

SUNDAY READINGS & PRAYERS

Entrance Antiphon Cf. Is 30: 19, 30

O people of Zion, 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: Isalah 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 falls.*

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 falls.
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 powerful than I am, and I am not fit to carry his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winning-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.

ST. GEORGE'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, SUDBURY

Sunday 4th December 2022

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Welcome to all at mass today and especially anyone who is new. Please take this Newsletter home with you. You may wish to share it with family and friends. This newsletter can also be found via our website. We ask God's blessing on you and your loved ones this week and know that we pray for you all each day.

Sunday Cycle
Readings Year A

Weekday Readings
Advent Week 2

Divine Office
Week 2

For children,
download a weekly sheet:
<http://www.sdc.me.uk/sundayliturgy/>

THIS WEEK

Sun 4 Dec
6.15pm
8.30am
9.45am
11.15am
5.30pm

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Delphine De Lima RIP
THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
Kevin Durcan RIP
Mgr Wifred Purney RIP
Alice O'Sullivan RIP

Mon 5 Dec
9.30am
11.00am

Advent feria
John O'Neill RIP
FUNERAL MASS
Isobel Scannell RIP

Tues 6 Dec
9.30am

Advent feria
Maria Aurora Goes RIP

Weds 7 Dec
9.30am

S.Ambrose
Saverimithu Denis David RIP

Thurs 8 Dec
9.30am

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF
THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
Isobel Scannell RIP

Fri 9 Dec
7.00am
9.30am

Advent feria
Mgr Wilfred Purney RIP
Diana Brown RIP

Sat 10 Dec
9.30am

Advent feria
Darren O'Sullivan RIP

Sun 11 Dec
6.15pm
8.30am
9.45am
11.15am
5.30pm

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Denis David RIP
THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
Alfonso Ledo RIP
Martin & Nora Driscoll RIP
Josef Chury RIP
& Zdenka Chura RIP

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: Isalah 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

MAKING CONTACT AT ST. GEORGE'S

Parish Priest: Mgr. Jeremy Fairhead jeremyfairhead@rcdow.org.uk
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Telephone: 020 8904 2552. Phone Options: 1. Mass Times; 2. Parish Office/ SVF Information 3. Mgr Jeremy; 4. Fr. Mike; 5. Catechetical Coordinator.
Charity No: 233699
Email: sudbury@rcdow.org.uk Website: parish.rcdow.org.uk/sudbury

GOSPEL REFLECTION

DAILY MASS TIMES

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.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Friday 9.00-9.30am, 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.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

SICK & HOUSEBOUND: Marie Rego, Eileen Kidd, Christopher Browne, Noel Gill, Dee Auriol, Allan Noronha, Fiona Power, SMR, Aaran Thayaparan, Jocalyn Almeida, John, Rowland Watts, Catherine Corcoran, Shaun Scoon and Helen Jordan, Sean Marren, George Beel

RECENTLY BAPTISED: Cora Connors

RECENTLY DEPARTED: Isobel Scannell, Gerda Fernando, Ivy Harvey

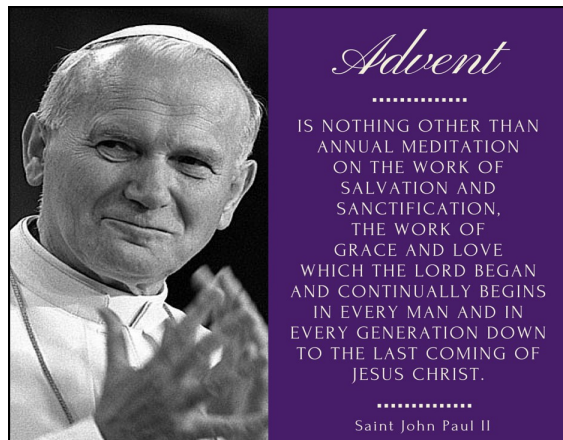
ANNIVERSARIES OF THE DEPARTED: Mgr Wilfred Purney, Saverimuthu Denis David (1st), Kevin Durcan (12th)

BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP
Denis David RIP

LAMP AT THE ALTAR OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM
Kevin Durcan RIP

POPE FRANCIS' INTENTIONS FOR DECEMBER
Volunteer Not-for-Profit Organizations

We pray that volunteer non-profit organizations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation.



