



Sunday 13th December 2020

Volume 2, Issue 3 and 'On Line'

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Welcome to our 'On Line' Newsletter It should be easier to read and to download and print if you so wish. Please use the readings and reflection as part of your spiritual Communion and with any streamlining Masses in which you may be watching and participating.

Sunday Cycle
Readings Year B

Weekday Readings
Advent week 3

Divine Office
Week 3 Advent

For children,
download a weekly sheet:
[http://www.sdc.me.uk/
sundayliturgy/](http://www.sdc.me.uk/sundayliturgy/)

THIS WEEK

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| Sun 13th Dec 6.15pm Vigil 8.30am 9.45am 11.15am 5.30pm | THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT Paddy Cowan RIP The People of the Parish Kelly Ann Rehill RIP Edward Johnston RIP John Harrington RIP |
| Mon 14th Dec 9.30am | S. John of the Cross Martin & Nora Driscoll RIP |
| Tues 15th Dec 9.30am | Advent feria Intentions of Dorothy |
| Weds 16th Dec 9.30am | Advent feria Jenyrea Fernandes & John Gomes (25th Wedding Anniversary) |
| Thurs 17th Dec 9.30am | Advent feria Anne Hull RIP |
| Fri 18th Dec 9.30am | Advent feria Mary Grace Perera RIP  |
| Sat 19th Dec 9.30am | Advent feria Bill Sweeney RIP |
| Sun 20th Dec 6.15pm Vigil 8.30am 9.45am 11.15am 5.30pm | FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT Hannah Brennan Tom & Dee Kelly RIP Joan Emily Longuet RIP (8th anniv.) Tom Lally RIP (19th anniv.) People of the parish |

TODAY'S MASS



John the Baptist announces to messengers that the saviour they seek is already among them, but as yet unrecognized. John's response highlights for us an important Advent theme: Jesus has already come into the world as our saviour. During Advent, we pray that we will be able to recognize Jesus' presence in our midst. Advent also reminds us that Jesus will come again to fulfil the promise of salvation. We pray that we will continue to be watchful as we anticipate that great day.

First Reading: *Isalah 61:1-2a,10-11*

The Lord's salvation will be made known to the poor and the oppressed.

Second Reading: *1 Thessalonians 5:16-24*

Paul encourages the Thessalonians to rejoice and pray always.

Gospel Reading: *John 1:6-8,19-28*

John gives testimony that he is preaching and baptizing in order to prepare for the coming of another.

SPIRITUAL QUOTE OF THE WEEK

*"The thought of God, and nothing short of it,
is the happiness of man."*

Saint John Henry Cardinal Newman

MAKING CONTACT AT ST. GEORGE'S

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Charity No: 233699

Email: sudbury@rcdow.org.uk **Website:** parish.rcdow.org.uk/sudbury

GOSPEL REFLECTION

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

SICK & HOUSEBOUND: Catherine Kevill, Margaret O'Shea, Edith Geissler, Marie Rego, Eileen Kidd, Christopher Browne, John and Angela McCarthy, Germaine Duffner, Patrick McDonagh, Noel Gill, Tom Fernandes, Dee Auriol, Kathleen O'Brien, Allan Noronha, Nancy Quinn.

RECENTLY DEPARTED: Ambrose Etan, George Graham, Ethel Nicklen

ANNIVERSARIES OF THE DEPARTED: Martin & Nora Driscoll.

ANNIVERSARY: Jenyrea Fernandes & John Gomes
(25th Wedding Anniversary)

INTENTIONS OF POPE FRANCIS FOR 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.

SANCTUARY LAMP /
Intentions of Baptiste Fernandes

LAMP AT THE ALTAR OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM
Intentions of Baptiste Fernandes

ADVENT III PRAYER

God our strength and our hope, grant us the courage of John the Baptist, constantly to speak the truth, boldly to rebuke vice and patiently to suffer for the truth's sake; In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit one God now and for ever. Amen.

A DAILY PRAYER TO SAINT JOSEPH

given to us by Pope Francis

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.

Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.

Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage,
and defend us from every evil. Amen.

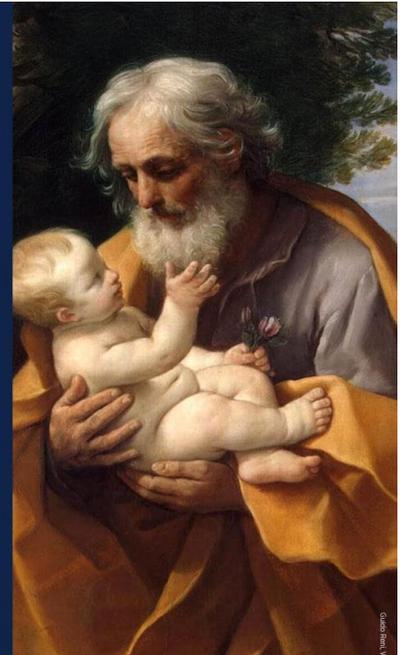
O come, O come,
Emmanuel
And ransom
captive Israel,
That mourns in
lonely exile here,
Until the Son of
God appear

www.EmmanuelWorship.com

Pope Francis
declares

YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH

December 8, 2020 -
December 8, 2021



In a new Apostolic Letter entitled *Patris corde* ("With a Father's Heart"), Pope Francis describes Saint Joseph as a beloved father, a tender and loving father, an obedient father, an accepting father; a father who is creatively courageous, a working father, a father in the shadows.

The Letter marks the 150th anniversary of Blessed Pope Pius IX's declaration of St Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. To celebrate the anniversary, Pope Francis has proclaimed a special "Year of St Joseph," beginning on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception 2020 and extending to the same feast in 2021.

The Holy Father wrote *Patris corde* against the backdrop of the Covid-19 pandemic, which, he says, has helped us see more clearly the importance of "ordinary" people who, though far from the limelight, exercise patience and offer hope every day. In this, they resemble Saint Joseph, "the man who goes unnoticed, a daily, discreet and hidden presence," who nonetheless played "an incomparable role in the history of salvation."

Saint Joseph, in fact, "concretely expressed his fatherhood" by making an offering of himself in love "a love placed at the service of the Messiah who was growing to maturity in his home," writes Pope Francis, quoting his predecessor St Paul VI.

And because of his role at "the crossroads between the Old and New Testament," St Joseph "has always been venerated as a father by the Christian people" (PC, 1). In him, "Jesus saw the tender love of God," the one that helps us accept our weakness, because "it is through" and despite "our fears, our frailties, and our weakness" that most divine designs are realized. "Only tender love will save us from the snares of the accuser," emphasizes the Pontiff, and it is by encountering God's mercy especially in the Sacrament of Reconciliation that we "experience His truth and tenderness," - because "we know that God's truth does not condemn us, but instead welcomes, embraces, sustains and forgives us".

Joseph is also a father in obedience to God: with his 'fiat' he protects Mary and Jesus and teaches his Son to "do the will of the Father." Called by God to serve the mission of Jesus, he "cooperated... in the great mystery of Redemption," as St John Paul II said, "and is truly a minister of salvation" *(to be continued)*

NEWS UPDATE



MASS TIMES: We are now keeping again our traditional Mass routine for both Sundays and weekdays. i.e. Sat 6.15 (Vigil), Sunday 8.30am, 9.45am, 11.15am & 5.30pm.

The church will open on:

Saturday Vigil: Open at 5.45pm close at 6.45pm

Sunday: Open at 8.00am close at 9.00am

Open at 9.15am close at 10.15am

Open at 10.45am close at 11.45am

Open at 5.00pm close at 6.00pm

Weekdays: Open at 9.00am close at 10.00am

After each closure the church must be cleaned. Needless to say this involves a huge undertaking on the part of volunteer stewards/cleaners. Could you help? Maybe one mass each fortnight. Volunteers must be under 70 years of age and have no underlying health conditions. If you can help either with cleaning or stewarding talk to one of the parish team.

