



## OUR LADY OF REPARATION RC CHURCH

(ST MARY'S)

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Website: [www.saint-mary.org.uk](http://www.saint-mary.org.uk)

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

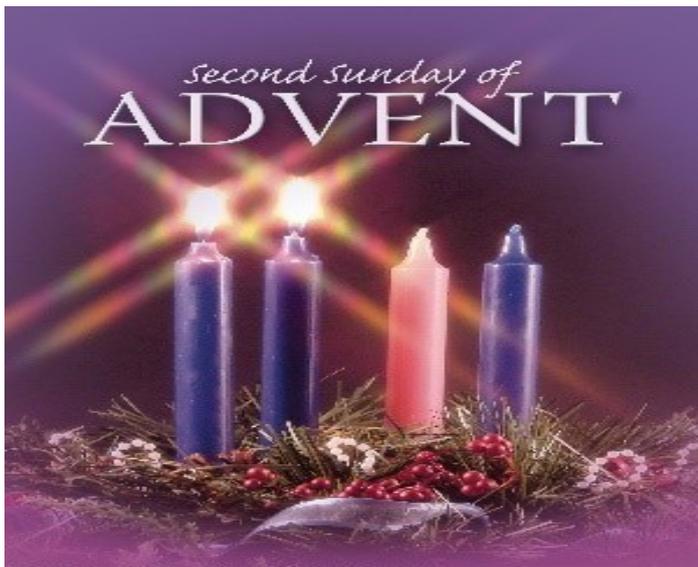
WEEKDAY MASS TIMES: 10am; 12:10pm (**ONLINE ONLY**) & 6.45pm Saturday: 10am

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

### SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B): 6TH DECEMBER 2020



#### Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Is 30: 19, 30

O people of Sion, behold,  
the Lord will come to save the nations,  
and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard  
in the joy of your heart.

#### Collect

Almighty and merciful God,  
may no earthly undertaking hinder those  
who set out in haste to meet your Son,  
but may our learning of heavenly wisdom  
gain us admittance to his company.  
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy  
Spirit, God, for ever and ever.  
Amen.

#### First reading

Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11

‘Console my people, console them’  
says your God.  
‘Speak to the heart of Jerusalem  
and call to her  
that her time of service is ended,  
that her sin is atoned for,  
that she has received from the hand of the Lord  
double punishment for all her crimes.’  
A voice cries, ‘Prepare in the wilderness  
a way for the Lord.  
Make a straight highway for our God  
across the desert.  
Let every valley be filled in,  
every mountain and hill be laid low.  
Let every cliff become a plain,  
and the ridges a valley;  
then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed  
and all mankind shall see it;  
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.’  
Go up on a high mountain,  
joyful messenger to Zion.  
Shout with a loud voice,  
joyful messenger to Jerusalem.  
Shout without fear,  
say to the towns of Judah,  
‘Here is your God.’  
Here is the Lord coming with power,  
his arm subduing all things to him.  
The prize of his victory is with him,  
his trophies all go before him.

He is like a shepherd feeding his flock,  
gathering lambs in his arms,  
holding them against his breast  
and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

**The word of the Lord.**

**Responsorial Psalm Ps. 84(85):9-14**

*R: Let us see, O Lord, your mercy,  
and give us your saving help*

I will hear what the Lord God has to say,  
a voice that speaks of peace,  
peace for his people.  
His help is near for those who fear him  
and his glory will dwell in our land. **R.**

Mercy and faithfulness have met;  
justice and peace have embraced.  
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth  
and justice look down from heaven. **R.**

The Lord will make us prosper  
and our earth shall yield its fruit.  
Justice shall march before him  
and peace shall follow his steps. **R.**

**Second reading 2 Peter 3:8-14**

There is one thing, my friends, that you must never forget: that with the Lord, 'a day' can mean a thousand years, and a thousand years is like a day. The Lord is not being slow to carry out his promises, as anybody else might be called slow; but he is being patient with you all, wanting nobody to be lost and everybody to be brought to change his ways. The Day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then with a roar the sky will vanish, the elements will catch fire and fall apart, the earth and all that it contains will be burnt up.

