SUNDAY READINGS & PRAYERS

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,
God, for ever and ever.

First reading: ***Isaiah 2:1-5***
The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw
concerning Judah and Jerusalem.
It shall come to pass in the latter days
that the mountain of the house of the LORD
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be lifted up above the hills;
and all the nations shall flow to it,
and many peoples shall come, and say:
'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
to the house of the God of Jacob,
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths.'
For out of Sion shall go forth the law,
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.
He shall judge between the nations,
and shall decide disputes for many peoples;
and they shall beat their swords into ploughshares,
and their spears into pruning-hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.
O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the LORD.

Responsorial Psalm: ***Ps 122(121)***

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the LORD.
I rejoiced when they said to me,
'Let us go to the house of the LORD.'
And now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem.

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the LORD.
Jerusalem is built as a city
bonded as one together.
It is there that the tribes go up,
the tribes of the LORD.

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the LORD.
For the sake of my family and friends,
let me say, 'Peace upon you.'
For the sake of the house of the LORD, our God,
I will seek good things for you.

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the LORD.

Second reading: ***Romans 13:11-14a***
Brothers and sisters: You know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armour of light. Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarrelling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel Acclamation
Alleluia, alleluia.
Show us, O LORD, your mercy,
and grant us your salvation.
Alleluia.

Gospel: ***Matthew 24:37-44***
At that time: Jesus said to his disciples: 'For as were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two men will be in the field; one will be taken and one left. Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one left. Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore, you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

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.

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ST. GEORGE'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, SUDBURY

Sunday 30th November 2025

THE FIRST 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
Weekay Mass Readings
Week Advent 1
Divine Office
Psalter Week Advent 1

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

Masses and Intentions
THIS WEEK

Sun 30 Nov	**THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**
6.15pm *Sat Vigil*	Patrick & William Donohue RIP
8.30am	Bosco Fernandes Intentions
9.45am	PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
11.15am	Xaverina Pereira RIP
5.30pm	Rebello Family Intentions
Mon 1 Dec	**Advent feria**
9:30am	Fr Mike Guthrie Intentions
Tues 2 Dec	**Advent feria**
9.30am	Fr Jeremy's Intentions
Weds 3 Dec	**S.Francis Xavier**
9.30am	Francesca Rozario Intentions
Thurs 4 Dec	**Advent feria**
9.30am	Joe, Michael & Thomas Haugh RIP
Fri 5 Dec	**Advent feria**
	Mgr. Wilfred Purney RIP
Sat 6 Dec	**Advent feria**
	NO 9.30am MASS today
11.00am	**MASS OF THE CELEBRATION OF THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD OF MGR. JEREMY**
Sun 7 Dec	**THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**
6.15pm *Sat Vigil*	Teresa Hukowski RIP & Sean Prunty RIP
8.30am	Darren O'Sullivan RIP
9.45am	Elizabeth Pereira RIP
11.15am	S. Denis David RIP
5.30pm	PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

TODAY'S MASS



Today is the first Sunday of Advent, which is also the first Sunday of a new liturgical year for the Church. The Advent season includes the four Sundays that precede Christmas. It is a time of preparation for the coming of the Lord. In this season, we recall two central elements of our faith: the final coming of the Lord in glory and the incarnation of the Lord in the birth of Jesus. Key themes of the Advent season are watchful waiting, preparation, and justice.

First Reading: *Isaiah 2:1-5*
Isaiah describes his vision in which all nations are gathered together by God in peace.

Responsorial Psalm: *Psalm 122:1-2,3-4,4-5,6-7,8-9*
Rejoicing, let us enter the house of the Lord.

Second Reading: *Romans 13:11-14*
Be prepared, salvation is near.

Gospel Reading: *Matthew 24:37-44*
Jesus tells his disciples that the coming of the Son of Man will catch many people unprepared. Jesus tells his disciples that they are to always be ready for the day of the Lord.

