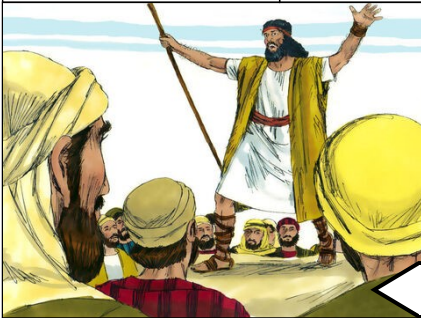


05th December 2021: SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (C)

Mass Book Page:
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1st Reading: Baruch 5: 1-9
2nd Reading: Philippians 1: 4-6, 8-11

Gospel: Luke 3: 1-6



CHRIST IS THE JOY WE AWAIT

God will bring to completion the work he begun in us. Our love for one another will help us to be blameless when Christ comes again. Our lives on earth are a preparation for the day when the Lord comes, and so we can be full of joy and expectancy.

All mankind shall see the salvation of God.

The Holy Father's Prayer Intention - For volunteer not-for-profit organisations

We pray that volunteer non-profit organisations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation.

Mass Times, Intentions & Feast Days

Sat 04 18:30	<i>First Mass of Sunday</i> Charles Dean RIP
Sun 05 09.30	✠ SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (C) Philip Senior, Philip Junior, and Jan Kiernan RIP
11.00	Rita Fahy and Lesley Jane RIP
Mon 06 09.30	Richard Marbaix RIP Rosary
Tue 07 09.30	<i>Saint Ambrose</i> Francis X Zahringe RIP Rosary
Wed 08 09.30	<i>THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY</i> Rose Zinder's intention Rosary
Thu 09 09:30	In Honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary Rosary
Fri 10 09.30	Mary O'Sullivan RIP Exposition
Sat 11 09.30 18:30	People of the Parish <i>First Mass of Sunday</i> Julia McDonagh RIP
Sun 12 09.30 11.00	✠ THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (C) Doffou Nobert Ede RIP Rachael Matthews RIP

SHARING WORD OF GOD TODAY

On this the second Sunday of Advent, we hear the lonely voice of John the Baptist: "Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight." This is a call to repentance. Sadly, we do not always walk in God's way. In our hardness of heart and stubbornness of will, we sometimes prefer the crooked way to the straight way, and our own way to God's way.

First Reading (Baruch 5:1-9). The prophet Baruch delivers a comforting message to Jerusalem. Her sorrows are ended and her children will be restored to her from exile. God will level a highway to facilitate their return, and bring about a great restoration. Even through the actual return from exile fell far short of the glowing picture painted here, it did point the way to the coming of the Messiah. The reading leads to the gospel where we meet John the Baptist.

Second Reading (Philippians 1:3-6, 8-11). This second reading deals with the second coming of Christ. In his love for his fellow Christians, Paul prays that their love for each other may increase more and more. This will help them to become pure and blameless, and thus prepare them for the coming of the Lord. And Paul is quite certain that, "the one who began this good work in you will see that it its finished when the Day of Christ Jesus comes."

Gospel (Lk 3:1-6). To underline the universality of salvation, Luke set the event within the framework of world history. "In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's reign, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of the lands of Ituraea and Trachonitis, Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the pontificate of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah, in the wilderness." In the manner of an Old Testament prophet, John undertakes to prepare the people for the coming of the Saviour by calling them to repentance.

CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME FOR THE YEAR 2022

Applications are invited from all parents with children ready to receive the sacrament of confirmation. Application forms will be sent out by email to those who ask for them. We hope to begin the programme of preparing children for confirmation in January 2022.

PRINTING ERROR

Please note there was a printing error in the Christmas Mass Card last week. The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph should read:

Saturday 25th, 18:30 & Sunday 26th, 09.30 & 11.00

Revised Christmas Mass cards are available at the back of Church.

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 30th January at 9.30am will be offered for them. Please mark your envelope 'Christmas Flowers' – writing name(s) in block capitals - and pop it in through the presbytery letterbox. Thank you.

CHURCH DECORATION FOR CHRISTMAS

We will be decorating the Church for Christmas on Thursday 23 December at 7 pm. All are welcome to join in.

RIGHT TO LIFE UK

The abortion lobby are now running a large campaign in the media to put pressure on the Government to make temporary 'DIY' abortion schemes permanent before the end of the year. It is therefore vital that as many MPs as possible write to the Health Secretary, Sajid Javid, asking the Government to end these dangerous 'DIY' abortion schemes.

Right To Life UK has launched an easy-to-use tool on its website today which makes it easy for you to send an email to your MP asking them to write to Sajid Javid. Please visit www.righttolife.org.uk/endDIY to contact your MP now. It only takes 30 seconds.

Please join us in this prayer:

"We pray for an end to abortion. We pray especially that the Government would see the harm caused by the temporary 'DIY' abortion scheme, and that efforts to end this practice would be successful. Lord hear us".

LAST WEEK

Offertory Gift Aided **£188** • Not Gift Aided **£322**

2nd Collection KSC Charities: **£292**

Mass Count Sat 18:30 (33) • Sun 09.30 (106), 11.00 (70)

THIS WEEK 2nd Collection: **Pew Kneelers**

NEXT WEEK 2nd Collection: **Pew Kneelers**

DONATING

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 Payment Machine in Church Foyer or www.olspn.church

Standing Order Please contact the parish house for details.

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

CONTACTS

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