

**6<sup>th</sup> December 2020: Second Sunday of Advent (B)**



**PREPARE A WAY FOR THE LORD!**

**W**e prepare each day of our lives for the coming of the Lord. We are called to straighten out those things in our behaviour and attitudes that prevent us from living holy and saintly lives. The Lord promises a new heaven and new earth, where he will reign for ever. This is the source of our joy.

Make his paths straight.

**MASS TIMES, INTENTIONS & FEAST DAYS**

Sat 05	<i>First Mass of Sunday</i>
18:30	<b>Charles Dean RIP</b>
Sun 06	<i>Second Sunday of Advent (B)</i>
09.30	<b>William, Annie &amp; Elizabeth Doran RIP</b>
11.00	<b>Rev. Igbinosa Raphael Enabulele RIP</b>
Mon 07	<i>St. Ambrose</i>
09.30	<b>Francis X Zahringe RIP</b>
Tue 08	<i>The Immaculate conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>
09.30	<b>Rose Zinder's Intention</b>
Wed 09	
09.30	<b>In honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b>
Thu 10	
09.30	<b>Marilyn Williams RIP</b>
Fri 11	
09.30	<b>Antoine Paraiso RIP</b>
Sat 12	
09.30	<b>People of the Parish</b>
	<i>First Mass of Sunday</i>
18:30	<b>Rita Fahy RIP</b>
Sun 13	<i>Third Sunday of Advent (B)</i>
09.30	<b>Philip Snr, Philip Jnr, Jon Kiernan RIP</b>
11.00	<b>Rachael Matthews RIP</b>

**ARCHBISHOP JOHN'S MESSAGE TO THE PRIESTS**

"I hope and pray that this final Friday message of this second lockdown finds you well and in good spirits. We are on the cusp of Advent, the great season of joyful expectation. We enter this time of more considered attentiveness to the Lord's coming among us. In different ways, we have probably all experienced something of the weariness, the sleepiness, the monotony and humdrum reality of lockdown. The Lord Jesus, however, calls us to 'awake,' to find a new beginning, a new appreciation of what is possible for those who, with Our Blessed Lady, say 'Let it be done to me according to your will.' This is a powerful message for these days as we prepare to 'awaken' again to the public celebration of Mass with our people on our Advent journey of hope.

The luminous and life-giving presence of God in Christ sits at the very heart of Advent. Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI notes that even the word Advent, a translation of the Greek Parousia, means 'presence,' or perhaps more accurately, 'the beginning of a presence,' an 'arrival.' [i] He recalls that in antiquity 'advent' "was a technical term for the presence of a king or a ruler and also of the god being worshipped, who bestows upon his devotees the time of his Parousia. 'Advent' then means the presence begun – the presence of God himself."

**SECOND COLLECTIONS**

This Week: Refurbishing Pew Kneelers      Next Week: Peter Pence

**OFFERTORY LAST WEEK**

Gift-Aided: £0      Non Gift-Aided: £0  
 Tap to Donate (GA): £0      Tap to Donate (Non GA): £5  
 Standing Orders: £550

**SECOND COLLECTION LAST WEEK (SOUND SYSTEM)**

Gift-Aided: £0      Non Gift-Aided: £0  
 Tap to Donate (GA): £10      Tap to Donate (Non GA): £0

**MASS COUNT LAST WEEK**

Saturday: 6:30 pm - 0      Sunday: 9.30 am - 0, 11 am - 0

**WAYS YOU CAN DONATE**

**Gift Aid** Tax payers, please sign up. We receive an extra 25p for every £1 you donate. Visit [www.olspn.church](http://www.olspn.church) for details.

**Tap to Donate** Please use the Card Payment Machine in Church Foyer or donate via our website: [www.olspn.church](http://www.olspn.church)

**Standing Order** A/c Name: **RCAS St. Philip Neri Sydenham**  
 Sort Code: **60-21-12**      A/c No: **37298445**

**Cheques** Payable to: **RCAS St. Philip Neri Sydenham**

**BISHOP PAT RETIRES**

On November 28th 2020, Pope Francis accepted Bishop Patrick Lynch's request to retire slightly early on health grounds. Thankfully, Bishop Pat's health is stable and he will be retiring in the Archdiocese.

