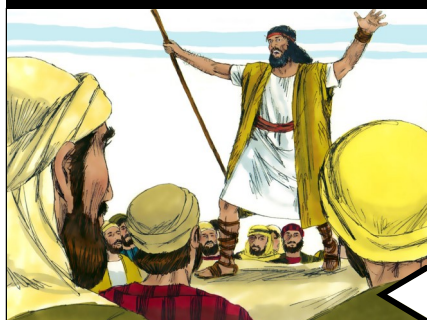


13th December 2020: Third Sunday of Advent (B)



BE HAPPY AT ALL TIMES!

Happiness is our birthright as Christians. We give thanks to God for the Holy Spirit who lives in us and makes us aware of our wonderful mission to spread the Good News of redemption. The Spirit brings us deep peace, because the God who called us will not fail us.

There stands among you, unknown to you, the one who is coming after me.

MASS TIMES, INTENTIONS & FEAST DAYS

| | |
|--------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sat 12 | <i>First Mass of Sunday</i> |
| 18:30 | Rita Fahy RIP |
| Sun 13 | <i>Third Sunday of Advent (B)</i> |
| 09.30 | Philip Snr, Philip Jnr, Jon Kiernan RIP |
| 11.00 | Rachael Matthews RIP |
| Mon 14 | <i>St. John of the Cross</i> |
| 09.30 | Wellbeing of Mama Bekoin Badjo Lea & her family |
| Tue 15 | |
| 09.30 | The deceased of the Connolly & Lee Families RIP |
| Wed 16 | |
| 09.30 | Ben Pratt RIP |
| Thu 17 | |
| 09.30 | Jeff Rickford RIP |
| Fri 18 | |
| 09.30 | Intention of the Rickford family |
| Sat 19 | |
| 09.30 | People of the Parish |
| | <i>First Mass of Sunday</i> |
| 18:30 | Martin & Nora Connolly RIP |
| Sun 20 | <i>Fourth Sunday of Advent (B)</i> |
| 09.30 | Intention of the Walsh family |
| 11.00 | Rita Fahy RIP |

Planning for the Celebration of Christmas

Although the 'obligation' to attend Mass on Sundays and Holydays of Obligation will remain suspended for the time being, many individuals and families will want to go to Mass at Christmas.

This year the Church regards each day in an Octave as if it were the solemnity itself, and so I encourage members of our parish to make full use of the Christmas Octave and, if it is not possible to attend Mass on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day this year, to do so during the Christmas Octave.

What we are saying is that each of the days from 25th December until the 1st January is 'Christmas Day', and so we may come and celebrate the mystery of Christmas at any of the Octave Day Masses with the same sense of joy and solemnity.

Let us now plan ahead and decide when we would like to attend the Christmas Mass. If we would like to attend on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, then we need to make a booking for that now. But if we intend to attend on any other day during the Octave we do not need to do anything.

Christmas Flowers in the Church

It is the custom of this parish to donate money for the flowers and decorations of the Church at Christmas in memory of the 'Faithful Departed'. The Mass on Sunday 31st January 2021 at 11.00am will be offered for them. Please mark your envelope 'Christmas Flowers' – writing name (s) in block capitals. Thank you.

200 Club

The winner of the November £75 prize is Cecilia Aidoo (31). Congratulations. The 2019/2020 year of the Club has been extended into next year because of the lockdowns. Normally we would be asking you to renew in November. So if you bought a number in 2019 be assured that it is still in the draw and we will try our best to make it a winner!

SECOND COLLECTIONS

This Week: Peter Pence Next Week: Apostleship of the Sea

OFFERTORY LAST WEEK

Gift-Aided: £303 Non Gift-Aided: £269
 Tap to Donate (GA): £32 Tap to Donate (Non GA): £10
 Standing Orders: £550

SECOND COLLECTION LAST WEEK (PEW KNEELERS)

Gift-Aided: £125 Non Gift-Aided: £210
 Tap to Donate (GA): £0 Tap to Donate (Non GA): £0

MASS COUNT LAST WEEK

Saturday: 6:30 pm - 17 Sunday: 9.30 am - 57, 11 am - 57

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 for details.

Tap to Donate Please use the Card Payment Machine in Church Foyer or donate via our website: 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**

CONTACT POINTS

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

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice.
Indeed, the Lord is near.

FIRST READING – Isaiah 61: 1-2, 10-11

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me,
for the Lord has anointed me.
He has sent me to bring good news to the poor,
to bind up hearts that are broken;

to proclaim liberty to captives,
freedom to those in prison;
to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord.

“I exult for joy in the Lord,
my soul rejoices in my God,
for he has clothed me in the garments of salvation,
he has wrapped me in the cloak of integrity,
like a bridegroom wearing his wreath,
like a bride adorned in her jewels.”

“For as the earth makes fresh things grow,
as a garden makes seeds spring up,
so will the Lord make both integrity and praise
spring up in the sight of the nations.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM - Luke 1

R. My soul rejoices in my God.

SECOND READING – 1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24

Be happy at all times; pray constantly; and for all things
give thanks to God, because this is what God expects
you to do in Christ Jesus.

Never try to suppress the Spirit or treat the gift of
prophecy with contempt; think before you do anything -
hold on to what is good and avoid every form of evil.

May the God of peace make you perfect and holy; and
may you all be kept safe and blameless, spirit, soul and
body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has
called you and he will not fail you.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me.
He has sent me to bring good news to the poor.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL – John 1: 6-8, 19-28

A man came, sent by God.

His name was John.

He came as a witness,
as a witness to speak for the light,
so that everyone might believe through him.
He was not the light,
only a witness to speak for the light.

This is how John appeared as a witness. When the
Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask
him, “Who are you?” he not only declared, but declared
quite openly, “I am not the Christ.” “Well then,” they

asked “are you Elijah?” “I am not” he said. “Are you the
Prophet?” He answered, “No.” So they said to him,
“Who are you? We must take back an answer to those
who sent us. What have you to say about yourself?” So
John said, “I am, as Isaiah prophesied:

a voice that cries in the wilderness:

Make a straight way for the Lord.”

Now these men had been sent by the Pharisees, and
they put this further question to him, “Why are you
baptising if you are not the Christ, and not Elijah, and
not the prophet?” John replied, “I baptise with water;
but there stands among you - unknown to you - the
one who is coming after me; and I am not fit to undo
his sandal strap.” This happened at Bethany, on the far
side of the Jordan, where John was baptising.

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.