



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

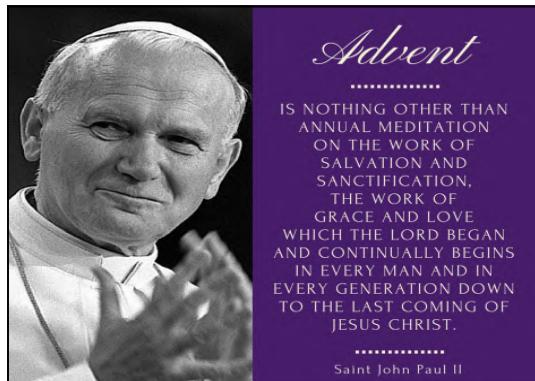
**SICK & HOUSEBOUND:** Michael Fahey, Michael Griffin, Anne Hull, Gillian Gibbs, Catherine Kevill, Margaret O'Shea, Lionel Stonehouse, Edith Geissler, Marie Rego, Christopher Browne, Eileen Kidd, John and Angela McCarthy, Germaine Duffner, Patrick McDonagh.

### RECENTLY BAPTISED:

**RECENTLY DEPARTED:** Sarah McCormack, Sandra Costella, Mabel Pereira.

**ANNIVERSARIES OF THE DEPARTED:** Thomas Ryan, Delphine De Lima, Kevin Durcan, John Tierney.

**INTENTION OF POPE FRANCIS FOR DEC 2019**  
**The Future of the Very Young**  
 That every country take the measures necessary to prioritize the future of the very young, especially those who are suffering.



### MAKING CONTACT AT ST. GEORGE'S

Parish Priest: Mgr. Jeremy Fairhead  
 Assistant Priest: Fr. John Warnaby  
 Catechetical Coordinator: Mr. Peter Kingsley  
 Secretary: Mrs. Toni Miles  
 Director of Music: Mr. Scott Price  
 Hall Bookings: via the office or  
 Safeguarding Representative: Mrs. Mary Kugaswaran  
 Address: The Presbytery, 970 Harrow Road, Sudbury, Wembley, Middlesex, HA0 2QE  
 Tel: 020 8904 2552. Phone Options: 1. Mass Times; 2. Parish Office 3. Mgr Jeremy;  
 4. Fr. John; 5. Catechetical Coordinator.  
 Email: sudbury@rcdow.org.uk

**ADVENT PRAYER**  
**Week 2. Peace**  
**Dear Jesus, you entered our world on Christmas as the Prince of Peace. This Advent, as we strive to become the best-version-of-ourselves, fill us with a deep and abiding peace. Help us share that peace with everyone we encounter, especially those**

**SANCTUARY LAMP**  
 has been sponsored this week  
 In Memory of  
 KEVIN DURCAN RIP

**LAMP AT THE ALTAR OF OUR LADY OF WALSHAM**  
 has been sponsored this week  
 In Memory of  
 DARREN O'SULLIVAN RIP

**ROSARY AT HOME:**  
 This week the statue of Our Lady of Fatima will be at the home of  
 KEITH & SANDRA CARVALHO



jeremyfairhead@rcdow.org.uk  
 johnwarnaby@rcdow.org.uk  
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 Charity No: 233699  
 Website: parish.rcdow.org.uk/sudbury



Sunday cycle  
 Readings Year A  
 Weekday Readings  
 Advent week 2  
 Divine Office  
 Week Advent 2

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



# Sunday 8th December 2019

## 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



In this week's Gospel Reading and next week's, our Advent preparation for Christmas invites us to consider John the Baptist and his relationship to Jesus. In this week's Gospel, Matthew describes the work and preaching of John the Baptist. John's preaching of the coming of the Lord is a key theme of the Advent season. As John's message prepared the way for Jesus in the first century, we, too, are called to prepare ourselves for Jesus' coming. We respond to John's message by our repentance and reform of our lives. We are also called to be prophets of Christ, who announce by our lives, as John did, the coming of the Lord.

#### First Reading: *Isaiah 11:1-10*

A descendent of Jesse will usher in a time of peace.

#### Responsorial Psalm: *Psalm 72:1-2,7-8,12-13,17*

The Messiah will bring justice and peace to the nations.

#### Second Reading: *Romans 15:4-9*

Both Jews and Gentiles glorify God for the salvation found in Christ Jesus.

