

St. Erconwald's Parish Newsletter

112 Carlton Avenue East, Wembley, Middlesex HA9 8NB

Telephone: 020 8904 6031;

Email: wembley3@rcdow.org.uk

Website: <http://www.erconwald.org.uk>

Microsite: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/wembleyprestonroad/sterconwald>

Parish Priest: Fr. Anthony Psaila

Safeguarding Reps: Rose Yip wembley3sg1@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

Maria Rogers wembley3sg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

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

OFFICE: By Appointment.



FIRST OF ADVENT, YEAR B

3RD DECEMBER, 2023

THEME: Lord, Let Us See Your Face.

During this Advent we are confronted with the question so vital for us Christians: what place are you giving Christ in your life? Are you close to him? One thing is sure: he is near to us. Do we try to see him, to recognise him in the many forms he is present among us: in our neighbour, in nature, in the events of life, even in our troubles and his own silence? We have to become vigilant to his presence, not only in our own little world but in the Church and in the wide world. This week we pray: come, Lord, show yourself; be visible among us.



MEDITATE: There is a temptation to go through life waiting for some special life-changing event to take place.

ACT: Set aside a certain amount of time each day this Advent for prayer.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2024

The next session for parents and children will be on **Saturday 9th December** at 10.30am in the Parish Hall.

ADVENT GIVING TREE - "THE PASSAGE"



As has been our practice in the past, we hope to donate gift bags to *The Passage* this Christmas. We hope this will be possible despite the very difficult financial problems we are all experiencing. *The Passage* likes to give all the Residents in each of their Hostels the same gift bag, so all feel fairly treated. To facilitate this, we will publish a wish list of items each week [**Please do NOT wrap items**]. When we have finished collecting, we will complete the gift bags in the Hall the week before collection day.

The items to be brought next weekend are:

Toothbrushes - Toothpaste - Towels

"2023 THE BIG GIVE"

Price match for *The Passage* commences on noon **28th November and runs until noon 5th December.** Please visit the Big Give website to donate.

PARISH CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION



This is a ticketed event, and takes place on **SATURDAY 16th DECEMBER** following the 5.30pm Mass in the Parish Hall. Celebration includes Christmas Carols and Songs, Santa's visit and the Grand Christmas Draw – in aid of the Windows Restoration Project. Bar available [£5 corkage applies on drinks not purchased from the bar.] Ticket prices: Adult £4 [including mince pie and glass of mulled wine.] Children free but **MUST** have a child's ticket and be accompanied by a parent/guardian for the duration of the event. Limited places on a first come basis. Tickets on sale after Mass.

GRAND CHRISTMAS DRAW

*Takes place at end of the Christmas Celebration. Raffle books are now available for our Christmas Draw. Please return counterfoils and unsold tickets no later than noon on **Saturday 16th December**. There are lots of good prizes: 1st Prize: Bethlehem Nativity Crib; 2nd Prize: Christmas Hamper, 3rd Prize: £50 cash, 4th Prize: Children's Special, plus many other fantastic prizes. Please do support the Draw which is in aid of the Windows Restoration Fund. Book of 5 tickets cost £5.*



LIGHT OF LIFE - REMEMBERING OUR LOVED ONES

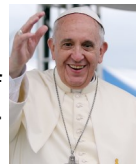


Please collect **Memorial Cards** from the back of the Church, complete them with the name of deceased loved one and return them not later than **Friday 15th December**. These Cards will then be hung on the Christmas tree. Mass will be offered on the feast of the Holy Family, the weekend of 30th/31st December. Please place Memorial Cards and donations in the box available. Donations go towards the decorating of the Church at Christmas.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR DECEMBER

For people with disabilities

We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of society's attention, and that institutions may offer inclusive programmes which value their active participation.



THE LARDER

Thank you for your kind donations.



Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults [RCIA]

The next session will take place on Wednesday 6th December at 7.00pm in the Parish Hall. All are welcome.

REPOSITORY

Advent Calendars and a good choice of Advent Candles. Confirmation cards and gifts are also on display. Please ask if you wish to purchase Sterling Silver Chains. For baptism, Wedding Anniversaries, statues and other cards please ask a repository helper.

Remaining stock of boxed Christmas Cards, Church Art Calendars 2023, and Diaries on display.

ADVENT 2023 – 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 recalling the mystery of Jesus our Saviour through the listening to the gospel of Mark - Year B.



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 everlasting 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.

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. The ornaments to cut out and colour in, are available at the back of the Church. 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.

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

MASS WITH ANOINTING OF THE SICK

On Tuesday 12th 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]

SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION WITH ABSOLUTION

Wednesday 20th December at 7.00pm.

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.

This is also a good way of meeting others in our parish.

LITURGY FOR THE 1ST WEEK OF ADVENT - Psalter Week 1

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

Sunday 3rd December: 1st of Advent, Year B: [10.00am and 11.30am] **Readings:** 1st Reading: Isaiah 63.16-17, 64.1,3-8; Psalm: 79; 2nd Reading: 1Corinthians 1.3-9; Gospel: Mark 13.33-37.

Intention: 10.00am: Mary and Pat Cafferkey [RIP, A]
11.30am: Dominic and Bartholomew Tiernan [RIP, A]

Monday 4th December: Feria [9.30am]: **Readings:** 1st Reading: Isaiah 2.1-5; Psalm: 121; Gospel: Matthew 8.5-11. **Intention:** Martina Athy [RIP]

Tuesday 5th December: Feria [9.30am] **Readings:** 1st Reading: Isaiah 11.1-10; Psalm: 71; Gospel: Luke 10.21-24. **Intention:** Patrick Whitty [RIP]

Wednesday 6th December: St. Nicholas [9.30am]: **Readings:** 1st Reading: Isaiah 6.1-8; Psalm: 39; Gospel: Luke 10.1-9. **Intention:** Iwedi Horst Ojinnah [RIP, A]

Thursday 7th December: NO SERVICE

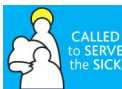
Friday 8th December: Immaculate Conception of BVM [9.30am] **Readings:** 1st Reading: Genesis 3.9-15; Psalm: 97; 2nd Reading: Ephesians 1.3-6; Gospel: Luke 1.26-38. **Intention:** Michael McMahon [RIP]

Saturday 9th December: 2nd of Advent, Year B: [5.30pm] **Readings:** 1st Reading: Isaiah 40.1-5,9-11; Psalm: 84; 2nd Reading: 2Peter 3.8-14; Gospel: Mark 1.1-8. **Intention:** Margaret and Michael Moss [RIP, A]

Sunday 10th December: 2nd of Advent, Year B: [10.00am and 11.30am] **Readings:** 1st Reading: Isaiah 40.1-5,9-11; Psalm: 84; 2nd Reading: 2Peter 3.8-14; Gospel: Mark 1.1-8.

Intention: 10.00am: Clare Mayers [RIP, A]
11.30am: People of the Parish

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK



We keep in our thoughts and prayers: Margaret Beeby, Radwan Naffa, Kathryn McGinnis and Sheila O'Hara. 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.

Sunday - Thursday 9.00am – 4:30pm 020 8967 5130. Kindly leave a voicemail including patient's name and ward or e-mail: LNWH-TR.CHAPLAINCY@NHS.NET

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]