



# THE CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART

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Sacred Heart Presbytery  
Edge Hill, Wimbledon  
London, SW19 4LU

5th December 2021

## Newsletter

Vol 7 , Issue 43/21

### Second Sunday of Advent (C)

**Weekday Readings for  
2nd week of Advent  
Vol I. Psalter week 2**

### Next Sunday's Readings

#### 3rd Sunday of Advent

- Zephaniah 3:14-18
- Psalm 1s 12:2-6
- Philippians 4:4-7
- Luke 3:10-18

### Upcoming Events

#### Sunday 5 December

- Children's Liturgy during the 10am Mass

#### Wednesday 8 December

- Solemnity of The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Masses at 7.30 & 10am, 6.30 & 8pm

## Second Sunday of Advent

The word Advent denotes an historical event; that at one point in the past God broke into human history.

The sublime truths of our faith are not the product of the personal meditation of a spiritual guru, nor do they derive from ancient myth.

The sublime truth of Advent is the historical fact of God's coming to earth by becoming a man; a Divine Person assuming a human nature: God being born of a woman, growing up in the way we all grow, and becoming a fully mature human being who, in his lifetime, transformed the world, and the destiny of every human being.

Luke presents his Gospel as based on the evidence of eyewitnesses: "*to form an orderly account of the things that had happened and been fulfilled among us*". (Lk. 1:1)

Indeed, Luke's tone and register of language is not the way a myth maker writes or speaks: His tone is matter of fact, his register of language almost legalistic, in the way a lawyer would present the facts in a lawsuit.

To set the coming of Christ in its historical context, Luke takes great pains to name the significant historical figures alive and in power at the time of Christ's birth: the Emperor Augustus, Quirinius the Governor of Syria (Lk. 1: 1-2). He even refers to historical transference of political power to mark the years of the early years in the life of Jesus - the change in Emperor from Augustus to Tiberius being the most notable in chapter 3.

In all this, Luke's gospel points out that the circumstances surrounding the advent of the historical Jesus actually matter, they are not incidental to the Gospel message; in fact, they are the most compelling argument for belief in Christ, Son of God, in all that he did and all that he said.

But significantly, these facts not only highlight the reality of the historical Jesus, but they also serve as a reminder that Christ did not come as one of the great and powerful but chose to be born as an apparently insignificant child to an apparently insignificant couple.

Unless our faith is rooted in the historical facts and circumstances of Christ's birth, life, death and resurrection then, as St. Paul says, our faith is in vain: Not only because our faith in the resurrection would be no better than belief in a myth, but because we would feel no kinship or affinity with Christ.

Christ is the Lord of history, who chose to be born into obscurity under the oppression of tyranny and poverty. He still chooses to come into particular historical circumstances: the adversity, the obscurity and hardship of our own lives, so that His influence through us may spread to our own generation. Let us enact the life-giving Word of the gospel in obedience to His command to love and surely his reign will extend to the end of history and beyond.

### THE PARISH PASTORAL TEAM

Parish Priest: Canon John Clark

Parish Clergy: Fr Joseph Donkor, Fr Matthew Donnelly, Deacon Julian Burling, Deacon Joseph Gulliford and Deacon Shaun Crocker

Team: Sr Dorothy Perrott OSU, Sr Francis SSA

Youth Minister: Eleanor Bowman

## JOURNEY TO THE NATIVITY

Daily Advent reflection booklets and the 'My Advent Day by Day' booklets are now available at the back of church. Lovely resources to help us prepare for the arrival of Jesus this Christmas.

## CHRISTMAS CARDS

A variety of Christmas Cards are now available at the Parish Office.

## FROM DANIEL & RACHEL SYNOD DELEGATES

"We would like to thank everyone who attended for Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and prayers offered for the Synod. We are looking at some more ways to 'listen to your voices' and are open to hear your suggestions. We would love to hear any of your ideas. In the next few weeks, we will be meeting with the Clergy to hear from them. We are looking forward to completing a listening and art activity with year 6 children from Sacred Heart Primary school.

We invite parishioners to come along to join us at the Continental Breakfast on Sunday 19 December after morning masses to listen to your thoughts and share ideas for the Synod. We are also looking at ways to reach out to the wider community. Your help, ideas and suggestions are really valued & important so please share these with us via email. Thank you for your continued support."

