessions on 17th December at 7.30pm

CAROL SERVICE on Sunday 20th December at 7.30pm

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. Please note that our next baptism preparation evening will be on **Friday 29th January 2016**. There will be no course in the month of December.

ROME PILGRIMAGE in April 2016. Only 2 single rooms left. Full details in the porch.

NEW ALTAR SERVERS: All welcome to join our team of Altar Servers at Mass. If you wish to join the team please come to the Sacristy 20 minutes before Mass where you will be given all the help and advice needed to begin your new role.

BAPTISM PREPARATION CATECHISTS WANTED. Would you like to join a team preparing families for the baptism of their children. The commitment would be a couple of times a year. Please speak to a member of the Parish Team if you'd like to know more.

FRIENDS OF JESUS: If you child is of primary school age but is not attending a Catholic school they are welcome to attend Friends of Jesus at 5.30pm on Friday evenings. For further information please see one of the parish team.

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION—Please check the rota each Sunday. If you are on the rota please cover your duty. If you are not on the rota please come forward only if there is a need. Thank you.

APPLICATION FORMS FOR VOLUNTEER ROLES INVOLVING CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND VULNERABLE ADULTS - If you have been given/sent an application form, please complete and return it to the Parish Office this week. If you have any questions or concerns about the DBS procedure please speak to the Safeguarding Officer or any member of the Parish Team. Thank you!

THE WHITE SANCTUARY LAMP BY THE TABERNACLE has been sponsored this week in memory of Deceased Members of the McDonagh Family.

THE LAMP BY THE ALTAR OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM is sponsored this week for the intentions of the McDonagh Family.

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.

CHURCH CLEANERS: New volunteers are needed now. If you are able to help please call Julia on 8904 5324 or contact the parish team.

LOST PROPERTY will be available this weekend. If you have lost gloves, scarves, umbrellas, books etc please take a look on the table near the repository.

SUDBURY CHRISTMAS LUNCH will take place this year as usual on Christmas day. Flyers and Booking forms are now available. All are welcome to this if you are alone or just want to be with friends. Because of huge generosity last year there is still enough money to cover this year's cost. So this year as our "UNDER THE CHRISTMAS TREE" offering we are asking for gifts before Christmas. These will be distributed to those at the Christmas Lunch on Christmas Day. So what are they asking for? A Present, gift wrapped of up £10 in value but no more. It should be marked whether it would be more appropriate for a male or female. These we are asking to be brought to Church on the LAST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - 20th December.

JINGLE ALL THE WAY—a brand new sketch show for all the family exploring the true meaning of Christmas. Wednesday 9th December at 7.30pm at St Anselm's School Hall, Harrow. See notice in porch for more details.

WHITE/YELLOW FOLDER INFORMATION FOR THE FOLLOWING: (*See in church porch*)

- ◆ **ADVENT REFLECTIONS** at the Niland Centre 6 Dec.
 - ◆ **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.**
- JOB VACANCIES:**
Various Diocesan Vacancies.

FOLDERS in the church porch: look for pilgrimages and retreats, job opportunities, schools and colleges. Info.

OFFER OF FURNITURE: two full size armchairs with wooden legs—comfortable and large. If you'd like them they can be delivered to you or you can collect. Please speak to the parish office.

FREE BOOKS: Oxford study dictionaries for Mathematics and Science/Philip Allan A-Z Handbooks(similar to dictionaries) 4th editions for Biology and Chemistry/AS Level Chemistry 2 revision books for Edexcel/AS Level Biology 2 revision books for OCR. Tel: 020 7018 1384

PICK UP/DROP OFF'S ASSISTANCE NEEDED from Butler Road Harrow to St.Anselms and/or St.Georges/Dragons Nursery (Sudbury Hill) – 3 mornings or evenings per wk (or both) -

Y	N	O	G	A	R	T	S	O	L	SUN
E	R	H	W	A	S	E	L	I	E	OCEAN
N	K	E	S	T	V	R	B	N	H	DEBAUCHERY
S	U	A	H	A	I	E	A	E	H	SURVIVE
N	D	V	W	C	R	D	A	T	E	LIBERATION
O	O	E	S	A	U	R	R	R	S	HEAVEN
I	L	N	T	O	T	A	W	A	K	HEARTS
T	C	I	L	S	E	A	B	P	I	AWAKE
A	O	C	E	A	N	E	W	E	N	NATIONS
N	U	S	U	R	V	I	V	E	D	AGONY
										EARTH
										STARS

NEWS & VIEWS



THE JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY

begins on 8th December. Please take the special parish leaflet and also today the Companion Booklet (£1.00) which will be on sale after all Masses.

