

The Parish of St Dunstan and St Jude

Second Sunday in Advent

Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. Philip Harrop
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Sunday 5th December 2021
www.stdunstanandstjude.co.uk

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|-----------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|
| Sat 4 th | <i>Advent Feria</i> | 11.00am | Holy Mass | John and Mary Ellen Mannion (RIP Anni.) Pro Populo |
| | | 11.30am-1.00pm | <i>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament followed by First Saturday Devotions</i> | |
| | | 11.30am-12.30pm 4.45-5.15pm | Confessions Confessions | |
| | | 5.30pm | Vigil Mass | Joe Dolan (RIP) |
| Sun 5 th | SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT | 9.15am (<i>St Jude's</i>) | Holy Mass | Michael Dunleavy (RIP) |
| | | 10.30am | Holy Mass | Mary Kenny (RIP) |
| | | 12noon | Holy Mass | Michael and Catherine Sugrue (RIP) |
| | | 6.30pm | Holy Mass | Tom Brady |
| Mon 6 th | <i>Advent Feria</i> | 9.30am | Holy Mass | Catherine Sugrue (RIP) |
| | | 6.00pm | <i>Vigil and Reception for</i> | Margaret Cox (RIP) |
| Tues 7 th | <i>St Ambrose</i> | 10.00am (<i>St Jude's</i>) | Holy Mass | Francis Gorman (RIP) |
| | | 10.00am | Requiem Mass | Margaret Cox (RIP) |
| | | 7.00pm | Holy Mass | Fr Tomas Zuna (ints.) |
| Wed 8 th | SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY | 9.30am | Holy Mass | Pye (Sp. Ints.) Eileen Bloomer (RIP) |
| Thurs 9 th | <i>Rorate Caeli</i> | 6.45am | Holy Mass | Elizabeth Patton (Ints) |
| | <i>Advent Feria</i> | 7.00pm | Holy Mass | Mary Masterson (RIP) |
| Fri 10 th | <i>Advent Feria</i> | 9.30am | Holy Mass | Joan Johnson |
| | | 7.00pm | Holy Mass | Martha Sheridan (RIP) |
| Sat 11 th | <i>Advent Feria</i> | 11.00am | Holy Mass | Leonard Tolan (RIP) Pro Populo |
| | | 11.30am-1.00pm | <i>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</i> | |
| | | 11.30am-12.30pm 4.45-5.15pm | Confessions Confessions | |
| | | 5.30pm | Vigil Mass | Al and Maura Coughlan and Eileen Dison |
| Sun 12 th | THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT | 9.15am (<i>St Jude's</i>) | Holy Mass | Tom Brosnan RIP (anni.) |
| | | 10.30am | Holy Mass | Loughlin and May McManus |
| | | 12 noon | Holy Mass | Margaret and Thomas McCarthy |
| | | 6.30pm | Holy Mass | Maria Cecilia Duggay |

CHRISTMAS MASSES

CHRISTMAS EVE

| | | |
|----------|--------------|--------------------------------------|
| 5.00pm | St Dunstan's | Vigil Mass of Christmas |
| 6.00pm | St Jude's | Vigil Mass of Christmas |
| 7.00pm | St Dunstan's | Vigil Mass of Christmas |
| Midnight | St Dunstan's | Solemn First Mass of Christmas Night |

CHRISTMAS DAY

| | | |
|---------|--------------|-----------------------------|
| 9.00am | St Dunstan's | Mass of the Dawn (said) |
| 10.00am | St Jude's | Mass of the Day with Carols |
| 11.00am | St Dunstan's | Sung Mass |

Confessions During Advent. In readying ourselves for the final coming of the Lord, the Church encourages us to make our Confession during the Advent season. Do give some thought to going to Confession during Advent – especially if it has been some time since you last came. After all, Confession is a celebration of God's mercy. As well as the usual time on Saturday morning a priest will be available for confession on Fridays from 6pm-7.30pm. This will be a good opportunity for those who find Saturdays difficult.

GUIDANCE FOR MASS

As the Covid virus is still circulating in our community the diocese is recommending continuing with **social distance, face coverings, and to sanitise our hands** as we enter and leave church.

Although a number of parishes have lifted the social distancing, we have it kept this in place. The spacing markings have now been removed from St Dunstan's, but please consider other people and leave some space from the person next to you. Please also only sit on the pews with the green ticks on.

Receiving Holy Communion. There have been increasing occasions where people have walked away with the sacred host without consuming it. So:

- 1) **It is very important for the respect we ought to give to the most holy sacrament, that if you do receive the holy eucharist in the hand that you consume the host immediately before stepping away from the priest. Please also remove your face covering from your mouth immediately before so that you can receive.**

It is also respectful to leave a reasonable space before the person in front of you. There's no rush, and we won't run out of the Blessed Sacrament

Christmas Masses: There will be a ticket system in place for Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day again this year. It is not so much about restricting numbers, but with the current climate and the possibility of a winter spike, a ticket system will help us to spread people across the Masses.