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[purvis.rachel@gmail.com](mailto:purvis.rachel@gmail.com)



## Parish News

### SOLEMNITY

On Wednesday 8 December, the Solemnity of *The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary*, we will be celebrating Masses at 7.30 & 10am and at 6.30 & 8pm.

### OFFICE & RECEPTION HOURS

Please note that the Parish Office and Reception will be closed from Thursday 23 December. We will reopen again on Tuesday 4 January 2022.

### CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Christmas 2021 time booklets will be available from next week at the back of the church. Please refer to the booklets for Mass times.

### VACANCY

Our parish is looking for an Accounts Manager (PT 19 hrs/week), someone with good administrative skills to manage the day-to-day finances of this large parish and to assist with Health & Safety and Safeguarding procedures. For further details please download the job description and application form from the parish website <https://www.sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk>. Applications due by 13 December.

### FIRE WARDENS - VOLUNTEERS

We still need more Fire Wardens for all Masses, especially for the 6.30pm

Saturday Vigil Mass and 10am Mass.

If you are willing to volunteer for this essential duty, please give your name and contact details to the Parish Office. Thank you for your support!

### UPDATING THE SICK LIST

We would like to bring the list for prayers for the sick of our parish up to date and kindly ask parishioners to notify the parish office from next week if they want to have names mentioned in the newsletter & bidding prayers. Please bear in mind that individuals must explicitly agree for their names to be mentioned.

## Announcements

### EXPOSITION

Please note that there will be no morning Expositions on the following dates: evening of 8 December, 10, 15 & 17 December.

### PENITENTIAL SERVICE

A penitential service will be held in the church on Friday 17 December at 8pm.

### CRIB SERVICE

There will be a Crib Service on Christmas Eve (24 Dec at 3.30pm). The rehearsal is on Thursday 23 December from 10.40am - 12noon for children aged 4+ who would like to be involved. All older children from 8+ wishing to read, please contact Rachel Marshall at [rachel@marshallemail.net](mailto:rachel@marshallemail.net). Offers of help from parents are most welcome!

### CRIB APPEAL 2021

This year's Parish Crib Appeal will be in support of *Christian Care Merton*, more details to follow.

### NEW YEAR'S EVE

Parishioners are invited to celebrate Midnight Mass on Friday 31 December at 12pm (there will be Exposition & Benediction between 11-12pm).

## Parish Organisations

### SH ENVIRONMENT GROUP

Tree Planting: Join us after the 10am Mass on Sunday 12 December to plant new saplings in the parish orchard. A really fun way to get involved in making our parish as green as possible!

### BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT

Because of the clash with Christmas, our next drop-in session will be on the previous Saturday 18 December from 10.30-11.30am in the Parish Lounge. The Bereavement Team invites everyone

experiencing loss in their lives, no matter how long ago, to drop in for a coffee and a chat.

For more information please see our Parish Website or call 07702 339 000 between 9am -5pm.

## Social & Cultural

### PARISH CHRISTMAS LUNCH 2021

Invitation & volunteer forms for this year's Christmas lunch are available at the back of the church and at the Parish Office. Please fill in the form and return it to the Presbytery.

### CAROLS BY CANDLE-LIGHT

Join the Friars at Aylesford Priory on Thursday 10 Dec at 7.17pm for some traditional carol singing, accom-

panied by the Medway Towns Brass Band, and treat yourself to a hot drink & mince pies on sale afterwards in the 13th century Pilgrims' Hall, pre-booked tickets only (call 01622 717 272, adults £4.50, under 16 free). All most welcome! The Friars, Relic Chapel Aylesford ME20 7BX.

### J.S. BACH CHRISTMAS ORATORIO

Bach's music conjures up the joy and comfort of

Christmas very beautifully:

Bach's Christmas Oratorio will be performed on Saturday 18 December 7pm at St John's, Spencer Hill with the excellent Choir of the 21st Century, marvellous baroque players and wonderful soloists, including Colette Boushell, Rebecca Leggett, David de Winter, Michael Laferty; tickets: £20 (£15 concs), [www.wegotickets.com/event/530837/](http://www.wegotickets.com/event/530837/) or at the door.

