

## 3<sup>rd</sup> DECEMBER 2023: FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B)

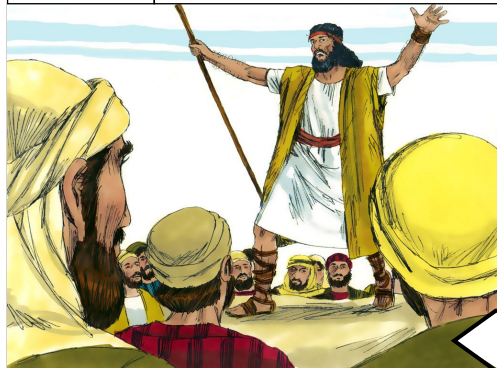
Mass book: p82 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Isaiah 63: 16-17; 64: 1, 3-8 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 1 Corinthians 1: 3-9 Gospel: Mark 13: 33-37

11am Mass  
Hymns

Entrance: 984 Gospel Accl.<sup>n</sup>: 72  
Gloria: 489 Communion: 989

Offertory: 881 & 88  
Post-Communion: 111

Euch.<sup>c</sup> Prayer: 490  
Recessional: 84



### Prepare a way for the Lord!

We 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.

### The Holy Father's Prayer Intention - For person with disabilities

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

#### Mass Times, Intentions & Feast Days

Sat 02 18:30	First Mass of Sunday Susan Feore RIP
Sun 03 09.30 11.00	✠ <b>FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B)</b> Thomas Oliver Mitchell RIP Birthday Blessings - Nell Higgins
Mon 04 09.30	Antoine Paraiso RIP Rosary
Tue 05 09.30	Francis Zahringe RIP Rosary
Wed 06 09.30	Richard Marbaix RIP Rosary
Thu 07 09.30	Saint Ambrose Hilary Barry RIP Rosary
Fri 08 09.30	<b>THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY</b> In Honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary Exposition
<b>20:00</b>	Mass
Sat 09 09.30 18:30	Birthday Blessings - Mercy Afrifa First Mass of Sunday Charles Dean RIP
Sun 10 09.30 11.00	✠ <b>SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B)</b> People of the Parish Rose Zinder's Intention

#### Prayer Requests

If you request for yourself or an immediate family member to be listed in the Parish Newsletter, it will run for a month per request. Please send an email to: [regisrubaya@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:regisrubaya@rcaos.org.uk).

#### Advent

We begin another Advent season of watching and waiting. For some it is a time of delight, waiting eagerly for Christmas, for anticipated gifts, for time off from work and school, and for happy gatherings of family and friends. For others it is a dreaded time, as they approach the first holiday without a loved one or worry about how they will pay for the gifts and meals they want to provide. Whatever our situation the scripture readings during advent help us to adopt a stance of faithful watching and waiting. It is a time we seek to know the ways of Emmanuel, "God with us."

#### Sharing the Word

##### First Reading

This is a lament over the misfortunes that have befallen God's people. Isaiah entreats God to come and save his people. He recalls God's goodness and candidly acknowledges the ingratitude and sinfulness of his people. Only God can deliver the people from their plight.

##### Second Reading

Paul gives thanks for the many charismatic gifts God has bestowed on the Corinthians. He is confident that as

they wait for Christ's coming in glory, God will keep them steadfast in bearing witness to him.

### Gospel

Today's Gospel urges us to stay awake at our appointed task, because we do not know the hour when Jesus will return. We must live in such a way as to be always ready to meet the Lord. For the faithful, the Lord's coming is not something to fear, it is something to look forward to because the Lord will come as redeemer and not as judge.

### Church Heating

Please note our church boilers have developed a fault requiring parts.

This is likely to take a week to effect a repair, so please dress warmly for Mass, as there is no heating.

### Sick and Housebound

If your neighbour or anyone you know is unable to attend mass because they are in poor health, please let Fr Regis know and he will take them Holy Communion.

### Children's Books Appeal

We would like to restart the practice of providing suitable religious books for young children to look at and enjoy during Mass.

This is an appeal to parishioners to donate books which can be left at the back of the church for children to choose from, when they come to Mass.

If each family brought just one book this would provide a large enough selection.

Thank you.

### Foodbank Appeal

The SVP and Knights of St Columba are appealing for food items for the Lewisham Foodbank on the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> of December 2023.

#### Urgently needed items (No Pork Please)

UHT Milk (Semi-skimmed or Full Fat ONLY), Non-Dairy Milk, Long-Life Juice, Cereal, Tinned Tomatoes, Tinned Sweetcorn, Tinned Pulses, Tinned Meat, Halal Canned Meat, Tinned Fish, Tinned Fruit, Tinned Rice Pudding, Biscuits, Rice, Cooking Oil, Pasta Sauce, Tea Bags, Vegetarian Meals (Non-Perishable), Shower Gel, Toilet Rolls, Sanitary Towels (No Tampons) Nappies, Baby Wipes, Washing Up Liquid, Strong Carrier Bags.

### 2023 Christmas Hamper Service

We are participating in this LB Bromley event, to deliver hampers to those in need. We are appealing to parishioners for drivers, and people to accompany the drivers, to deliver the hampers on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December, after 11am Mass. There will only be a few hampers per driver.

### Christmas Flowers

It is customary in this parish to make donations for the flowers and decorations for the Church at Christmas in memory of the 'faithful departed'.

The 11am Mass on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> January is dedicated to them. Please mark your envelope "Christmas Flowers", and write the name (s) of those being remembered in block capitals. Please post your envelope at the parish house.

Last Week

*Offertory:* Gift Aided: £155, Not Gift Aided: £320

*Mass Count:* Sat (52), Sun 09.30 (101), 11.00 (76)

Second Collection

*Last week: Youth Sunday (£290)*

*This week: Church Heating Fund*

*Next Week: Church Heating Fund*

Donate

*Gift Aid:* Tax payers, please sign up, so we can claim 25p for every £1 donated. Email Treasurer for details.

*Card:* Card Machine in Church Foyer or [www.olspn.church](http://www.olspn.church)

*Standing Order:* Email Treasurer for details.

*Cheque:* Payable to 'RCAS Sydenham'

Contact

*David Simpson*

Treasurer: [sydenhamtreasurer@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:sydenhamtreasurer@rcaos.org.uk)

*Steven Pearce*

Secretary: weekdays 9<sup>am</sup>-12<sup>noon</sup>

[sydenham@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:sydenham@rcaos.org.uk)

*Margaret Doherty*

Catholic Club: 07930 889632