St. Erconwald's Parish Newsletter



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PARISH HALL LETS: Contact Elizabeth Patten on wembley3@rcdow.org.uk.
OFFICE: By appointment.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR A 27TH NOVEMBER, 2022

THEME: Christ Brings Us Hope



A person of faith is a person of hope. As Christians we cannot live without dreams, without ideals that inspire us and even make us impatient at times. The message of this First Sunday of Advent tells us about God's dream regarding our world. It is meant to become a world of peace and justice. This will happen when the light of Christ will shine in it. God will write this future only with the help of people. Are we awake and ready to make Christ's light and peace come into this world and change today's world into God's world of tomorrow?

MEDITATE: Have you ever been waiting in a long line wondering what you could be doing, or even worse, should be doing?

ACT: Commit to spending some time each day in quiet prayer as a preparation for Jesus' coming.

Pause for Thought: 1st Candle: Hope [Prophet's Candle]: The prophets of the Old Testament, especially Isaiah, waited in hope for the Messiah's arrival. "Hope does not disappoint us" [Romans 5.5].





POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR NOVEMBER

For children who suffer:

We pray for children who are suffering, especially those who are homeless, orphans, and victims of war; may they be guaranteed access to education and the opportunity to experience family affection.

PRE-BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE

*The next session will take place on **Saturday 3rd December, from 10.30am – 11.30am**. Registration forms are available at the back of the Church or on the parish website/microsite.*

DEMENTIA CARERS SUPPORT GROUP

Do you care for someone who is living with Dementia (incl. Alzheimer's)? We next meet in the Parish Hall on **Monday 28th November between 1.00-3.00pm**. COME AND BE SUPPORTED. For further information please contact Frank Arrojo on 07867 903917 (email frankj.arrojo@gmail.com).

ADVENT 2022 – JOURNEYING TO THE CRIB



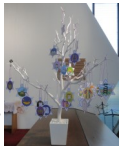
The season of Advent is a time of preparation for the birth of Our Saviour. Listed below are activities and devotions to help us prepare for the coming feast of Christmas and its true meaning. This Liturgical year we will be re-calling the mystery of Jesus our Saviour through the listening to the gospel of Matthew - Year A.

THE ADVENT WREATH



The Advent Wreath [this can be a simple drawing to colour in, or something more elaborate], consisting of a circle of evergreens, symbolising the eternal nature of God and the continuing and ever-lasting life that comes from God through Christ. The four candles [3 purple – symbolising repentance - and 1 pink – 3rd week, reminds us that we are drawing nearer to Christmas Day], mark the four weeks of Advent, and attest to the truth of Jesus as the Light of the World [John 3. 17-21]. The "Prayer of Blessing" is available at the back of the Church or on the Parish web-site: www.erconwald.org.uk

THE JESSE TREE



The name Jesse Tree comes from a Bible passage describing the de-scent 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. The ornaments to cut out and colour in, are available at the back of the Church or on the Parish website: www.erconwald.org.uk [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*. Available at the back of the Church or the Parish website: www.erconwald.org.uk

For more Advent resources for all ages please visit: cafod.org.uk/advent

MASS WITH ANOINTING OF THE SICK

On Friday 9th December, at 11.00am
followed by soup and rolls in the Parish Hall.
This Mass is for everyone especially the sick and elderly.
[There will be no 9.30am Mass]

VISITING THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND

Fr. Anthony is at the moment visiting the sick and housebound. If you know of anyone who is in need of a visit please see Fr. Anthony or contact the Parish Office. [If in hospital, please contact the hospital chaplain].

SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION

Service of Reconciliation with Absolution on **Friday 16th December at 7.00pm**.

ADVENT GIVING TREE—"THE PASSAGE"

The items to be brought next weekend are:
Toothbrushes – Toothpaste - Towels

Please only bring what has been requested. **NO** children's clothes please. As these items will form part of a Christmas Gift please only donate **new items**. When we have finished collecting, we will complete the gift bags in the Hall the week before collection day.

Andrew Hollingsworth will collect the *Gifts* on Saturday 17th December, after the 5.30pm Mass: 4th Sunday of Advent.