#### Gospel Reading: *Matthew 3:1-12*

John the Baptist appears in Judea preaching a message of repentance.

### SPIRITUAL QUOTE OF THE WEEK

**"Never be afraid of loving the Blessed Virgin too much.  
 You can never love her more than Jesus did."**

St. Maximilian Kolbe

# SUNDAY REFLECTION

John the Baptist's life was fuelled by one burning passion – to point others to Jesus Christ and to the coming of his kingdom. Who is John the Baptist and what is the significance of his message for our lives? Scripture tells us that John was filled with the Holy Spirit even from his A mother's womb (Luke 1:15, 41) by Christ himself, whom Mary had just conceived by the Holy Spirit. When Mary visited her cousin Elizabeth John leapt in her womb as they were filled with the Holy Spirit (Luke 1:41). The fire of the Spirit dwelt in John and made him the forerunner of the coming Messiah. John was led by the Spirit into the wilderness prior to his ministry where he was tested and grew in the word of God. John's clothing was reminiscent of the prophet Elijah and he



broke the prophetic silence of the previous centuries when he began to speak the word of God to the people of Israel. His message was similar to the message of the Old Testament prophets who chided the people of God for their unfaithfulness and who tried to awaken true repentance in them. Among a people unconcerned with the things of God, it was his work to awaken their interest, unsettle them from their complacency, and arouse in them enough good will to recognize and receive Christ when he came.

This second Sunday in Advent calls us all to be eager to hear God's word and to be changed by it through the power of the Holy Spirit. The real question is: are we really willing to allow this to happen?

"Through the Gospel, John the Baptist continues to speak down the centuries to every generation. His clear, harsh words are particularly salutary for us, men and women of our time, in which the way of living and perceiving Christmas unfortunately all too often suffers the effects of a materialistic mindset. The "voice" of the great prophet asks us to prepare the way of the Lord, who comes in the external and internal wildernesses of today, thirsting for the living water that is Christ."

Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

to remain in Church with their Parents/Carers.

**FAITH CAFÉ** - 'Faith Caf ' is a monthly opportunity to explore the Catholic faith. The next session on '**The Virgin birth (Joseph's vision)**' will be taking place in the Café/Bar on **Wednesday 8th January**. Teas and coffees at **7.00pm** is followed by a video presentation and discussion at 7.30pm. All are welcome!

**FRIENDS OF JESUS** - The Friends of Jesus Programme at St. George's provides a little teaching on the Catholic faith to children not attending a Catholic Primary School in Years 1 & 2 (before they prepare for their First Confession & First Holy Communion in Year 3). Classes take place on Fridays during term-time from 5.30-6.30pm. If you are interested in enrolling your child on the programme in the Spring Term please contact Peter a.s.a.p. at peterkingsley@rcdow.org.uk or speak to any of the parish Team.

**CHILDREN'S NATIVITY** – The **Children's Nativity** will once again be taking place at St. George's at the **Family Vigil Mass on Christmas Eve at 6pm**. If your children would like to take part or you would like to help please contact Bushra on **07843 053 076** or **bushrakhosla@yahoo.co.uk**.

**CONFIRMATION 2020** - In this Parish young people in **Year 10 and above** are welcome to join our Confirmation Preparation Programme which takes place from **January to June**. If you are part of the Parish and would like to be confirmed here in 2020 please join us, with a Parent/Carer, for the **Confirmation Information Evening on Monday 6th January at 7.30pm**.

**SERVING AS A CATECHIST** - Might you consider sharing your faith, serving the Parish as a Catechist? Teaching experience is helpful though not essential. If you would like further information please speak to one of the Clergy or contact our Catechetical Coordinator, Mr. Peter Kingsley, at peterkingsley@rcdow.org.uk.

**FILM NIGHT:** The film showing on Friday 13th December will be Frank Capra's classic 'It's a Wonderful Life'. "This masterpiece has a lot to say about community spirit and is a film with much more to it than feel-good sentimentality". Doors open at 6.45pm and the film commences at 7.15pm. All Welcome.

**CHRISTMAS CEILIDH** on Friday 20th December at 8pm in the parish centre. All Welcome.

**SUNDAY COUNTERS:** We are looking for new counters to join our teams, to work in groups of three, for approximately 3 hours on Sunday afternoons. This will be on a rota basis. If you are interested and think you are able to help please contact the parish team.