We offer Bishop Pat our sincere thanks and love as he moves into a new expression and pace of ministry. We very much look forward to him continuing to be part of the life of the Archdiocese and assure him of our heartfelt prayers and support.

**CONTACT POINTS**

Treasurer	David Simpson <a href="mailto:sydenhamtreasurer@rcaos.org.uk">sydenhamtreasurer@rcaos.org.uk</a>
Secretary	Steve Pearce (9 am-12 noon, Mon-Fri) 0208 778 9460 or <a href="mailto:sydenham@rcaos.org.uk">sydenham@rcaos.org.uk</a>
Catholic Club	Margaret Doherty - 07930 889632
Hall Enquiries	Praetorium (Rita / Conor) - 01372 427651

## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

O people of Sion, behold,  
the Lord will come to save the nations,  
and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard  
in the joy of your heart.

## GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you,  
we bless you,  
we adore you,  
we glorify you,  
we give you thanks for your great glory,  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us;  
you take away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,  
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.

## FIRST READING – Isaiah 40: 1-5, 9-11

‘Console my people, console them’ says your God.  
‘Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her  
that her time of service is ended,  
that her sin is atoned for,  
that she has received from the hand of the Lord  
double punishment for all her crimes.’

A voice cries, ‘Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord.  
Make a straight highway for our God across the desert.  
Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low.  
Let every cliff become a plain,  
and the ridges a valley;  
then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed  
and all mankind shall see it;  
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.’

Go up on a high mountain,  
joyful messenger to Zion.  
Shout with a loud voice,  
joyful messenger to Jerusalem.  
Shout without fear,  
say to the towns of Judah,  
‘Here is your God.’

Here is the Lord coming with power,  
his arm subduing all things to him.  
The prize of his victory is with him,  
his trophies all go before him.  
He is like a shepherd feeding his flock,  
gathering lambs in his arms,  
holding them against his breast  
and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM - Psalm 84

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

## SECOND READING – 2 Peter 3: 8-14

There is one thing, my friends, that you must never forget: that with  
the Lord, ‘a day’ can mean a thousand years, and a thousand years is  
like a day. The Lord is not being slow to carry out his promises, as  
anybody else might be called slow; but he is being patient with you

all, wanting nobody to be lost and everybody to be brought to  
change his ways. The Day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then  
with a roar the sky will vanish, the elements will catch fire and fall  
apart, the earth and all that it contains will be burnt up.

Since everything is coming to an end like this, you should be living  
holy and saintly lives while you wait and long for the Day of God to  
come, when the sky will dissolve in flames and the elements melt in  
the heat. What we are waiting for is what he promised: the new  
heavens and new earth, the place where righteousness will be at  
home. So then, my friends, while you are waiting, do your best to  
live lives without spot or stain so that he will find you at peace.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare a way for the Lord,  
make his paths straight,  
and all mankind shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia!

## GOSPEL – Mark 1: 1-8

The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God.  
It is written in the book of the prophet Isaiah:

Look, I am going to send my messenger before you;  
he will prepare your way.

A voice cries in the wilderness:

Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight.

And so it was that John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness,  
proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. All  
Judaea and all the people of Jerusalem made their way to him, and  
as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their  
sins. John wore a garment of camel-skin, and he lived on locusts  
and wild honey. In the course of his preaching he said, ‘Someone is  
following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am  
not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have  
baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.’

The Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## PROFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in one God,  
the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Only Begotten Son of God,  
born of the Father before all ages.  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us men and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,  
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,  
he suffered death and was buried,  
and rose again on the third day  
in accordance with the Scriptures.  
He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead  
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.  
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins  
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.