

St. Erconwald's Parish Newsletter

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Parish Priest: Fr. Anthony Psaila

Safeguarding Services Designated Persons: Fr. Anthony Psaila [Interim]

PARISH HALL LETS: Suspended until further notice.

SECOND OF ADVENT, C

5TH DECEMBER, 2021

THEME: Remove the Obstacles from the Road

Tremendous amounts of money are spent to build better roads, to have better communications, but there still remain a lot of obstacles among people and nations to communicate with one another. In the same way there are still many obstacles to the coming of our Saviour in our world. People put up roadblocks and we have to remove them, so that his mercy and freedom, his justice and love may reach all people. If only all could encounter the Saviour and experience God's salvation in him and at work in us too! We ask Jesus our Lord in this Advent Season that we may be the road to him and that we may bring him near to people.



MEDITATE: John the Baptist is the last of the prophets of the old law who announced the arrival of the new law in Christ.

ACT: In what ways do I experience the forgiveness of God? How does my forgiveness of others reflect that forgiveness.

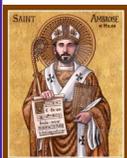
DECEMBER 6th: ST. NICHOLAS

St. Nicholas was the fourth-century bishop of Myra, in Asia Minor. According to legend St. Nicholas went about at night throwing gifts through the windows of houses where poor children slept. It is a wonderful story about sheer benevolent goodness. God's goodness showed itself in Jesus, who showed his love for children by embracing them.



DECEMBER 7th: ST. AMBROSE

Ambrose was born in Germany around the year 339. At the age of 31, he was promoted to the position of provincial governor of Milan. These were troubled times for the church. Ambrose was elected bishop by acclamation. The problem was that he was not baptised. Within a few days he was baptised, ordained and then consecrated bishop. He was instrumental in the conversion of St. Augustine.



DECEMBER 8th: THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

In 1854 Pius IX gave the infallible statement: "The Most Blessed Virgin Mary, in the first instant of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege granted by almighty God, in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, the saviour of the human race, was preserved free from all stain of original sin."



COMING TO MASS: COVID-19 SAFE ENVIRONMENT

[Please do NOT attend Mass if you are unwell or have any Covid symptoms]

It is important that we continue to ensure that the Church remains a safe place where people gather to worship.

Full details can be found on the Church's website.

BOOKING TO COME TO MASS

<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/wembleyprestonroad/events/>

Booking by phone if no internet available: you can call the parish office on 020 8904 6031 [press option 2 when prompted]

You can also use the QR Code at the Church's entrance or exit.

DONATIONS AND COLLECTION OF MONEY **IMPORTANT NEWS ABOUT GIVING ON-LINE**

GIVING BY STANDING ORDER [Preferred Method]

Regular giving is the financial bedrock of our parish. It also costs the parish less to manage than online giving so your money goes further. If you would like to support the parish we would ask you to consider setting up a regular donation in this way.

Offertory Envelopes and other donations can be placed in the Collection Box at the entrance of the Church or at the exit. Please no coinage at this time. There are a number of cashless methods now available:

Make a donation via our website:

<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/wembleyprestonroad/donate/>

Via Dona [the company who supply our card readers].

<https://portal.mydona.com/assets/webPay/index.php?cid=268>

Donations, Mass Intentions and Repository payments can also be made via the card readers in Church

[If you are a tax payer, please Gift Aid your donation]

THANK YOU

A huge thank you to everyone who has continued supporting the Parish during the pandemic. We pray that you keep well and that your faith remains strong.

THE PASSAGE

is raising funds through the **Big Give** a matched giving scheme. Every £1 donated online between **12.00 noon on Tuesday 30th November and 12.00 noon on Tuesday 7th December** makes £2 - £2.25 if you are a taxpayer through Gift Aid. At

a time when The Passage's finances are stretched and they are helping more homeless people please consider supporting this charity through the link <https://bit.ly/PassageBG2021>



POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR DECEMBER

Evangelisation - Catechists

Let us pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit.





ADVENT 2021 – JOURNEYING TO THE CRIB

The season of Advent is a time of preparation for the birth of Our Saviour. Listed below are activities and devotions to help us prepare for the coming feast of Christmas and its true meaning.

THE JESSE TREE

The name Jesse Tree comes from a Bible passage describing the descent of the Messiah from Jesse in Isaiah 11:1: "A shoot will come out of the stock Jesse, and a branch out of his roots will bear fruit." The Gospels in Luke 3:23-38 and in Matthew 1:1-17 have genealogies of Jesus Christ.