SPIRITUAL QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"It is Advent and Christmas every time you let God love others through you." –
St. Teresa of Calcutta

MAKING CONTACT AT ST. GEORGE'S

Parish Priest: Mgr. Jeremy Fairhead jeremyfairhead@rcdow.org.uk
Assistant Priest: *(awaiting appointment)*
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Secretary: Mrs. Mary Walsh sudbury@rcdow.org.uk
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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.
EUCHARISTIC 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, Fiona Power, Aaran Thayaparan, John, Shaun Scoon and Helen Jordan, Sean Marren, George Beel, Anne McShine-Jones, Marian Lynch, Shane & Paul, Martha Conway, Patrick, Gerry & Corrine Gilbert, Edward Granger, Catherine Corcoran, Ciara I, Mary O'Connell, Leslie De Lima, Paul Pereira, Nora Hunt, Mario, Maureen Chick, Larry Sicat*

RECENTLY BAPTISED: *Sarah Ruspi, Kayleigh Marie Coyle*

RECENTLY DEPARTED: *Maureen Ranyard, Helena Bundy, Catherine Corcoran*

RECENTLY MARRIED:-

RECENTLY CONFIRMED:

ANNIVERSARIES OF THE DEPARTED: - *Mgr. Wilfred Purney, Albert Bundy*

BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP
In Memory Of Nimal Perera

LAMP AT THE ALTAR OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM
In Memory of Nimal Perera

THE POPE'S INTENTIONS for December
For Christians in areas of conflict
Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation and hope.



Today the Church throughout the world begins its keep of the Season of Advent – a very short period which prepares us in a twofold way: for the coming of Christ at Christmas and for that time when he will return in glory. Let us listen to the warning of St Paul: "You know the time has come: you must wake now: our salvation is nearer than it was when we were converted. The night is almost over, it will be daylight soon!"

The gospel of this Sunday puts us firmly on the alert. It emphasises the state of unpreparedness, the sense of false security developed with regard to the unforeseeable coming of the Son of Man. As in the days of Noah, people are not troubled, they go happily about their daily business and chores. And then suddenly, the catastrophe comes! The comparison of the Lord to one coming in the night brings out clearly the need for constant watchfulness. *"Behold I stand at the door and knock"* (Rev 3.20); yet is there always a danger that we may not hear the one who is knocking in order to waken us to the call of the spirit?

A new Church year is also a time of new beginnings and fresh starts. We have a short time now before Christmas, not just to do the necessary shopping but to put our lives in order so that we may truly welcome the Christ child when he is born for us in Bethlehem.

Throughout the Parish there are fresh signs of renewal both physical and spiritual. Whilst these are only symbols of a greater journey they remind us that we should always remain watchful acting that we may be generous in the service of God's Kingdom and that we are to go about our affairs so as not to be surprised in the evening of our lives and in the evening of the world by the judgement of the Lord.

Our Advent wreath has four candles, one for each week . The light increases as we get closer to Christmas, the birth time of the light of God. Let us pray that our Advent together, our new Church year, may be full of evergreen hope leading us out of darkness towards Christ who is the light of the world.

NEWS UPDATE

WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN TOGETHER TO CELEBRATE THE THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD OF OUR PARISH PRIEST MONSIGNOR JEREMY FAIRHEAD ON SATURDAY 6TH DECEMBER AT 11.00AM FOLLOWED BY LUNCH IN THE PARISH CENTRE

TO ALL SERVERS: If you would like the privilege of serving at Mgr Jeremy's anniversary Mass on Saturday 6th December, please sign the list in the sacristy.

CELEBRATORY GIFT FOR MONSIGNOR JEREMY - As a **sign of appreciation**, as we celebrate Mgr. Jeremy's 30 Years of Priesthood, the Parish is organising a **collection** that Mgr. Jeremy will be able to put towards a gift of his choice. To make your contribution you can scan the QR code or visit https://pay.collctiv.com/mgr-jeremy-fairheads-30th-anniversary-66258. A cash collection will be taken up after all masses on the weekend of the 5th/6th December for those who are unable to use the QR code or link. Thank you.

WELCOME to all at Mass today and a big welcome to anyone who is new or a visitor.

ARE YOU NEW TO THE PARISH? It always helps us to get to know you and also your family if you register with us. We can then send you information about the parish and opportunities. Registration forms can be found at the back of Church underneath the photo of Pope Leo.