CONFESSIONS on Saturdays from 5.45pm-6.15pm

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT with BENEDICTION Fridays 9.00-9.30am

MGR JEREMY thanks all those who came to Mass, gave cards and gifts. It made it special, even under these difficult circumstances.

FUNERAL MASS of Ambrose Etan on Monday 21st December at 11.00am. Followed by cremation at west London Crematorium at 12.30pm. May he rest in peace.

FUNERAL MASS of George Graham on Friday 8th January followed by cremation at Breakspear Crematorium. May he rest in peace.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES 2020 Full details are available now on a card to take away.

STEWARDS FOR CHRISTMAS: we can only manage our proposed schedule if we have YOUR help to see people in and to clean afterwards. Can you give a little bit more over Christmas to help in this way to make sure as many can get to Mass as would like? Just email the parish office/drop a note into the presbytery or speak to one of the parish team. Christmas Eve and Christmas Day? Could you help? If you are helping are there adults in your family that could help with you—without the turkey being burnt?

CONFIRMATION 2021 - Please keep us in your prayers as we continue to strive to plan an adjusted COVID-secure Confirmation Programme for those in Year 10 & above in 2021. **We hope to be in a position to provide further information by the middle of December.** If you might consider supporting the Programme as a Catechist/Helper please contact our Catechetical Coordinator, Peter, or one of the Clergy for further details. Especially during these challenging times, any additional support is v. much appreciated.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION - A massive 'thank you' to Parents/Carers, the RE Team at St. George's Primary School & our own Catechetical Team at

the Parish for enabling our children, notwithstanding the challenges of the last few months, to make their First Confession (Reconciliation). Parents/Carers should have received an email on Tuesday 8th December with details of how to complete the Part 1 coursebook at home & Dates for Part 2 of the Programme. All being well, we look forward to welcoming one Parent/Carer only to the first session of Part 2 in the Parish Centre on **Tuesday 12th January.**

'RISE UP' YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROJECT - Catholic Voices has partnered with Diocese of Westminster Youth Ministry, to launch a brand new project designed to train the next generation of Catholic leaders. Who is it for? Practising Catholics in the Diocese of Westminster, aged 15 (Year 11) - 21. For further details please visit <https://www.catholicvoices.org.uk/rise-up>.

SVP - During the current Pandemic, the Parish SVP Group is there to help the vulnerable of the Parish with tasks such as shopping, posting letters, urgent supplies and can provide telephone support if you are feeling isolated or lonely. If you need their help please call **0208 9000250, 0775 3 6 5 4 1 5 4 (Theresa)** or email StGeorgeSVP@pm.me

MORE DETAILS ON VACCINATION The Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales have issued a statement, in light of the tremendous news, of approval for a vaccine. You can read the statement here: [Catholic Bishops Conference of England and Wales \(cbcew.org.uk\)](https://www.cbcew.org.uk)

Briefly they state: "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..."

DO YOU KNOW OF SOMEONE WHOM WE ARE NOT REACHING? Maybe an elderly person who lives alone and does not have the internet? Someone who is shielding with little family support who cannot get to Mass? Someone whom we can simply call to keep in touch? Please do get in touch with us if you feel there is someone who needs support. Thank you.

CHURCH LAMPS: Both the Sanctuary Lamp and the lamp of Our Lady of Walsingham have been sent away for some minor restoration. Whilst the lamps are not in their holders they are burning in the relevant places and for the intentions given.

DONA is a new Diocesan scheme to make your weekly giving (and any one-off giving) much easier. Basically it is a card/contactless system. You'll see the machine as you enter by the door. Please do use it as you wish, especially if you choose to carry no cash.

THE PARISH OFFICE remains closed. If you wish to book a Mass and for a Mass Card, the best way to get one is to give us all the details, your offering and an SAE and we will post it back to you ASAP.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH: On Christmas Day this year a group will arrange to deliver a traditional Christmas lunch to ANYONE otherwise alone in our community. If you would like to receive a meal or you know of someone who would benefit, please contact us on:

email: Christmaslunch25@gmail.com Tel: 07881400328

CHRISTMAS CARDS: Due to Covid restrictions, we are unable to hold the Christmas Card sale, this year, in the hall. However, "The Glen" convenience store, opposite the church, will stock a selection, of the packs of Religious Cards, that we would normally have sold.

