

## 10 Dec – 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B)

**First reading: Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11**

*God is coming to save his people and to open up our way into the future*

**Responsorial: Psalm 84:8**

*R: Lets us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help.*

**Second reading: 2 Peter 3:8-14**

*God gives us time to repent and so be ready to meet him when he comes*

**Gospel: Mark 1:1-8**

*John the Baptist prepares the people for the coming of their Saviour*

The key element in John the Baptist's preaching was the **preparation of a new people**, a distinct community, the Israel of the last times of the Day of the Lord. This was not an individualist cleaning out of sins, but encouraging people to join a new society that would be able to withstand the coming judgement because of the purity of its observance of **how the People of God should behave and live** as a group.

Jesus takes over from John, the message of the New Israel, with its twelve new foundation members. **The new People can keep the Law in spirit and truth and who can rejoice because the Father loves them.**

**To welcome Jesus we must become the new community, the new People of God, the new Israel, the holy royal, priestly people of our baptism. This is the call of today's gospel.** But this means a whole new vision of what it is to be a Christian, and abandoning any notion that Christianity is a religion system for individuals or a salvation system for individuals.

We cannot be the New People if the group is still behaving in its ways. This **new way of acting is essential** if we are to be the people of the Christ,

Advent poses us hard questions. 'Preparing a people' is far harder a task.

**Advent means 'getting there together'!**

## ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

339 High Road, WEMBLEY, HA9 6AG. Tel: 020 8902 0081

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Parish Clergy: Fr. Joseph Kaduthanam CMI, Fr Joseph Chacko CMI,

Fr. Tebin Francis CMI

**SUNDAY, 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT:**

**10-Dec** Mass: 9.00am, 10.45am, 12.30pm & 6.30pm

**MONDAY,  
11-Dec**

Mass: 9.30am

**TUESDAY,  
12-Dec**

Mass: 9.30am & 6.30pm

**WEDNESDAY  
13-Dec**

**St Lucy, Virgin & Martyr:**

Mass: 9.30am

**THURSDAY,  
14-Dec**

**St John of the Cross, Priest & Doctor:**

Mass: 9.30am

**FRIDAY,  
15-Dec**

Mass: 12.00noon

Eucharistic Adoration: 7.00pm

**SATURDAY,  
16-Dec**

Mass: 9.30am

6.30pm – *Sunday Vigil Mass*

**SUNDAY,  
17-Dec**

**3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT:**

Mass: 9.00am, 10.45am, 12.30pm & 6.30pm

### **POPE'S INTENTION - DECEMBER 2023**

**For persons with disabilities** - We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

### **WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK**

Paule Szczech, Martin Mongan, Louis Gabriel and Catherine Stock that the Lord may lay His healing hands on them and bring them His peace.

### **CHRISTMAS PENITENTIAL SERVICE WITH EUCHARISTIC ADORATION**

Confessions starting at 6.00pm. Please join the Parish Community as we come together to praise and worship the Lord on Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> December at 7.00pm during which the Divine Mercy Chaplet will be recited. There will be Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament for an hour. All are welcome.

### **DONATIONS AT CHRISTMAS**

Special white Gift Aid envelopes are available in the church porch for those who donate by standing order or do not have planned giving envelopes and who wish to gift aid their Christmas contribution. Please fill in your details as required, insert your donation, and place your sealed envelope in the normal collection bag.

### **CONFIRMATION 2024 - CATECHISM CLASSES**

For those candidates who have submitted an application for the Confirmation Programme 2024, a parents meeting will be held on Wednesday 10th January 2024 at 6:30pm in the pastoral centre. At least one parent should attend (no requirement for the candidate to attend). Catechism classes for all candidates will commence on Saturday 13th January 2024 at 5pm in the Pastoral Centre.

### **CHRISTMAS RAFFLE**

Tickets for the Grand Christmas Raffle is available. Please see the volunteers selling the tickets and join them with the prospect of a prize of £100. There are 9 other prizes too.

### **FOCUS PARISH MAGAZINE**

The Christmas Focus Magazine is available at Church porch. Please pick up a copy at the end of the Mass.

### **CHRISTMAS CONCERT DEC 13TH 2023**

We welcome you to join for an unforgettable and joyous evening of spectacular light and song performance in our church. This will be performed by our parishioners as well as special guest performers. Ticket price is £5 which will include a hot/cold drink with a slice of cake. Children under 4 go free. Please look at notice board for further details.

### **THE CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE**

The Christmas Giving Tree with labels for gift items is placed in the church porch. Please do not wrap your presents with gift paper, you may put them in carrier bags and place them into the box by the sanctuary. Donated children's gifts will go to Westminster Catholic Children's Society and other gifts will be delivered to charities that will help to distribute our gifts to those in need. This year, the Justice & Peace group have added labels for single sleeping bags along with other items to help people sleeping rough in London.

### **ONLINE MARIAN DEVOTION CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION**

Experience the joy of the season with St Joseph's Church Wembley as the Rosary group presents a lively online Christmas celebration for parishioners. Mark your calendars for December 18, 2023, at 7.30pm. If you're keen on participating in the Star and Crib competitions, don't forget to reach out to the Rosary Coordinators beforehand for registration. Get ready for a festive day filled with online carols and multitude of exciting activities.

### **PARISH CHRISTMAS PARTY**

The Parish Christmas Party was a huge success. Thanks to all who participated, assisted and contributed to the success of this celebration. God bless you.

### **PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE**

There is a 7 Day - 7 Night pilgrimage to Medjugorje planned for next year to start on April 16th. For those interested please register your name with Carmen at the earliest possible. For more details please look at the church notice board.