THE PARISH OFFICE HOURS will now be Monday—Friday 10.00am-2.00pm. Outside these hours, urgent matters can be directed to the Presbytery.

KEEPING THE CHURCH WARM...please, please shut the door after you when you come in. We can't afford to heat the Harrow Road as well!!

CHRISTMAS AT THE REPOSITORY a beautiful selection of Christmas items are now available for purchase from the Repository.



ADVENT FAIR

Lots of stalls and Christmas gifts 9.15am—1.00pm in the Parish Centre today

THE HOLY SEASON OF ADVENT HAS BEGUN. Advent is a period of preparation for Christmas, extending over four Sundays, before the great celebration of the birth of Christ at Bethlehem. The word Advent comes from the Latin *advenio*, "to arrive, to come" This refers, first of all, to our celebration of Christ's birth at Christmas; second, to the coming of Christ in our lives, through grace and the Sacrament of Holy Communion; and finally, to his Second Coming at the end of time.

DURING ADVENT ... at the Holy Mass, The Gloria is omitted (with the exception of feast days). We save this beautiful song, sung by the angels in heaven, for the great celebration at Christmas. During this Holy season of preparing, why not spend some additional time in prayer, in front of the Blessed Sacrament? Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction is every Friday from 9am before the 9:30am Mass. The gentle Sacrament of Reconciliation (confession) is available on Saturday evenings from 5.15pm – 6.00 pm and at other times by appointment.

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION EVENING: Saturday 13th December from 6.30-11.30pm in the Parish Centre. With Dinner, Live Band, Dancing, Bar, Raffle etc. Adults £20, Children (5-12 yrs) £10, under 5yrs free. Tickets on sale now from the Parish Office.

CHILDREN'S NATIVITY AT VIGIL MASS - We are grateful to Candy White & her Team who are taking care of the **Children's Nativity** at the **Christmas Eve Vigil Mass**. Children who would like to take part **must be available for both rehearsals on Saturday 20th December& Tuesday 23rd December** from **11-12pm**. To register your child's interest **please contact Candy at 07751 160816 /candyv2128@gmail.com**.

ST. GEORGE'S OVER 60'S CLUB Lots of people and great fun too! Why not join them? All over 60's welcome— Come along and bring a friend!

THANK YOU for so generously supporting the Sick & Retired Priests' Fund collection. To date we have raised £2,002.32. Our priests give us years of dedicated service and it is only right that, together, we ensure they live out their days with dignity and the care they need. If you didn't get the chance to donate, it's not too late. You can give online at www.rcdow.org.uk/donations. Thank you again. Please keep our sick and retired priests in your prayers.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION - Parents & Carers are asked to please arrive for the Reconciliation Service this coming **Tuesday 2nd December** at **6.45pm** so the children can settle before the service begins at 7pm. Thank you for continuing to **practice at home** with your children in the coming days so they feel comfortable and confident making their First Confession this coming week.

SYCAMORE is an informal course about the Catholic faith and its relevance to life today. Those interested in learning about the faith are welcome to attend. At the next session we will be reflecting on **The Sacraments of Baptism & Confirmation**. Please join us in the Café Bar on **Thursday 11th December at 7.30pm.**

BAPTISM PREPARATION - **Baptism Preparation** sessions at the Parish provide **essential** formation for Parents/Carers as they prepare for this important Sacrament. If you are expecting a baby, or would like your baby baptised, please **pick up a Baptism Pack** from the **Parish Office**. To attend **January's Baptism Preparation** you will need to **complete** the **Baptism Application Form** (in the Pack) & **return it to the Parish Office by Monday 26th January 2026.**

CONFIRMATION 2026 - Young people in **Year 10 & above** who are **registered & regularly attend Mass at this Parish** are welcome to join our Confirmation Preparation Programme in 2025. Young people wishing to be confirmed must attend the **Confirmation Information Evening** with a Parent/Carer in the Parish Centre on **Monday 12th January at 7.30pm** when Registration Documents will be provided. Please note that a copy of one's Baptism Certificate (and a translation if it is not in English) is also required for Registration.

SCHOOL FORM SIGNING has now finished.