Free tickets will be available before and after all Masses this weekend. Two of our stewards will be in the new entrance at St Dunstan's and two stewards will be in the porch area at St Jude's where you can collect tickets. They will be in attendance next weekend too. **Please collect tickets this weekend or next!** One person will be dealing with Christmas Eve, and another Christmas Day.

Please read the following so that you are clear in your mind.

-There will be a different ticket for each of the Masses, so a Midnight Mass ticket will not get you into Christmas day at 11am. Obvious we know – but worth saying!

- You will only be able to get tickets for Masses at St Dunstan's from St Dunstan's and tickets for St Jude's from St Jude's.

-There will an extra Mass at St Dunstan's on Christmas Eve. *Please understand that it might not always be possible to attend the Mass at your preferred time.*

-Initially, until we are sure of demand, there will be a limit of one Christmas Mass per person/family.

-You can collect tickets for those who will be sat with you in church at Mass, but not for other people/groups. They will need to come themselves.

- You will need to be seated in church 20 minutes before Mass begins. Any surplus places can then be made available. If you come late, then your seats may well have been taken!

- If you have taken tickets for a Mass and then can't go, please return to the presbytery so that they can be redistributed to those without.

- If you have any symptoms of COVID19 please do not attend Mass.

Wednesday is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. We will welcome Fr Michael Barwick as the celebrant of the Mass at 9.30am. Fr Michael was with us as a deacon last year during his final year at Oscott. He was ordained to the priesthood last summer in Brentwood Cathedral, and it will be good to welcome him back for this Mass of thanksgiving.

Choir for the Christmas Masses. For anyone who is interested in gathering together as we did recently for the consecration of the altar then there will be a rehearsal after the evening Masses (approximately 7.30pm) this Friday (10th) and the following Friday (17th). It is hoped to have a group to lead the singing at Midnight Mass and Christmas morning at 11am.

SVP Christmas Appeal. Our heartfelt thanks to you all for the astonishingly generous response to our appeal last weekend. The final total amounted to an extraordinary £2,797.07. As a result, we should have plenty to spend on "Christmas Dinners in a Bag" and enough reserves to enable us to help people in need in other ways during the festive season and beyond.

Cake Sale at St Jude's for APF. Thank you to everybody who supported this. £81.00 was raised.

Christmas Together King's Heath. Are you on your own for Christmas? If so, there is a warm welcome to join others for Christmas Dinner at New Life Baptist Church, King's Heath (opposite Asda). If you aren't able to get there, a Christmas dinner could be delivered. A contribution of £5 is requested to help with costs. To book a place, please ring 0788 255 5146 or email christmastgetherkh@gmail.com

Jam is back! Ewa van Lierop's delicious jams, marmalades and chutneys will be on sale today after the 10.30am and 12 noon Masses today. All proceeds will go to the Jane Smith Education Fund, currently helping Christian education in South Sudan.

Fundraising at St Jude's. There will be tombola starting this weekend and then every Sunday up to Christmas. If you have anything you would like to donate, such as an unused present, a box of chocolates or a bottle of alcohol, please bring them to church and leave them in the sacristy at St Jude's.

We pray for those who have died recently: Kathleen Withers, Edna Francis, Anne Courbet, Christina Reagan, Geraldine McGee, William Reid, Margaret Cox, Eugene McGlynn, Margaret Quinn, and John Lyden.

Holy Communion to the sick and housebound. If you, or someone you know, is sick or can't leave the house and would like Holy Communion, would you let one of the priests know, or email or call the presbytery.

We pray for those who are being Baptised today: Evelyn and Francis Birch at St Dunstan's.

The next Baptism Preparation Meeting is this Tuesday after evening Mass at 7.45pm in St Dunstan's Church. If you would like to come to this meeting, please contact the Parish office and leave your name and phone number.

Prayer Group in the Conference Room every Sunday at 7.30pm. All welcome.

Lectio Divina in the Conference Room after morning Mass every Monday.

This Thursday is the next of the Rorate Caeli Masses at 6.45am. There are some pictures of last Thursday's Mass on the website for those who were unable to be there.

WINDOW The parish magazine will be out next weekend priced £1. Lots of news and articles about parish events.

Sycamore Course. For those who are curious about our faith or who have perhaps not had much chance to learn about our faith. This Thursday, at 7:45pm, after the evening Mass.

Little Lambs: Do you have pre-school aged children and are free on a Friday morning? Come and join us at Little Lambs. A chance for a coffee and chat with other parents, grandparents and carers whilst the children play in a COVID safe environment. Come and join us in the Conference Room from 10.15am to 12.15pm this Friday.

Live More Simply this Advent and Christmas. All are welcome to join the next online meeting of the Diocesan Climate Group on Tuesday 14 December at 7pm via Zoom. Inspired by COP26 even more parishes and schools across the Archdiocese have signed up to CAFOD's livesimply award, as we look to reduce our carbon footprints. In this webinar we will ask what decarbonisation actually means and how parishes can support a carbon reduction. Please register here: www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/Event/living-more-simply-this-advent-and-christmas

The Parish Office will be open from 10am to 12.30pm on Mondays and from 9am to 4pm Tuesday to Friday each week. In order to minimise the number of people in the office and for the safety of those at work, until further notice we ask you to observe the following:

If you need to see the Parish Administrator or one of the Priests: we would ask that you phone or email in advance, so that an appointment can be arranged at a convenient time for both. You will not be invited in the office unless you have a pre-arranged appointment.

If you have an enquiry: please phone or email first to see if it can be sorted in this way.

For those wishing to book Mass intentions: please bring a sealed envelope clearly labelled with the intention details (person's name, required date etc) and include the offering inside. This can then be handed in at the office and if requested a Mass card be signed and given. You do not need an appointment for this.

COLLECTIONS

| | St Dunstan's | St Jude's |
|--------------------------|--------------|-----------|
| Gift Aid | £471.00 | £119.00 |
| Non-Gift Aid | £606.54 | £113.97 |
| November Standing Orders | £1,219.00 | £302.00 |
| November Contactless | £213.38 | |

There will be a second collection this weekend for **Poor Parishes.**

Standing Orders are a great way to make regular donations. If you would like a standing order form for either church, please contact the Parish office.

READINGS FOR SUNDAY MASS

FIRST READING

Baruch 5:1-9

Jerusalem, take off your dress of sorrow and distress, put on the beauty of the glory of God for ever, wrap the cloak of the integrity of God around you, put the diadem of the glory of the Eternal on your head: since God means to show your splendour to every nation under heaven, since the name God gives you for ever will be, 'Peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness.' Arise, Jerusalem, stand on the heights and turn your eyes to the east: see your sons reassembled from west and east at the command of the Holy One, jubilant that God has remembered them. Though they left you on foot, with enemies for an escort, now God brings them back to you like royal princes carried back in glory. For God has decreed the flattening of each high mountain, of the everlasting hills, the filling of the valleys to make the ground level so that Israel can walk in safety under the glory of God. And the forests and every fragrant tree will provide shade for Israel at the command of God; for God will guide Israel in joy by the light of his glory with his mercy and integrity for escort.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**R: What marvels the Lord worked for us!
Indeed we were glad.**

When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage
it seemed like a dream.
Then our mouth filled with laughter,
on our lips there were songs. **R.**

The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels the
Lord worked for them!'
What marvels the Lord worked for us!
Indeed we were glad. **R.**

Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage
as streams in dry land.
Those who are sowing in tears
will sing when they reap. **R.**

They go out, they go out, full of tears
carrying seed for the sowing:
they come back, they come back, full of song,
carrying their sheaves. **R.**

SECOND READING

Philippians 1:4-6,8-1

Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy, remembering how you have helped to spread the Good News from the day you first heard it right up to the present. I am quite certain that the One who began this good work in you will see that it is finished when the Day of Christ Jesus comes; and God knows how much I miss you all, loving you as Christ Jesus loves you. My prayer is that your love for each other may increase more and more and never stop improving your knowledge and deepening your perception so that you can always recognise what is best. This will help you to become pure and blameless, and prepare you for the Day of Christ,

when you will reach the perfect goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us for the glory and praise of God.

Finally, brothers, we urge you and appeal to you in the Lord Jesus to make more and more progress in the kind of life that you are meant to live: the life that God wants, as you learnt from us, and as you are already living it. You have not forgotten the instructions we gave you on the authority of the Lord Jesus.

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 READING

Luke 3:1-6

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. He went through the whole Jordan district proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the sayings of the prophet Isaiah:

A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley will be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, winding ways will be straightened and rough roads made smooth. And all mankind shall see the salvation of God.

COMMUNION HYMN

1. Hark! a herald voice is calling:
'Christ is nigh,' it seems to say;
'Cast away the dreams of darkness,
waken, children of the day!'
2. Startled at the solemn warning,
let the earth-bound soul arise;
Christ, her Sun, all sloth dispelling,
shines upon the morning skies.
3. Lo! the Lamb, so long expected,
comes with pardon down from heaven;
let us meet him with repentance,
pray that we may be forgiven;
4. So when next He comes with glory,
wrapping all the earth in fear,
may He then as our Defender
on the clouds of heav'n appear.
5. Honour, glory, praise and blessing,
to the Father and the Son,
with the everlasting Spirit,
while unending ages run.

*The organ voluntary after Mass today is Demessieux
Rorate Caeli Choral Orne.*