SUNDAY READINGS & PRAYERS

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,
God, for ever and ever.

First reading: ***Isaiah 11:1-10***
On that day: There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.
And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him,
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and might,
the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.
And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.
He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide disputes by what his ears hear,
but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist,
and faithfulness the belt of his loins.

The wolf shall dwell with the lamb,
and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat,
and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together;
and a little child shall lead them.
The cow and the bear shall graze;
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra,
and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.
They shall not hurt or destroy
in all my holy mountain;
for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD
as the waters cover the sea.
In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples —
of him shall the nations enquire, and his resting-place shall be glorious.

Responsorial Psalm: ***Ps 72(71)***

In his days shall justice flourish, and great peace for ever.

O God, give your judgement to the king,
to a king's son your justice,
that he may judge your people in justice,
and your poor in right judgement.

In his days shall justice flourish, and great peace for ever.

In his days justice shall flourish,
and great peace till the moon is no more.
He shall rule from sea to sea,
from the River to the bounds of the earth.

In his days shall justice flourish, and great peace for ever.

For he shall rescue the needy when they cry,
the poor who have no one to help.
He will have pity on the weak and the needy,
and save the lives of the needy.

In his days shall justice flourish, and great peace for ever.

May his name endure for ever,
his name continue like the sun.
Every tribe shall be blest in him,
all nations shall call him blessed.

In his days shall justice flourish, and great peace for ever.

Second reading: Romans 15:4-9
Brothers and sisters: Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, 'Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles, and sing to your name.'

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.
Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight;
all flesh shall see the salvation of God.
Alleluia.

Gospel: ***Matthew 3:1-12***
In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.' For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said, 'The voice of one crying in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight." '

Now John wore a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, and they were baptised by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not presume to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our father", for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

'I baptise you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

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.

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ST. GEORGE'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, SUDBURY

Sunday 7th December 2025

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
Weekay Mass Readings
Week Advent 2
Divine Office
Psalter Week 2 Advent 2

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

Masses and Intentions
THIS WEEK

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
Mon 8 Dec	**THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**
9:30am	Walter Vales & Family Intentions
Tues 9 Dec	**Advent feria**
9.30am	Nimal Perera RIP
Weds 10 Dec	**Advent feria**
9.30am	Kevin Durcan RIP
Thurs 11 Dec	**Advent feria**
9.30am	Fr Jeremy's Intentions
Fri 12 Dec	**OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE**
	Marjory Hoareau RIP
Sat 13 Dec	**S LUCY**
9:30am	Richard & Brigida Luther Thanksgiving
Sun 14 Dec	**THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**
6.15pm *Sat Vigil*	Helen & Stanley Meredith RIP
8.30am	Bosco Fernandes Intentions
9.45am	Baptist Fernandes Intentions
11.15am	Lynam Family RIP
5.30pm	PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

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

"The future starts today, not tomorrow."
Saint John Paul II

MAKING CONTACT AT ST. GEORGE'S

Parish Priest: Mgr. Jeremy Fairhead jeremyfairhead@rcdow.org.uk
Assistant Priest: *(awaiting appointment)*
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Director of Music: Mr. Scott Price scottprice@rcdow.org.uk
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Telephone: 020 8904 2552. Phone Options: 1. Mass Times; 2. Parish Office/ SVP Information 3. Mgr Jeremy; 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.
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, Noel Gill, Christopher Browne, Dee Auriol, Fiona Power, John, 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, Ciara I, Mary O'Connell, Leslie De Lima, Paul Pereira, Nora Hunt, Mario, Maureen Chick, Larry Sicat*

RECENTLY BAPTISED: *Mason James Emmanuel Hyman, Ashel Fernandes*

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

RECENTLY MARRIED:-

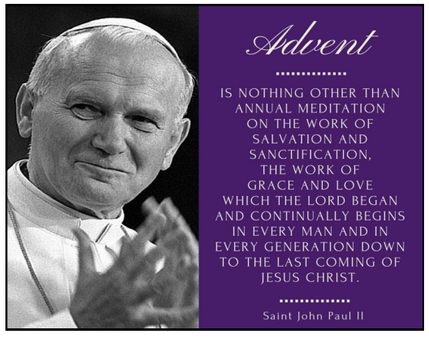
RECENTLY CONFIRMED:

ANNIVERSARIES OF THE DEPARTED: - *S. Denis David*

BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP
In Memory of Francina Yap

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.



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 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 goodwill 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?

NEWS UPDATE

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.

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. A second collection will be taken up after all masses this weekend.

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!!

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 AT St. GEORGE'S: Full details of our Christmas services will be available from next week. Above all, please note: a big difference this year **Midnight Mass will begin at 10.30pm with Carols and readings by candlelight beforehand at 10.00pm.**

CHRISTMAS POSTERS for your windows will be available next weekend courtesy of The Knights of St Columba.

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.

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!

ADVENT FAIR: Thank you very much for all your help and hard work making this year's Advent Fair a success. A massive thank you to those who participated in running stalls, helping to set up and clear up, making teas and coffee, cooking, ensuring we had music, running the raffle, donating goods etc. Your time, kindness and hard work is, as always , much appreciated. The event was well supported by generous parishioners who donated goods and came to browse and buy goods. It was so well done that we raised a cracking **£2,691.34.**

BAMBINELLI SUNDAY : A beautiful Advent Tradition, instituted by Pope St John Paul II during his Papacy is being continued in parishes around the world. Families are invited to bring the Baby Jesus figure from their Christmas Cribs at home, to be blessed here at the **9.45am Sunday Mass on next Sunday 14th December.** This will encourage our young children to make the connection between the Nativity set at home and the local church where they worship each weekend. *"It helps children and young people to prepare for Jesus."* (Pope Francis), Following the blessing, families are encouraged to take their 'Bambinelli' home, wrap it up and open it as a family on Christmas morning, when the youngest member places it in the crib. A gift of the presence of Christ in your home this Christmas. Remember the date for your diary

CHRISTMAS AT THE REPOSITORY a beautiful selection of Christmas items including crib sets are now available for purchase from the Repository after all Sunday masses. Cash only at present I'm afraid.

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.**

SCHOOL FORM SIGNING has now finished.
If you missed the dates, and for a good reason, please contact the Parish Office ASAP to make an appointment with Mgr. Jeremy.

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.**

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.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION - Part 2 of the FHC Programme begins with a **Session for Parents/ Carers only** in the Parish Centre on **Tuesday 13th January at 7pm.** Thank you for ensuring you make **childcare arrangements** well in advance so you are able to attend.

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.**

SIGNING FORMS ETC. Please always make an appointment via the Parish Office if you want school forms, passport forms or pension forms countersigned/witnessed by the clergy. Please also know if you want an English passport witnessed or naturalisation form signed, we must have known you for a minimum of 3 years.

THE SACRED HEART LANGUAGE COLLEGE, Wealdstone has a limited number of places in our current Years 7, 8 & 9. If you would like to apply for one of these places for your daughter, please contact:- admissions@tshlc.harrow.sch.uk