**MASS INTENTIONS** are booked into May 2020 and beyond. Remember to book your anniversary Masses early.

**CHRISTMAS MASS** Bouquet cards are available from the parish office.

**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. There are still some free dates in February. Please see Toni in the Parish Office.

**CHURCH CLEANING:** If you are able to volunteer for Church Cleaning please contact Julia on 020 8904 5324 for details. If you are already on our cleaning rota and are no longer able to help PLEASE let Julia or one of the Parish Team know.

**THE PASSAGE** is raising funds through the Big Give from 12 noon Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> December – 12 noon Tues 10<sup>th</sup> December to support its work Helping Homeless People this winter. **Double your Donation, Double your impact.** This is a matched giving scheme for online donations. For more information ring Andrew Hollingsworth 020 75921856 [andrew.h@passage.org.uk](mailto:andrew.h@passage.org.uk) Donate at <https://bit.ly/2KJ29hH>

**THE CARDINAL VAUGHAN MEMORIAL SCHOOL**, will be hosting a day of lectures and seminars focusing on *Outstanding Education in a Catholic School* on Monday 6 January 2020. If you wish to attend please complete the application form to be found at <https://www.cvms.co.uk/Teaching-School/CPD-courses/> and return this to the [teachingschool@cvms.co.uk](mailto:teachingschool@cvms.co.uk)

**CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH** for our local community who would otherwise be alone at Christmas. 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 please ring Catherine on 0798 535 0181 or email [Christmaslunch25@gmail.com](mailto:Christmaslunch25@gmail.com)

**CLEANER REQUIRED:** Please contact 020 8904 3894 for details.

**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**.

**MARRIAGE/ENGAGED ENCOUNTER:** [www.wwme.org.uk](http://www.wwme.org.uk)

**VACANCIES** at Sudbury Neighbourhood Centre for Marketing Officer and Cook. See notice in porch folders.

**DIOCESAN AND SCHOOL VACANCIES** please see folder in porch or School/diocesan website.

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

# NEWS & VIEWS

**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.** This is especially true if you have children using their worksheets. Please make sure they (or you) bring all the crayons back to the basket.

## PARISH DIARY FOR THIS WEEK

### Sunday 8 December:

Teas/Coffees after 9.45am and 11.15am Masses

Tuck Shop open today

### Tuesday 10 December:

Small Group 10.15am

Over 60's Group Christmas Lunch

Set Dancing 8.30pm

### Wednesday 11th December:

Knights of St. Columba 8.00pm

### Thursday 12 December:

Church Cleaning Group B 10.30am

### Friday 13 December:

Teas/coffees after morning Mass

Art Class 2.00pm

Film Night - doors open 6.45pm

### Saturday 14 December:

Christmas Celebration evening 7.00pm

### Sunday 15 December:

Christmas Carols by Candlelight 7.30pm

(followed by mulled wine/mince pies in the parish centre)

### SOCIETY OF ST.VINCENT DE PAUL—B-ATTITUDE ADVENT INITIATIVE

- During Advent our B-Attitude young people are putting together **Vinnie Packs** to help the homeless this Winter. Each Vinnie Pack contains A pair of thermal gloves – preferably large ones for men \* 2 pairs of thermal socks \* A hat/beanie \*toothbrush\* A tube of toothpaste\* A small pack of wipes\* A pen \*A small pad of paper. Our young people will be collecting these items during the **Morning Masses all this Sunday**. For further information please contact Christine Cahillane (christinec58@hotmail.com /07881 400328).

**CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION EVENING:** Saturday 14th December from 7.00-11.30pm in the Parish Centre. With Dinner, Live Band, Dancing, Bar, Raffle etc. Adults £17, Children (5-12 yrs) £7, under 5yrs free. Tickets available after Sunday Masses, from the Presbytery and Parish Office.

### TICKETS AVAILABLE TODAY AFTER MASS.

**CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT**—Sunday 15th December at 7.30pm followed by mulled wine and mince pies in the parish centre. All Welcome..

**ADVENT LEAFLET** if you didn't get one last week please take one today.

**FUNERAL MASS** of Sandra Costella RIP on Tuesday 10th December at 11am followed by cremation at Breakspear Crematorium at 12.30pm.