Since everything is coming to an end like this, you should be living holy and saintly lives while you wait and long for the Day of God to come, when the sky will dissolve in flames and the elements melt in the heat. What we are waiting for is what he promised: the new heavens and new earth, the place where righteousness will be at home. So then, my friends, while you are waiting, do your best to live lives without spot or stain so that he will find you at peace.

**The word of the Lord.**

**Alleluia, alleluia! Lk3:4,6**

Prepare a way for the Lord,  
make his paths straight,  
and all mankind shall see the salvation of God.

**Alleluia!**

**Gospel Mark 1:1-8**

The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ,

the Son of God. It is written in the book of the prophet Isaiah:

Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way.

A voice cries in the wilderness:

Prepare a way for the Lord,  
make his paths straight.

And so it was that John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. All Judaea and all the people of Jerusalem made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. John wore a garment of camel-skin, and he lived on locusts and wild honey. In the course of his preaching he said, 'Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.'

**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**

Be pleased, O Lord, with our humble prayers  
and offerings,  
and, since we have no merits to plead our cause,  
come, we pray, to our rescue  
with the protection of your mercy.  
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**

**Bar 5: 5; 4: 36**

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights,  
and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

### **Prayer after Communion**

Replenished by the food of spiritual nourishment,  
we humbly beseech you, O Lord,  
that, through our partaking in this mystery,  
you may teach us to judge wisely the things of earth  
and hold firm to the things of heaven.  
Through Christ our Lord.

### **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, and Eugene McKeon.

**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 guidance provided for social distancing and sanitization.
  - 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 INFECTION 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**

Saturday of the first week flows into the 2nd Sunday of Advent. Isaiah leads the witnessing to the compassionate God who, in spite of the failings of his people, the chosen race, kept pouring his mercy and abundant love on them, renewing their vigour and promising them new life, restoring their joy and giving them a peaceful dwelling in Sion. The gospel narration of the sending of the disciples to the lost sheep of the house of Israel shows Jesus' concern for the deprived, the powerless, lost, distraught to which the Lord sends us still as disciples of the kingdom to encounter people in their pain and misery and bring to bear on them the ef-

fect of the anointing we have received as children of God.

Isaiah jumps to chapter 40, the beginning of the Book of Consolation which as I read recalls the beautiful solo piece with which G. F. Handel starts his 'Messiah,' Comfort ye, my people. John the Baptist opens the gospel of the Messiah in Mark by referencing Isaiah. The consolation was originally offered to the people of God in exile in faraway Babylon. They had been forced out of the land of promise by a pagan people who kept taunting and mocking them and derided the seeming powerlessness of the Hebrew God. But Yahweh makes Isaiah say to them: never mind, the punishment is not a life-imprisonment; it is already a sentence repealed. And of course, the journey that was taken in shame and reluctance to Babylon will now be embarked upon with joy and gladness at the thought of returning safely at last to inherit the promise of Yahweh to Abraham. I am not imagining that a bulldozer was going to level the hills and valleys for the smooth journey back home, but a deep interior peace and joy that would accompany the restoration of the lost connection to God is the key to understanding the readings at this weekend. St Peter in some pictorial and apocalyptic manner rekindles our hope and faith in the second coming of our Lord. It may seem slow, he says, but he will surely come. Appropriately we join in singing the advent hymn: The coming of our God Our thoughts must now employ: Then let us meet him on the road with songs of holy joy.

© 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 Monday to Friday 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.***

#### NHS TEST AND TRACE

**“To manage the risk of the virus re-emerging”**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ CAR REG: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Time of Mass: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*This information is being collected at the discretion of the UK Government. It will be kept secure and will be destroyed 21 days after the act of public worship*