IS NOTHING OTHER THAN ANNUAL MEDITATION ON THE WORK OF SALVATION AND SANCTIFICATION, THE WORK OF GRACE AND LOVE WHICH THE LORD BEGAN AND CONTINUALLY BEGINS IN EVERY MAN AND IN EVERY GENERATION DOWN TO THE LAST COMING OF JESUS CHRIST.

Saint John Paul II

St. 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 recognise 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



NEWS UPDATE

WELCOME to all at Mass today and a big welcome back if you have not been to Mass for a while due to the Covid restrictions.

WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL The annual Christmas Celebration concerts at Westminster Cathedral will take place this year on Tuesday 20th and Wednesday 21st December. For tickets, visit www.westminstercathedral.org.uk.

FUNERAL MASS of ISOBEL SCANNELL on Monday 5th December at 11.00am followed by burial at Greenford Cemetery. May she rest in peace.

FUNERAL MASS of IVY HARVEY on Tuesday 20th December at 11.00am followed by burial in Paddington Old Cemetery. May she rest in peace.

FUNERAL MASS of GERDA FERNANDO on Tuesday 3rd January at 11.30am. May she rest in peace.

CHRISTMAS CARDS and CHURCH ART CALENDARS have arrived and can be purchased from the Repository after all Masses from this weekend.

CATHOLIC EVENTS FOR YOUNG ADULTS - If you're a young adult at the Parish, why not sign-up to the Westminster Youth Ministry Newsletter, with lots of information about Catholic youth events in the Diocese? Visit <https://dowym.com/>.

SERVING TEAS & COFFEES AFTER 11.15AM MASS - Might you consider joining the hospitality team, providing refreshments to parishioners after the 11.15am Solemn Mass. The commitment is usually once every six weeks. Your help would be hugely appreciated. For further details please contact Julie Kidd at juliekidd21@gmail.com or 07918 130798.

ADVENT FAIR is on for next Sunday 11th December in the morning in the Parish Centre. Please take a flyer if you have not received one and EVERYONE do think how you yourself (or you family together) can help. You can sign this week up to do a stall on the board at the back of church. Thank you to so many of you who have volunteered already. All the funds raised will be going to buy a defibrillator for the parish (2 if we raise enough – one for the church, the other for the hall).

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION - FIRST RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION) - We would be grateful if Parents/Carers can please continue practicing with their children at home using the leaflet provided, as they prepare to make their **First Reconciliation (Confession)** next Tuesday 6th December at 7pm. Thank you for arriving in good time for next week's Reconciliation Service.

CONFIRMATION 2023 - Those in Year 10 & above who would like to be confirmed at the Parish are asked to please attend the **Confirmation Information Evening** with a Parent/Carer in the Parish Centre on **Monday 9th January at 7.30pm** when registration documents will be provided. Please note that a copy of one's baptism certificate is also required for registration.

CHILDREN'S NATIVITY ON CHRISTMAS EVE - We are delighted to announce that the Children's Nativity will be taking place, once again this year, at the Christmas Eve Vigil Mass. Children are required to

attend two rehearsals from 2.00-3.00pm on Wednesday 21st December and Friday 23rd December. To register your child's interest please contact Bushra at 07843 053 076 / bushrakhosla@yahoo.co.uk.
THE WINTERSHALL NATIVITY JOURNEY - The Parish is considering taking a group to enjoy the Wintershall production of The Nativity Journey in December. Details and ticket prices can be found at www.wintershall.org.uk. For further information and to register your interest, please contact Stephen Dunn at stephen.w.dunn@gmail.com or 07802 223018.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY (SVP) : If you are feeling isolated and would like a home visit or a chat with a friendly person over the phone please get in touch. If you are struggling financially or would like other practical assistance please do not hesitate to contact us. If you are over 18 and are interested in becoming a member of the SVP you would be very welcome, just call the number below or drop in to our next meeting. Tel. 0775 3654154 (Theresa). Email. frain.home@gmail.com

CALLING NEW CONFIRMATION CATECHISTS - Might you consider a new ministry at the Parish helping our young people prepare for their Confirmation in 2023? If you might consider helping, please contact our Catechetical Coordinator, Mr. Peter Kingsley, at peterkingsley@rcdow.org.uk for further information.