"2022 THE BIG GIVE"

Price match for *The Passage* commences on **noon 29th November** and runs until noon 6th December. Please visit the Big Give website to donate. Urgent support for the cost of living crises: thebiggive.org.uk

LIGHT OF LIFE - REMEMBERING OUR LOVED ONES

Please collect Memorial Cards from the back of the Church [or online], complete them with the name of deceased loved one and return them not later than Friday 16th December. These Cards will then be hung on the Christmas tree. Mass will be offered on the feast of Mary, the Mother of God, the weekend of 31st December/1st January. Please place Memorial Cards and donations in the box available. Donations go towards the decorating of the Church at Christmas.

PARISH CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

The Christmas Celebration will be held on **SATURDAY 17th DECEMBER** following the 5.30pm Mass. Refreshments will be served from the bar – please be aware that if you bring your own, a corkage charge of £5 will apply. We are hoping that Santa will be able to take a break from his busy schedule to visit us. Admission will be by ticket only. Adults £2.00, children free [they need an "Entry Ticket" and must be accompanied by their parents/guardians and book a place]. Your ticket can be exchanged for a glass of mulled wine or fruit punch and a mince pie. There will be a special attendance raffle. In addition to all this, we will hold our **Grand Christmas Draw.** We hope that many of you will come and celebrate this Christmas together. Proceeds will go towards the Church Restoration Fund. Tickets on sale after Mass.

GRAND CHRISTMAS DRAW 2022

Takes place at end of the Christmas Celebration. Raffle books are available now for our Christmas Draw. Please return counterfoils and unsold tickets no later than noon on Saturday 17th December. There are lots of good prizes: 1st Prize: Christmas Hamper, 2nd Prize: Nativity Crib, 3rd Prize: £50 cash, 4th Prize: Children's Special, and many other fantastic prizes. Please do support the Draw which is in aid of the Restoration Fund. Book of 5 tickets cost £5. Individual tickets cost £1.

CHURCH CLEANING

The Church closes for cleaning after the 9.30am Mass on Tuesdays. If you have any spare time please come along and join us.

LITURGY FOR THE FIRST WEEK OF ADVENT

All services can be followed online: **https://www.churchservices.tv/wembley3**
[Saturday 5.30pm and Sunday 10.00am / 11.30am Masses are recorded]

Sunday 27th November: First Sunday of Advent, Year A Readings: 1st Reading: Isaiah 2.1-5; Psalm: 121; 2nd Reading: Romans 13.11-14; Gospel: Matthew 24. 37-44. **Intention:** 10.00am: Keith Allyn De Fontaine [RIP]
11.30am: People of the Parish

Monday 28th November: Advent Feria [9.30am] **Readings:** 1st Reading: Isaiah 2.1-5; Psalm: 121; Gospel: Matthew 8.5-11. **Intention:** Holy Souls.

Tuesday 29th November: Advent Feria [9.30am] **Readings:** 1st Reading: Isaiah 11.1-10; Psalm: 71; Gospel: Luke 10.21-24. **Intention:** Bernard Wilson [RIP]

Wednesday 30th November: St. Andrew [9.30am] **Readings:** 1st Reading: Romans 10.9-11; Psalm: 18; Gospel: Matthew 4.18-22. **Intention:** Aileen Mitchell and Brian Moran [RIP, A]

Thursday 1st December: No Service

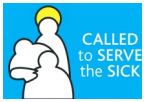
Friday 2nd December: Advent Feria [9.30am] **Readings:** 1st Reading: Isaiah 29.17-24; Psalm:26; Gospel: Matthew 9.27-31. **Intention:** Ron Ferrari [RIP]

Saturday 3rd December: Second Sunday of Advent, Year A [5.30pm] Readings: 1st Reading: Isaiah 11.1-10; Psalm: 71; 2nd Reading: Romans 15.4-9; Gospel: Matthew 3.1-12. **Intention:** Bridie Reilly [RIP]

Sunday 4th December: Second Sunday of Advent, Year A Readings: 1st Reading: Isaiah 11.1-10; Psalm: 71; 2nd Reading: Romans 15.4-9; Gospel: Matthew 3.1-12. **Intention:** 10.00am: Dominic and Bartholomew Tiernan [RIP]
11.30am: People of the Parish

CHRISTMAS INTENTIONS

Those requesting **Christmas Mass Bouquets** please note that due to demand there will be no individual Masses. The Christmas Masses celebrated on Saturday 24th at 10.00pm and Sunday 25th at 10.00am will be offered for all intentions. Signed cards and envelopes are available from the Repository. A donation would be appreciated.



PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

We keep in our thoughts and prayers: Margaret Beeby, Yves Remedios, and Patrick Carmody. We remember also those in Kenbrook, Birchwood Grange and Brook House.

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]*