ST. GEORGE'S CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION "ASIAN STYLE"

Saturday 12th December
7.00pm -10.30pm

Dinner—Bar—Live Band—Singing—raffle
...and above all

Tickets on sale TODAY

Adults: £10 Children : £5 (yrs 5-11)
Under 5 yrs— free

BUY YOUR TICKET TODAY
Just a few left

PARISH MORNING OF RECOLLECTION

THIS SATURDAY 5th DECEMBER introducing the Year of Mercy. 9.30am Mass followed by talks/discussion in the Parish Centre.

Prayer with Taizé Chants



Monday 30th November, 7.30pm
St. George's Church, Sudbury
970 Harrow Road, Wembley, HA0 2QE

Song Practice: 6.30pm Contact: peterkingsley@rcdaw.org.uk

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 Parish Centre.

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 ASAP.

MARY'S MEALS—RAGS TO RICHES collection last Sunday raised £703.09. Mary's Meals has written thank you all for your generosity.

CHRISTMAS HAMPERS are being raffled after Mass this week and next. Cost of tickets: £2.00.

SMALL GROUPS: Our Diocesan sessions for Small Group entitled "Love Divine" reflecting on the graces bestowed in the Sacraments continues on Mondays, after the 9.30am Mass & Rosary, in the Sacristy until 21 December. Booklets to accompany this course are on sale in the repository at £2.00. All are very welcome!

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: If you would like to make a donation towards our Christmas flowers for the church please do so via the Parish Office or the Clergy.

CHRISTMAS MASS BOUQUET CARDS are available from the Parish Office.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: The session on Tuesday 1st December will be for **CHILDREN ONLY**.

PARISH DIARY FOR THE WEEK

Sunday 29 November:	
Tea & Coffee after the 9.45am & 11.15am Masses	
Monday 30 November:	
Prayer with Taizé chants (refreshments afterwards in the Parish Centre)	7.30pm
Tuesday 1 December:	
Over 60's	1.00pm
First Holy Communion (CHILDREN ONLY)	7.30pm
Wednesday 2 December:	
School Form Signing (Nursery & Primary)	7.30pm
Ladies' Social Guild	8.00pm
Thursday 3 December:	
Church Cleaning Group D	3.00pm
Prayer Group	8.00pm
Friday 4 December:	
Teas after morning Mass	
Art Class	2.00pm
Friends of Jesus	5.30pm
Saturday 5 December:	
Parish Day of Recollection Mass at Panto	9.30am 3.00pm

LOOKING AHEAD

PRAYER WITH TAIZÉ CHANTS—Monday 30th November at 7.30pm. All welcome!
FEAST OF ST. FRANCIS XAVIER Thursday 3rd December Mass at 9.30am followed by the veneration of the relic of St. Francis Xavier.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR & INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

SUNDAY MASS: 6.15pm (Saturday Vigil), 8.30am, 9.45am (Family) & 11.15 noon (Solemn), 5.30pm, **WEEKDAY MASS:** Monday – Saturday 9.30am, **HOLIDAYS OF OBLIGATION:** 9.30am, 8.00pm, **EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:** Saturday 5.15-6.00pm **RECONCILIATION/CONFESSIONS:** Saturday 5.15pm - 6.00pm and any time by appointment, **DIVINE MERCY:** Tuesday 10.30am, **PRAYER GROUP:** Thursday 8.00pm **FRIENDS OF JESUS:** Friday 5.30pm.

Gd	Sun	29 November	ADVENT I	<i>Sat. Vigil</i>	6.15pm 8.30am 9.45am 11.15am 5.30pm 9.30am	Nancy & Con Bowe Intentions PRO POPULO Agripino Gutierrez RIP Mr & Mrs Wences De Lima Ints Liam Cunningham RIP Wally & Dorothy Watts RIP Marita & Robbie Ledo RIP Hermosinda Toucedo RIP Mrs Brown RIP
R	Mon	30 November	S. ANDREW			Jim Mullane RIP Alan Chandler RIP John Brady RIP Ann Veronica Hales RIP
R	Tues	1 December	Advent feria		9.30am	
R	Wed	2 December	Advent feria		9.30am	
G	Thur	3 December	S. Francis Xavier		9.30am	
G	Fri	4 December	S. John Damascene [Friday abstinence]		9.30am	
W	Sat	5 December	Advent feria		9.30am	

ABOUT ADVENT

The word "advent," from the Latin *adventus* (Greek *parousia*), means "coming" or "arrival." The Advent Season is focused on the "coming" of Jesus as Messiah (Christ or King). During this time, our worship, Bible readings, and prayers not only prepare us spiritually for Christmas (his first coming), but also for his eventual second coming. This is why the scripture readings during Advent include both Old Testament passages related to the expected Messiah, and New Testament passages concerning Jesus' second coming as judge of all. Also, passages about John the Baptist, the precursor who prepared the way for the Messiah, are read. All of these themes are present in the Church's worship during Advent,