CHRISTMAS TREES will be available from St George's Please take a flyer or see the poster. Email: christmastreesatstgeorges@gmail.com or call Matt on 07740437019



LOOKING FOR SOMETHING TO DO? *Sycamore* - are running an online Advent course for four weeks: Searching for God in life - a renewal of faith

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

LOOKING FOR A NEW JOB? For details of all job vacancies in the Diocese of Westminster please visit the Westminster diocesan website at <https://jobs.rcdow.org.uk/>

SUNDAY READINGS & PRAYERS

Entrance Antiphon: *Phil 4: 4-5*

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.

Collect

O God, who see how your people faithfully await the feast of the Lord's Nativity, enable us, we pray, to attain the joys of so great a salvation and to celebrate them always with solemn worship and glad rejoicing. 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: *Isalah 61:1-2,10-11*

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me,
for the Lord has anointed me.
He has sent me to bring good news to the poor,
to bind up hearts that are broken;
to proclaim liberty to captives,
freedom to those in prison;
to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord.
'I exult for joy in the Lord,
my soul rejoices in my God,
for he has clothed me in the garments of salvation,
he has wrapped me in the cloak of integrity,
like a bridegroom wearing his wreath,
like a bride adorned in her jewels.
'For as the earth makes fresh things grow,
as a garden makes seeds spring up,
so will the Lord make both integrity and praise
spring up in the sight of the nations.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Canticle: *Lk 1:46-50,53-54*

R/. My soul rejoices in my God.

1. My soul glorifies the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.
He looks on his servant in her nothingness;
henceforth all ages will call me blessed. *R/.*
2. The Almighty works marvels for me.
Holy his name!
His mercy is from age to age,
on those who fear him. *R/.*
3. He fills the starving with good things,
sends the rich away empty.
He protects Israel, his servant,
remembering his mercy. *R/.*

Second reading: *1 Thessalonians 5:16-24*

Be happy at all times; pray constantly; and for all things give thanks to God, because this is what God expects you to do in Christ Jesus. Never try to suppress the Spirit or treat the gift of prophecy with contempt; think before you do anything – hold on to what is good and avoid every form of evil. May the God of peace make you perfect and holy; and may you all be kept safe and blameless, spirit and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has called you and he will not fail you.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation: *Is 61:1(Lk4:18)*

Allelula, allelula!

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me. He has sent me to bring the good news to the poor.
Allelula!

Gospel: *John 1:6-8,19-28*

A man came, sent by God.
His name was John.
He came as a witness,
as a witness to speak for the light,
so that everyone might believe through him. He was not the light,
only a witness to speak for the light.
This is how John appeared as a witness. When the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' he not only declared, but he declared quite openly, 'I am not the Christ.' 'Well then,' they asked 'are you Elijah?' 'I am not' he said. 'Are you the Prophet?' He answered, 'No.' So they said to him, 'Who are you? We must take back an answer to those who sent us. What have you to say about yourself?' So John said, 'I am, as Isaiah prophesied:
a voice that cries in the wilderness: Make a straight way for the Lord.'
Now these men had been sent by the Pharisees, and they put this further question to him, 'Why are you baptising if you are not the Christ, and not Elijah, and not the prophet?' John replied, 'I baptise with water; but there stands among you – unknown to you – the one who is coming after me; and I am not fit to undo his sandal-strap.' This happened at Bethany, on the far side of the Jordan, where John was baptising.

Prayer over the Offerings

May the sacrifice of our worship, Lord, we pray, be offered to you unceasingly, to complete what was begun in sacred mystery and powerfully accomplish for us your saving work.
Through Christ our Lord.

Communon Antiphon: *Cf. Is 35: 4*

Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear. Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.

Prayer after Communon

We implore your mercy, Lord,
that this divine sustenance may cleanse us of our faults
and prepare us for the coming feasts.
Through Christ our Lord.