### JESUIT REFUGEE SERVICE APPEAL

The Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) is an intl. Catholic organisation with a mission to accompany, serve and advocate for the rights of refugees and other forcibly displaced persons and is supporting destitute refugee friends through distributing food, toiletries and clothes and we urgently need donations of the following items: · Nappies (especially size 6, and also sizes 4, 5, 7 & 8), · Men's and women's trainers (in good condition), · Winter clothes for children and adults, · Travel bags with wheels

Please leave any donations at 1 Malcolm Rd Wimbledon SW19 4AS. For queries/to arrange collection of donations please contact Kathy Gogarty (07788432503) or visit [jrsuk.net](http://jrsuk.net).

## Exploring our Faith

### CATH. SPIRITUALITY NETWORK RETREAT

The CSN is holding an online Advent Day of Reflection on Sat 11 Dec from 10.30pm: it will draw into the mystery of God-with-us with David Tobin IC, Mary Nono, Shirley Taylor & Tomy Rockey CP. Reflecting on our passage through the weeks of Advent as we negotiate global events and personal experiences. To book contact [catholicspiritualitynetwork@gmail.com](mailto:catholicspiritualitynetwork@gmail.com) (invited donations £10-15).

### A DAY WITH MARY

*A Day with Mary*: Sat 11 Dec at St Mary's, Wellesley Rd,

Croydon CR0 2AR, 9.30am-5.30pm; celebrant & preacher Fr Patrick Feyisetan, Exposition & Procession of the Blessed Sacrament, Sermons on Our Lady by Fr Charles Soyombo, Meditations on the Passion of Our Lord ([adaywithmary.org](http://adaywithmary.org)).

### DIES DOMINI

To hold up the vital, indispensable and irreplaceable place of the Eucharist in our lives, the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales have produced a series of discussions/podcasts for Advent called 'Dies Domini - Keeping the Lord's Day Holy' which invite

us to reflect carefully on our own situation. Advent is a season of peace and reconciliation in which we prepare for the coming of Christ at Christmas. The Bishops have spoken recently about the importance of our Sunday encounter with Christ through the Eucharist at Mass. The Eucharist is the source and summit of our spiritual and pastoral life, an inspiration that comes from Pope St John Paul II's Apostolic Letter of the same name from 1998. For more info and to follow the podcasts please visit <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/the-day-of-the-lord/>.

### New to the Parish?

Please introduce yourself to a member of the Parish Team after Mass and register online at <https://sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk/> or by filling in a registration form, available at the back of the church.

### VACANCIES

Wimbledon College are looking to employ

- a PT Careers Leader, Closing date for applications is Monday 6 December.

- a Pastoral Support Assistant for their SEN Department, Closing date for applications is Thursday 9 December.

Further information for both posts is available on the website of the College ([www.wimbledoncollege.org.uk](http://www.wimbledoncollege.org.uk)), or please contact [hr@wimbledoncollege.org.uk](mailto:hr@wimbledoncollege.org.uk) or call 020 8879 9323.

### SACRED HEART CATH. PRIMARY SCHOOL

'Learning in Love': The parish primary school for ages 2-11. Reception and nursery places available for September 2022. To arrange a headteacher's tour, please call 020 8942 0215 or email [school@sacredheartmerton.sch.uk](mailto:school@sacredheartmerton.sch.uk). Ofsted: Good Provider; S48: Outstanding. Burlington Road, New Malden, London KT3 4ND.

### SAFEGUARDING

It is the policy of the Catholic Church in England and Wales to report all allegations of abuse to statutory authorities, regardless of whether the abuse occurred recently or in the past, or whether the accused person is living or deceased. If you are concerned about the welfare of a child or adult at risk, do not delay in contacting the police, using 999 if a child or adult is believed to be in immediate danger. Further safeguarding information can be found on the parish website.