READING AT 5.30PM MASS - Might you consider reading at the Sunday Evening Mass? This ministry offers the opportunity to reflect a little more attentively on the Word of God whilst also serving the community at Mass. The commitment is just once a month. There are some gaps in our regular rota that we remain keen to fill. If you might consider helping, please contact our Catechetical Coordinator, Peter, at peterkingsley@rcdow.org.uk, for further information or speak to any of the Parish Team. Thank you.

ROSARY AT HOME - If you would be interested in becoming part of the 'Rosary at Home' initiative, where a statue of Our Lady of Fatima is brought to your home for a period as you say the Rosary each day, please fill-in your details on the clipboard in the church porch.

THE OVER 60's CLUB 1.00pm every Tuesday in the café/Bar. **LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU**—just turn up as everyone is welcome!

THE PARISH OFFICE is open Thursdays & Fridays and from 10.30am until 3.00pm

JOB OPPORTUNITIES ACROSS THE DIOCESE: for details go to: <https://jobs.rcdow.org.uk/>

SIGNING FORMS ETC. Please always make an appointment if you want school forms, passport forms, pension forms countersigned/witnessed by the clergy. The same if you want one of the clergy to act as a referee. Please don't just turn up at the door expecting it to be done immediately. Please also know if you want an English passport witnessed or naturalisation form we must have known you for a minimum of 3 years.

SPONSORING THE BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP & THE LAMP AT OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM is a lovely thing to do for a departed loved one or a particular intention. There are some possibilities in the coming months. Please contact the office.

PRIMARY SCHOOL FORM SIGNING (In Parish Centre) Friday 9 December 6.30-8.30pm Please do not ask for forms to be signed outside these times

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.

FLOWERS IN CHURCH—if you'd like to make a contribution, especially in memory of a loved one there are envelopes at the back of church

MANNA SOCIETY - a day centre helping the homeless. All donations to the Manna Society, up to 28th December, will be matched £ for £ by the Aviva Community Service. If you are in a position to help and would like to donate, please click on this link <https://www.avivacommunityfund.co.uk/p/the-manna-day-centre>.

VACANCY - School Office Receptionist/Admin Assistant: Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School in Stonebridge is seeking to appoint a Receptionist/Admin Assistant for a January 2023 Start. If you are interested in the position, or would like further information please visit the school website www.lourdes.brent.sch.uk

THE PASSAGE: The Big Give - from 29th November to December 6th all donations to The Passage will be matched. If you wish to donate please click on [Urgent support for the cost of living crisis \(thebiggive.org.uk\)](http://thebiggive.org.uk)

THANK YOU to all who contributed to our Macmillan Coffee Morning. We raise a grand total of £1027.50. Well done!

JOB OPPORTUNITY: St George's Catholic Voluntary Academy Blessed Holy Family Catholic Academy Trust
Position: ICT & Media Technician **Salary Scale:** G05 £26,667 - £28,632 (Full time equivalent) **Actual salary** £12,669.49 to £13,603.06 pro-rata 0.4751% **Hours:** 20 hours per week
Line Manager: Headteacher
Closing Date: 8th December 2022
All enquiries should be made to the school office office@stgeorges.harrow.sch.uk

WESTMINSTER YEAR BOOK 2023: A LIMITED NUMBER OF copies are hot off the press and are now available from the repository shop. The liturgical calendar for the year is included, together with every Catholic church, school, Bishop, Priest & Deacon, working in the diocese. This is an excellent reference book for Catholics, but possibly not a bedtime read... unless you are an insomniac!