**GOOD NEWS—CONSECRATION OF THE NEW ALTAR AND THE DEPOSITING OF THE RELICS OF THE SAINTS.** The Cardinal has agreed to come and celebrate this important liturgy on Sunday 19th January at 11.15am. An important date for your diary!

**HOLY BAPTISM:** Information packs are available from the parish office. You can sign up there for the preparation course. Parents to be, i.e., before birth, are welcome to attend. **The date of the next baptism preparation course will be on Friday 31st January 2020 at 7.30pm** in the parish centre. Please let the parish office know if you are attending

**THE REPOSITORY** continues to be open after all Masses today with a selection of gifts and cards especially for Christmas and advent calendars too!

**DIVINE MERCY** -The Divine Mercy Chaplet is recited in the church every Monday after the Rosary. All are welcome!

**RCIA** (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is our parish preparation for those who want to become Catholics. If you know someone who would like to join this group or you yourself, please speak to one of the parish team.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION** - Thank you for helping to make last week's First Reconciliation Service such a positive and prayerful occasion. The next session, for **Parents/Carers only**, is on **Tuesday 14th January at 7.30pm**. Thank you for making the necessary childcare arrangements in good time.

**PRAYER TIME** A faith-sharing prayer group reflecting on the forthcoming Sunday Gospel. The group will consider how the Word of God, and the experience of those around us, challenge and inspire us. **Every Tuesday morning from 10.15 to 11.00am**. All welcome!

**NEW ADULT SVP GROUP** - Would you like to be part of a new SVP Group at the Parish? The **St. Vincent de Paul Society** aims to **turn concern into action** providing people in any form of need with a sense of dignity, worth, well-being & peace of mind. There will be an **Information Meeting** in the Parish Café Bar on **Wednesday 15th January at 7.30pm**. For further information please contact Theresa Frain at [fraint@pladisglobal.com](mailto:fraint@pladisglobal.com).

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY AT 9.45AM FAMILY MASS**—We are hugely grateful to our team of Catechists who generously provide a **Children's Liturgy at the 9.45am Family Mass**. Please, however, note that the **Children's Liturgy is ONLY for children from Reception to Year 2**. Older children are asked

# 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.

**HOLYDAYS OF OBLIGATION:** 9.30am, 8.00pm.

**EUCARISTIC ADORATION:** Saturday 5.15-6.00pm.

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

**DIVINE MERCY:** Monday 10.30am.

**ROSARY:** Daily after Mass.

### Sun 8 December ADVENT II

6.15pm (Vigil)	Dee Kelly Loader RIP
8.30am	Darren O'Sullivan RIP
9.45am	Delphine De Lima RIP)
11.15am	Edward Johnston Snr RIP
5.30pm	PRO POPULO

### Mon 9 December THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

9.30am	Melinda Peter RIP
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### Tues 10 December Advent feria

9.30am	William Brennan Intentions
11.00	FUNERAL MASS Sandra Costella RIP

### Weds 11 December Advent feria

9.30am	Christina O'Halloran Intentions
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### Thurs 12 December Our Lady of Guadalupe

9.30am	Shamala Louis RIP
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### Fri 13 December S. Lucy

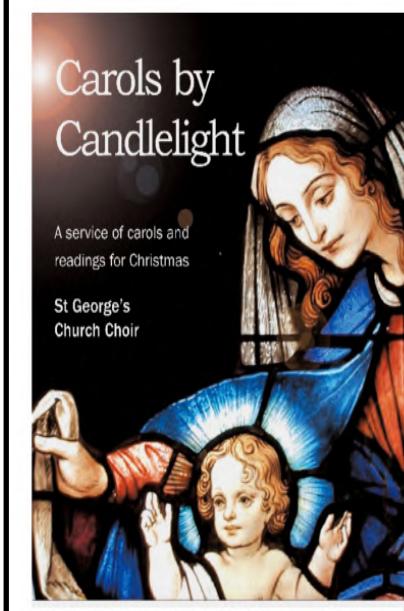
9.30am	Martin & Nora Driscoll RIP
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### Sat 14 December S. John of the Cross

9.30am	Kevin Durcan RIP
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### Sun 15 December ADVENT III

6.15pm (Vigil)	Sandra & Michele Costella RIP
8.30am	Hugh Gilmartin RIP
9.45am	Maria Barbosa RIP
11.15am	Edward Johnston RIP
5.30pm	PRO POPULO