The symbols show some important figures and events from Creation to the birth of Jesus Christ. This year it would be nice if we could make our own version of a Jesse Tree. Please visit www.erconwald.org.uk to download the ornaments and colour in. Each week a description of the ornament will be given. [Adapted from: "Jesse Tree Ornaments" by Kathryn Marcellino. Abundant Life Publishing]

ADVENT GIVING CALENDAR



This Advent Giving Calendar gives suggestions for items to collect each day, reaching out to those going hungry, making a food parcel. Like previous years we will be supporting "The Larder". *Details of when to bring the "food parcels" will be given later.* Please visit: www.erconwald.org.uk to download the Advent Giving Calendar.

ADVENT GIVING TREE

Is in place to receive your *gifts* for homeless people [list on the Notice-board]. Andrew will collect the *Gifts* on the on the Fourth Sunday of Advent [19th December] after the 10.00am Mass.



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

The next parents and children's session will take place on **Saturday 13th November, at 10.30am** in the Parish Hall.

LIGHT OF LIFE - REMEMBERING OUR LOVED ONES

Memorial Cards - available on-line or as you leave the Church. Please complete with the name of deceased loved one and return them – via email: wembley3@rcdow.org.uk or when you visit the Church, not later than Friday 17th December. These Cards will then be hung on the Christmas tree. Mass will be offered on the feast of the Holy Family, on Sunday 26th December.

MINI CHRISTMAS DRAW

On Sunday 19th December after the 10.00am Mass. 1st Prize: Crib, 2nd Prize: Sleeping St. Joseph, 3rd Prize: Children's Sack, and various other prizes. Proceeds will go towards the Church Restoration Fund. Tickets [£1 per strip] on sale from this weekend.

CHRISTMAS INTENTIONS

Those requesting **Christmas Mass Bouquets** please note that due to demand there will be no individual Masses. Mass will be celebrated on the 1st/2nd January for all intentions. Signed cards and envelopes are available from the Repository. A donation would be appreciated.

LITURGY FOR THE SECOND WEEK OF ADVENT

*[Copies of the Statement from the Bishops' Conference, entitled **Honouring Sunday** which covers information about the obligation to attend Mass on Sunday and Holydays of obligation are available on the website and microsite.]*

All services can be followed online: <https://www.churchservices.tv/wembley3>
[Saturday 5.30pm and Sunday 10.00am Masses are recorded]

Sunday 5th December: Second of Advent, C [10.00am] Readings: 1st Reading: Baruch 5.1-9; Psalm: 125; 2nd Reading: Philippians 1.4-6,8-11; Gospel: Luke 3.1-6. **Intention:** People of the Parish.

Monday 6th December: St. Nicholas [9.30am] Readings: 1st Reading: Isaiah 6.1-8; Psalm: 39; Gospel: Luke 10.1-9. **Intention:** Jozefa and Maria Zimmermann [RIP]

Tuesday 7th December: St. Ambrose [9.30am] 1st Reading: Ephesians 38-12; Psalm: 88; Gospel: John 10.11-16. **Intention:** Michael McMahon [RIP]

Wednesday 8th December: Immaculate Conception [9.30am] Readings: 1st Reading: Genesis 3.9-15; Psalm: 97; 2nd Reading: Ephesians 1.3-6; Gospel: Luke 1.26-38. **Intention:** Iwedi Horst Ojinmah [RIP, A]

Thursday 9th December: NO SERVICE

Friday 10th December: Advent FERIA [9.30am] Readings: 1st Reading: Isaiah 48.17-19; Psalm: 1; Gospel: Matthew 11.16-19. **Intention:** Dominic and Bartholomew Tiernan [RIP]

Saturday 11th December: Third of Advent, C [5.30pm] Readings: 1st Reading: Zephaniah 3.14-18; Psalm: Isaiah 12.2-6; 2nd Reading: Philippians 4.4-7; Gospel: Luke 3.10-18. **Intention:** Zenon Hanzel [RIP].

Sunday 12th December: Third of Advent, C [10.00am] Readings: 1st Reading: Zephaniah 3.14-18; Psalm: Isaiah 12.2-6; 2nd Reading: Philippians 4.4-7; Gospel: Luke 3.10-18. **Intention:** People of the Parish.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

*If you are looking for a way to engage your children in the gospel from home, join **CAFOD** for our virtual children's liturgy of the word at 10am GMT this Sunday. Register now to take part here.*

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5095942131288155403>

In case you are admitted to hospital.....

Please indicate on entering hospital that your details are to be passed to the RC Chaplain, and that you would like a visit from the RC Chaplain.

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in this Holy Sacrament of the altar. I love you above all things and I passionately desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my soul so that I may unite myself wholly to you now and forever. Amen.

[based on a prayer of St Alphonsus Liguori]