Since Advent looks forward to Christ's birth and Incarnation, it is an appropriate way to begin the Church Year. However, Advent is not part of the Christmas season itself, but a preparation for it. Thus, we should try our best not to sing Christmas hymns, or use Christmas readings, in Mass until December 25th, the first day of the Christmas season. The liturgical colour for Advent is violet (except for the Third Week of Advent,

often called Gaudete Sunday, in which rose may be used), and the season is somewhat penitential, similar to Lent, although not so forceful. The character of worship during Advent is more solemn, quiet, and less festive than during other times of the year. In the Catholic Church, for example, the *Gloria in Excelsis* is not used. The use of violet reflects the general themes of Advent: penitence (generally expressed more in terms of expectant hope) and royalty. Some prominent feasts fall within the Season of Advent, including the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Secular culture and many non-Catholic churches celebrate the day of Christmas, but take it outside of the context of Advent and Christmastide. However, Christmas is not meant to be an isolated day, but a festival of the Incarnation in the midst of the Church year. Christmas is only properly understood after having the preparation provided by Advent. In the midst of the secular excesses leading up to Christmas, Advent provides a welcome solace and an opportunity to continually re-orient ourselves to God's will as we expectantly wait with patriarchs, prophets, and kings for the true meaning of Christmas: the Incarnation of God the Son. The word made flesh: God living among us.

TODAY'S MASS

Entrance Antiphon: *Cf. Ps 24: 1-3*

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God.
In you, I have trusted; let me not be
put to shame. Nor let my enemies
exult over me; and let none who
hope in you be put to shame.

Collect

Grant your faithful, we pray,
almighty God,
the resolve to run forth to meet
your Christ
with righteous deeds at his coming,
so that, gathered at his right hand,
they may be worthy to possess the
heavenly kingdom.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ,
your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the
unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

First reading: *Jeremiah 33:14-16*

See, the days are coming – it is the
Lord who speaks – when I am going
to fulfil the promise I made to the
House of Israel and the House of
Judah:
‘In those days and at that time,
I will make a virtuous Branch grow
for David, who shall practise
honesty and integrity in the land.
In those days Judah shall be saved

and Israel shall dwell in confidence.
And this is the name the city will be
called: The-Lord-our-integrity.’

Responsorial Psalm: *Ps. 24:4-5,8-9,10,14*

R/. To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

1. Lord, make me know your ways.
Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth, and
teach me:
for you are God my Saviour. *R/.*
2. The Lord is good and upright.
He shows the path to those who
stray,
He guides the humble in the right
path,
He teaches his way to the poor. *R/.*
3. His ways are faithfulness and love
for those who keep his covenant
and law.
The Lord's friendship is for those
who revere him;
to them he reveals his covenant. *R/.*

Second reading: *1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2*

May the Lord be generous in
increasing your love and make you
love one another and the whole
human race as much as we love
you. And may he so confirm your
hearts in holiness that you may be

blameless in the sight of our God
and Father when our Lord Jesus
Christ comes with all his saints.
Finally, brothers, we urge you and
appeal to you in the Lord Jesus to
make more and more progress in
the kind of life that you are meant
to live: the life that God wants, as
you learnt from us, and as you are
already living it. You have not
forgotten the instructions we gave
you on the authority of the Lord
Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation: *Ps.84:8*

Alleluia, alleluia!

*Let us see, O Lord, your mercy
and give us your saving help.
Alleluia!*

Gospel: *Luke 21:25-28,34-36*

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘There
will be signs in the sun and moon
and stars; on earth nations in
agony, bewildered by the clamour
of the ocean and its waves; men
dying of fear as they await what
menaces the world, for the powers
of heaven will be shaken. And then
they will see the Son of Man
coming in a cloud with power and
great glory. When these things
begin to take place, stand erect,
hold your heads high, because your
liberation is near at hand.

‘Watch yourselves, or your hearts
will be coarsened with debauchery
and drunkenness and the cares of
life, and that day will be sprung on
you suddenly, like a trap. For it will
come down on every living man on
the face of the earth. Stay awake,
praying at all times for the strength
to survive all that is going to
happen, and to stand with
confidence before the Son of Man.’

Prayer over the Offerings

Accept, we pray, O Lord, these
offerings we make,
gathered from among your gifts to
us, and may what you grant us to
celebrate devoutly here below
gain for us the prize of eternal
redemption. Through Christ our
Lord.

Communion Antiphon: *Ps 84: 13*

The Lord will bestow his bounty,
and our earth shall yield its
increase.

Prayer after Communion

May these mysteries, O Lord,
in which we have participated,
profit us, we pray, for even now, as
we walk amid passing things,
you teach us by them to love the
things of heaven and hold fast to
what endures.
Through Christ our Lord.