### CELEBRANTS FOR THIS SUNDAY

6.30pm (Sat) Fr Matthew Donnelly  
8.00am Fr Joseph Donkor  
10.00am Fr Michael Barnes SJ  
12 noon Fr Matthew Donnelly  
5.00pm Canon John Clark  
8.00pm Fr Joseph Donkor

### MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

Sat 4 6.30pm Józef Zygmunt Sobiecki RIP  
Mon 6 7.30am Robert Friedrich RIP  
10.00am Patricia Wilbraham RIP  
6.30pm David Dues RIP  
Tue 7 10.00am Bertha D'Costa RIP  
6.30pm Fr John Fairhurst SJ RIP  
Wed 8 10.00am Funeral of Aimee Lydon RIP  
6.30pm Brigid Hurl RIP  
Thu 9 10.00am Zdzislaw Novak RIP  
6.30pm Maria Angelica Fernandes RIP  
Fri 10 7.30am Marie Phokeerdoss Ints  
10.00am Margaret Donegan  
6.30pm Francine & Hugh McHugh RIP  
Sat 11 10.00am Mr & Mrs Belmonte RIP

### HOSPITAL CONTACTS

If you or a member of your family are admitted to one of the local hospitals, do please let the hospital's Catholic chaplain know.

St George's Hospital: Fr Mark Higgins (020 8725 3069)

St Heliers and Epsom Hospital: Fr Philip Pak (020 8296 2000)

Kingston Hospital: Fr Tony Oleh (020 8546 7711)

### WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

**Those who have died recently:** Aimee Lydon, Althea Coleman and Jennifer Topley.

**Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Daniel Meehan, Timothy Meehan, Francine and Hugh McHugh, Sarah Cooper, Eileen Champ, Richard Milward, Bertha D'Costa, Tosca Kneen and Joan Desbruslais.

**The sick:** Emily Grey, Rita Aguiar, Maria Moniz, Judex Celine, Nadia Rahman-Pariagh, Samar Staussi, Colleen Bosci, Mary Cogan, Naomi Linkson, Pat Jenkins, Felicity Marshall, Alec Smith, Jacqui O'Connor, Ian Parr, Roberta (Bobby) Lydon, John Reynolds, John Alexander, Teresa Sobiecki, Teresa Smith, Ryan Lindsey, Laurie Cromwell, Robin Lathey, Nancy Drapper, Christopher Browne, Patricia Small, Simon Wood, Pamela Hannigan, and Andrew Tan.

*[Please advise the Parish Office when names can be removed.]*

Please note that for data protection reasons, individuals must explicitly agree for their names to be mentioned in our newsletter. Please let the Parish Office know in writing if either your name or the names of your relatives and friends should appear in our sick list.



### FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

**Mon 6 Dec** St Nicholas, Bishop  
**Tue 7 Dec** St Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor of the Church  
**Wed 8 Dec** Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Solemnity  
**Thu 9 Dec** St Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin  
**Fri 10 Dec** Our Lady of Loreto  
**Sat 11 Dec** St Damasus I, Pope

### EXPOSITION

Wednesdays & Fridays  
after the 10.00am Mass  
and from 5.25 - 6.25pm

### RECONCILIATION

Monday - Saturday:  
6.00 - 6.20pm  
and Saturday morning  
10.30 - 11.30am

### MUSIC AT THE 12 NOON MASS

Kyrie, Sanctus, Agnus Dei: *Mass in D Minor*, Antonio Lotti  
Offertory motet: *Confortamini et iam*  
Orlando de Lassus  
Communion motet: *Jerusalem surge*  
Giovanni Battista Martini

If you wish to include items in the weekly newsletter, please keep them brief, - if possible no more than 40 words - send them by Tuesday before publication to [newsletter@sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk) / [wimparish@sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk](mailto:wimparish@sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk)

### PARISH SERVICES

Parish Office/Reception Hours: 9am - 4pm (Mon-Fri)

Executive Assistant & Hall bookings: Thelma D'Costa (Mon - Fri 9.30am - 4pm) Caretaker: George McLennan

Parish Pastoral Council: [ppc@sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk](mailto:ppc@sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk) or contact Anne Waldron (Chair) at [anne@annewaldron.com](mailto:anne@annewaldron.com) or 07886 034 323

Baptism, Marriage, First Sacraments, Funerals contact the parish 020 8946 0305

Bereavement Support: one to one support or bereavement drop-in, please call 07702 339000 between 9am -5pm, more information please contact the co-ordinator by email [bereavement.group@sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk](mailto:bereavement.group@sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk)