



## OUR LADY OF REPARATION RC CHURCH

(ST MARY'S)

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Fr Patrick Feyisetan (Parish Priest)

Fr Celestine Ekwueme (Assistant Priest)

Fr Peter Sebastian (Assistant Priest)

Revd. Vincent Morrison (Deacon)

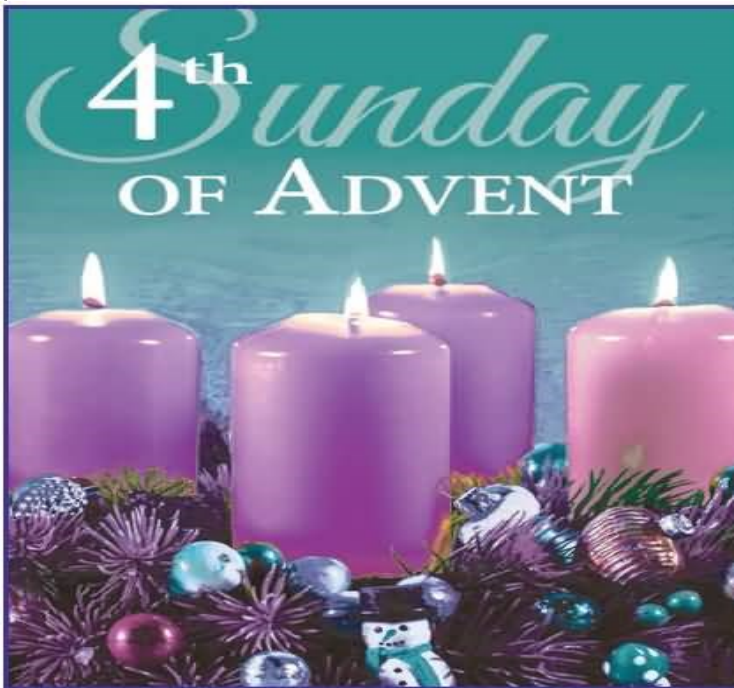
SUNDAY MASS TIMES: 7:00pm (Saturday); 8am, 9:15am; 10:45am; 12:15pm, 3:00pm & 6:00pm

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES: 10am; 12:10pm (**ONLINE ONLY**) & 6.45pm Saturday: 10am

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT: Weekday 12:45pm – 6:00pm; Sat. 10:45am – 6:00pm

CONFESSION: Sat. 10:30am – 11:30am & 6pm – 6:45pm;

ROSARY: 11.30am daily



### Year B: 20th December 2020

**First reading** 2 Samuel 7:1-5,8-12,14,16

Once David had settled into his house and the Lord had given him rest from all the enemies surrounding him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'Look, I am living in a house of cedar while the ark of God dwells in a tent.' Nathan said to the king, 'Go and do all that is in your mind, for the Lord is with you.'

But that very night the word of the Lord came to Nathan:

'Go and tell my servant David, "Thus the Lord speaks: Are you the man to build me a house to dwell in? I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be leader of my people Israel; I have been with you on all your expeditions; I have cut off all your enemies before you. I will give you fame as great as the fame of the greatest on earth. I will provide a place for my people Israel; I will plant them there and they shall dwell in that place and never be disturbed again; nor shall the wicked continue to oppress them as they did, in the days when I appointed judges over my people Israel; I will give them rest from all their enemies. The Lord will make you great; the Lord will make you a House. And when your days are ended and you are laid to rest with your ancestors, I will preserve the offspring of your body after you and make his sovereignty secure. I will be a father to him and he a son to me; if he does evil, I will punish him with the rod such as men use, with strokes such as mankind gives. Your House and your sovereignty

**Entrance Antiphon** cf. Isaiah 45:8

Drop down dew from above you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

#### Collect

Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord, your grace into our hearts, that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ your Son was made known by the message of an Angel, may by his Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of his Resurrection.

Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

will always stand secure before me and your throne be established for ever.”

**The word of the Lord.**

**Responsorial Psalm**                      **Ps. 88(89):2-5,27,29**

**R:** *I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord.*

I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord;  
through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth.  
Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever,  
that your truth is firmly established as the heavens. **R.**

‘I have made a covenant with my chosen one;  
I have sworn to David my servant:  
I will establish your dynasty for ever  
and set up your throne through all ages.                      **R.**

‘He will say to me: “You are my father,  
my God, the rock who saves me.”  
I will keep my love for him always;  
with him my covenant shall last.’                      **R.**

**Second reading**    **Romans 16:25-27**

Glory to him who is able to give you the strength to live according to the Good News I preach, and in which I proclaim Jesus Christ, the revelation of a mystery kept secret for endless ages, but now so clear that it must be broadcast to pagans everywhere to bring them to the obedience of faith. This is only what scripture has predicted, and it is all part of the way the eternal God wants things to be. He alone is wisdom; give glory therefore to him through Jesus Christ for ever and ever. Amen.

**The word of the Lord.**

**Gospel Acclamation**    **Lk1:38**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

I am the handmaid of the Lord:  
let what you have said be done to me.

**Alleluia!**

**Gospel**    **Luke 1:26-38**

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David; and the virgin’s name was Mary. He went in and said to her, ‘Rejoice, so highly favoured! The Lord is with you.’ She was deeply disturbed by these words and asked herself what this greeting could mean, but the angel said to her, ‘Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God’s favour. Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David; he will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will have no end.’ Mary said to the angel, ‘But

how can this come about, since I am a virgin?’ ‘The Holy Spirit will come upon you’ the angel answered ‘and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow. And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Know this too: your kinswoman Elizabeth has, in her old age, herself conceived a son, and she whom people called barren is now in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible to God.’ ‘I am the handmaid of the Lord,’ said Mary ‘let what you have said be done to me.’ And the angel left her.

**The Gospel of the Lord**

**Homily**

**The Creed**

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.**

### **Prayer over the Offerings**

May the Holy Spirit, O Lord,  
sanctify these gifts laid upon your altar,  
just as he filled with his power the womb of the  
Blessed Virgin Mary.  
Through Christ our Lord.

### **Sanctus:**

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

### **Agnus Dei:**

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,  
grant us peace.

### **Communion Antiphon                      Is 7: 14**

Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son;  
and his name will be called Emmanuel.

### **Prayer after Communion**

Having received this pledge of eternal redemption,  
we pray, almighty God, that,  
as the feast day of our salvation draws ever nearer,  
so we may press forward all the more eagerly  
to the worthy celebration of the mystery of your  
Son's Nativity.  
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

### **PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:**

Fr. Joseph O'Callaghan, Rev Deacon Alan Boxall,  
Michael Anthony Powell, Maureen Habgood,  
Antoinette Chambeyron, Mary Josephine Harwood,  
Daniel Junior Morrison, Patrick Stokes, Robert Ed-  
ward Wright. Robert James Brennan, Emillie Jo-  
seph, Eugene McKeon and Michael Lavery.

**IN CASE OF HOSPITAL ADMISSION:** If any  
Catholic you know is taken to the hospital, please let  
us have their details so we can link them up with  
Catholic chaplains in the hospitals for proper  
spiritual care.

### **COVID-19 GUIDANCE FOR ATTENDING PUBLIC WORSHIP:**

• Our church is well prepared to receive  
parishioners for Masses on designated days and  
times. If you choose to come at any of the times, do

well to comply with safety instructions and guid-  
ance provided for social distancing and sanitiza-  
tion.

• NHS Test and Trace form is available on our  
website and on the newsletter. Download and fill  
the form from home to facilitate easy access to the  
church. Bring a pen with you to fill the form at the  
entrance if you have no access to a printer.

• Upon entering the church for Mass, put  
your offertory donation in the basket provided at  
the back of the church. Giving by Standing Order,  
Gift Aid or Online donation via our website would  
be better appreciated

• Holy Communion is distributed at the end of  
Mass. Please, wait until the ushers signal that you  
join the line. As you approach the minister, kindly  
pull down your mask, stretch out your hands to  
receive Our Lord. As soon as you receive, make  
your way out of the church. Meditation and  
thanksgiving is done before the end of Mass.

• As you leave the church, sanitize your hands  
at the exit door and remember not to congregate  
by the door or anywhere on the premises.

• Pay attention to entrance and exit signs to  
facilitate easy and safe movement around the  
church.

**NO ACCESS TO TOILET FACILITIES IN THE  
PARISH AT THIS TIME OWING TO INFEC-  
TION PREVENTION GUIDANCE.**

• You would need to wear a face covering now  
in the church.

• Ring the parish office during the week to  
arrange for Infant Baptism & Weddings

• Let us continue to pray as individuals,  
families and church for an end to this  
pandemic.

### **ADVENT REFLECTION**

Christmas is nearer than it was last Sunday when  
we were called to begin to rejoice. Before we get  
immersed in the joy of the birth of the child, the  
Church asks that we focus on the pregnant mother  
just as it is in every family when a woman's due  
date is approaching. Mary is pregnant by her con-  
senting to the message brought by Gabriel. Gabri-  
el has also told her of her older cousin Elizabeth's  
condition. God has looked with kindness upon her  
whom the world has termed barren. Mary's reac-  
tion to this message wraps the message of today's  
liturgy up for us.

1. Our Lady started to think about Elizabeth, a  
woman getting pregnant past the age of childbear-  
ing. She thought she could be of help to Elizabeth  
and Zechariah. What a lesson in selflessness!

2. One who has been to Ein Karin which is said to  
be hill country of Judah referred to in the gospel

text we read today would feel the stress Mary must have felt travelling on foot through the ups and downs of the natural contours of the topography to visit Elizabeth. Can we go through pain just to help some other persons in need? What a lesson in bearing pains on behalf of others!

3. Mary could have gone to town over the news the Angel Gabriel broke to her. Many of us would! She puts aside her status as the mother of the Saviour, of the Scion of David to render help and become like a maid to her older cousin. Can we be humble about our achievements and see them as God at work and not what we are able to bring about? What a lesson in humility!

4. Going to visit Elizabeth while carrying Jesus in the womb is a lesson for us to bear Jesus everywhere we go, especially those of us who become mobile tabernacles since we receive the Lord in the sacramental manner almost on a daily basis. We should not hesitate to take him with us to visit those who need our presence and help. What a lesson in Christian discipleship and Evangelization!

5. Mary wastes no time! She went hurriedly to visit and show love to Elizabeth. We hurry everywhere these days but very many times wrongly. Shall we hurry to visit the poor, the lame, the blind, the homeless, the forgotten, the unwanted especially in this season? What a lesson in doing good promptly!

6. The child in the womb is human, with feelings and emotions. Mary's greeting caused the child in Elizabeth's womb to jump for joy. The preface of the Mass of John the Baptist's birth gives reason for the leap of joy: 'so near was human's salvation!' A lesson for all those who wickedly decide that they have a choice about keeping the tenant or ejecting it, that life is sacred from conception to death. What a lesson in morality!

7. Let us be receptive of the goodness and kindness others try to offer us as did Elizabeth. When we do, they bring the Lord to stay with us just as Mary brought the Son of the Eternal Father to stay and give life and joy to the priestly family of Zachariah and of course, to the whole world. Happy Sunday to you all!

© Fr Patrick Feyisetan

#### CHRISTIAN FAITH JOURNEY:

Are you interested in embarking on an active Christian faith journey, in making a return to faith, or needing to prepare for Confirmation as an adult? Send email to:

croydonwest@rcaos.org.uk or phone 02086881857 between 9.00 and 17:00hrs Mon. to Fri. to speak with any of the priests.

#### REGISTRATION FORMS FOR FIRST HOLY COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION 2021 WILL BE OUT ON MONDAY, 7TH DECEMBER 2020.

First Communion Programme is open to children of the parish from age 7 and given the current circumstances we have capped it to **max SIXTY (60)** children; places will be allocated first come-first served basis. Classes will take place on Saturdays from 10:45am to 11:45am starting from 6th February 2021.

Candidates for Confirmation must be 14 years and above, and **only FIFTY (50)** slots are available for next year's programme. Again, this is on a first come-first served basis. Classes will hold on Fridays 6:30-8:00pm beginning from 5th February 2021.

Application forms for the two programs are available online and in the parish office. Fill and return **NOT LATER THAN MONDAY 11TH JANUARY 2021.**

#### SCHEDULE OF CHRISTMAS MASSES

December 24th

10:00am Last Advent weekday Mass  
**CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES:**

6:00pm: Family Mass

8:00pm: Christmas Vigil Mass

10:00pm: Christmas Vigil Mass

12:00am: Christmas Midnight Mass

December 25th: 8:00am; 9:15am; 10:45am & 12:15pm Masses

December 26th: 10:00am & 7:00pm Masses

December 27th: Regular Sunday Masses

December 28th: 10:00am Mass only.

**\*\*\* Pick a form to book your attendance and return not later than 18th December 2020 when remaining spaces shall be advertised online.**

**Note: MIDNIGHT MASS IS FULLY BOOKED!**