SUNDAY 15th DECEMBER at 7.00pm

St George's Church, Sudbury

Followed by mulled wine and mince pies in the parish centre



# 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 11:1-10*

A shoot springs from the stock of Jesse,  
a scion thrusts from his roots:  
on him the spirit of the Lord rests,  
a spirit of wisdom and insight,  
a spirit of counsel and power,  
a spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the  
Lord. (The fear of the Lord is his breath.)  
He does not judge by appearances,  
he gives no verdict on hearsay,  
but judges the wretched with integrity,  
and with equity gives a verdict for the poor  
of the land. His word is a rod that strikes the  
ruthless,  
his sentences bring death to the wicked.  
Integrity is the loincloth round his waist,  
faithfulness the belt about his hips.  
The wolf lives with the lamb,  
the panther lies down with the kid,  
calf and lion cub feed together  
with a little boy to lead them.  
The cow and the bear make friends,  
their young lie down together.  
The lion eats straw like the ox.

The infant plays over the cobras hole;  
into the vipers lair the young child puts his  
hand. They do no hurt, no harm,  
on all my holy mountain,  
for the country is filled with the knowledge  
of the Lord as the waters swell the sea.  
That day, the root of Jesse shall stand as a  
signal to the peoples. It will be sought out  
by the nations and its home will be glorious.

## Responsorial Psalm: *Psalm 71*

R/. *In his days justice shall flourish and  
peace till the moon fails.*

1. God, give your judgment to the king,  
to a king's son your justice,  
that he may judge your people in justice  
and your poor in right judgment.
2. In his days justice shall flourish  
and peace till the moon fails.  
He shall rule from sea to sea,  
from the Great River to earth's bounds.
3. For he shall save the poor when they cry  
and the needy who are helpless.  
He will have pity on the weak  
and save the lives of the poor.
4. May his name be blessed for ever  
and endure like the sun.  
Every tribe shall be blessed in him,  
all nations bless his name.

## Second Reading: *Romans 15:4-9*

Everything that was written long ago in the  
scriptures was meant to teach us something  
about hope from the examples scripture  
gives of how people who did not give up

were helped by God. And may he who  
helps us when we refuse to give up, help  
you all to be tolerant with each other,  
following the example of Christ Jesus, so  
that united in mind and voice you may give  
glory to the God and Father of our Lord  
Jesus Christ.

It can only be to God's glory, then, for you  
to treat each other in the same friendly  
way as Christ treated you. The reason  
Christ became the servant of circumcised  
Jews was not only so that God could  
faithfully carry out the promises made to  
the patriarchs, it was also to get the  
pagans to give glory to God for his mercy,  
as scripture says in one place: For this I  
shall praise you among the pagans and  
sing to your name.

## Gospel Acclamation

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*Prepare a way for the Lord, make his  
paths straight. And all mankind shall see  
the salvation of our God.*

*Alleluia!*

## Gospel: *Matthew 3:1-12*

In due course John the Baptist appeared;  
he preached in the wilderness of Judea  
and this was his message: 'Repent, for the  
kingdom of heaven is close at hand'. This  
was the man the prophet Isaiah spoke of  
when he said:

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

This man John wore a garment made of  
camel-hair with a leather belt round his  
waist, and his food was locusts and wild  
honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judea and  
the whole Jordan district made their way  
to him, and as they were baptised by him

in the river Jordan they confessed their  
sins. But when he saw a number of  
Pharisees and Sadducees coming for  
baptism he said to them, 'Brood of vipers,  
who warned you to fly from the  
retribution that is coming? But if you are  
repentant, produce the appropriate fruit,  
and do not presume to tell yourselves,  
"We have Abraham for our father,"  
because, I tell you, God can raise children  
for Abraham from these stones. Even now  
the axe is laid to the roots of the trees, so  
that any tree which fails to produce good  
fruit will be cut down and thrown on the  
fire. I baptise you in water for repentance,  
but the one who follows me is more pow-  
erful than I am, and I am not fit to carry his  
sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy  
Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his  
hand; he will clear his threshing-floor and  
gather his wheat into the barn; but the  
chaff he will burn in a fire that will never  
go out.'

## 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. Through Christ our Lord.