

No: 3243 Second Sunday of Advent (Year B)
7th December 2014



Parish News

PARTNER IN CHURCHES TOGETHER IN SURBITON



OUR LADY IMMACULATE PARISH

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Dear Friends

We are well into the season of Advent. As we enter into the second week of Advent we encounter the wonderful character John the Baptist in the Gospel today. But however when we look around outside the environment we do not encounter much to do with Advent. We don't see many advertisements about Advent either. Sadly Advent has been swallowed up by the Christmas frenzy of 'shop till you drop' and Christmas carols! And unfortunately we too are thus tempted to fall into the same trap and forget the season of Advent. But yet our liturgical celebrations do not talk about Christmas as yet.

One of the beautiful Psalms that capture the real mood of the season of Advent is Psalm 130, where we pray:

*My soul is waiting for the Lord,
I count on his word.
My soul is longing for the Lord
More than watchman for daybreak.
Let the watchman count on daybreak
And Israel on the Lord.*

*Because with the Lord there is mercy
And fullness of redemption,
Israel indeed he will redeem
From all its iniquity. (Ps.130/5-8)*

This is a psalm of longing—a prayer from the depths of the heart for the Lord.

Waiting is not a very popular attitude in this fast moving world we live in—in a world where 'instant' and 'immediate' is the name of the game. The slogans we hear and see—we want it now— doesn't help either. So no wonder Advent Season is a lost season in way! For many waiting is a waste of time. Advent as we know is the season of waiting. Waiting is a life long activity we human beings go through.

Why is Advent so important for us? Psalm 130 answers the question and so is the Advent Carol,

'O Come, O Come, Emmanuel'. These reminds us of the need for a Saviour. Until we feel the need, the desire, the longing and the ache for a Saviour, to save us from sin we will not experience the deeper meaning of Advent and the joy of waiting. The world we live in today keeps telling us, that wealth, power, modern gadgets will save us from all our sadness and emptiness. But yet we know in spite of all the wealth, power etc we are still not happy. Advent invites us to recognise our need for a saviour. Unless we recognise this need, our need for a saviour, our waiting and Advent season will have no meaning whatsoever.

Our waiting is not a passive waiting either. It is waiting in joyful hope. This is the prayer we pray at every mass—"*....as we wait in joyful hope*"

The characters we meet in the Scripture readings during this season — Elizabeth, Zachariah, Mary, Simeon and Anna —they are all waiting people because of a promise made by the Lord. Our waiting is a waiting in hope. Why? It is because we wait in hope for the promise to be fulfilled, a promise made to us by the Lord.

So we wait not is a passive way but our waiting is active waiting. Active waiting is to be present for the moment, to live in the present rather than waiting in an absence. We wait for the promise of the Lord made to us to be fulfilled.

Happy Advent to you all.

God Bless and love you.

Canon Edward Perera

SATURDAY/SUNDAY 6th/7th December 2014
Second Sunday of Advent (B) (Toy-Bible Sunday)

- 6.30pm** David Doyle RIP (John, Kathleen & Mary)
Sun 9am In Thanksgiving Nubia & George Carro -
 Wedding Anniversary (Nubia & George)
11am **Church Parade**
 In Thanksgiving for safe birth of giving Baby
 Sebastian Tyler Georgeson (Mrs F Narcisi)
12.30pm **Baptisms** - Orla Marie Martin-Crewe and
 Dylan George Martin
6.00pm People of the Parish

Daily Masses 8th—13th December 2014

- Mon:** **The Immaculate Conception of the
 Blessed Virgin Mary**
9.30am Linford Fuller (Louise Lewis)
8.00pm All subscribers to Our Lady Immaculate
 Church
Tues: **Feria**
7.00am Abraham and Mary Abraham RIP (Family)
9.30am Maureen Davis and Family (Anne Sheridan)
Wed: **Saint Francis Xavier**
9.30am Michael & Mary Kelly RIP (Joe & Colin Gray)
Thurs: **Feria**
9.30am Well-being of J Kinnell (John Brooks)
Fri: **Feria**
7.00am Rosemary Durkin: In Thanksgiving
 (Anthony Durkin)
9.30am Honora and Geoffrey Miles RIP
 (Pat Parker & Family)
Sat: **Saint Lucy**
9am John and Bernadette Brooks and Family:
 In Thanksgiving

SATURDAY/SUNDAY 13th/14th December 2014
Third Sunday of Advent (Year B)

- Sat 6.30pm** People of the Parish
Sun 9am Sean Sullivan
11am Ottavio D'Agostino (Mrs D'Agostino)
12.30pm **Baptisms** - Lois Joan Kinnell and
 Theo Harden
6.00pm Lynda Blair RIP (Anniversary) (Blair Family)

Last Sunday's Collection £1684

*Thank you for your continued generosity - the money is used
 for the maintenance and upkeep of the church and parish*

Cash counters

This week: Barbara Buchinger and Bernie Turkington
 Next week: Rob Estall and Roman Szymanski

Next Sunday's Readings:
3rd Sunday of Advent (B)

Introduction: Advent is the season of new things. So
 it is the season of hope. Hope is the virtue that knows
 that there is more to come.

First Reading Isaiah 61:1-2. 10-11

Hope can feel a little bit like fear, the sort of joyous fear
 a bride and groom feel on their wedding night.

Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Where there is peace, there is God. Where there is God,
 there is peace.

Gospel John 1:6-8. 19-28

God sent John. We are part of that sending. To be a
 Christian is to have a mission.

Baptisms

We welcome into the Church Sophie Bridget Lyons
 and Sofie Mati who were baptised last Sunday.

Death

We are sorry to announce the death of **Peter Groves**
 and **Warami Tuoyo**

Please remember them and their family and friends in
 your prayers. May they rest in peace.

We pray for all **the faithful departed** who have recently
 died. We pray especially for:-

**Peter Groves, Warami Tuoyu, Miriam Argeullo,
 Tony Ambroselli (Gaetano), Desmond Neligan,
 Leroy George Hue, Eilish Mulholland, Edward
 Maryniak,**

We pray for all those who mourn and those whose
 anniversaries occur at this time.

We remember all our **sick and elderly parishioners**,
 those in hospital, the housebound and those who care for
 them: Philip Mooney, Sue Jones, Shirley Rutter, Chris
 Wade,, Bernie Dark, Catherine Spain, Ken Hammerton,
 Elizabeth Ciano, Rachapally Laxminarayana, Arthur Bai-
 ley, Cesare Cavazzi, Andrzej Domagalski, Margarita
 Mickericiene, Yvonne Faulds, Sheila Walsh, Pat Fulford,
 Guy Green, Eleo Kayrouz, James McGee, Andrea Shep-
 herd, Elizabeth Doherty, Michael O'Brien, Maureen Kerr,
 Suzanne Godwin, Geoff Grenade (father of Debbie Dray),
 Evie Durkin, Rouben Sarkissian, Francisco Dirago, Frank
 McCabe, Jan Lewandowski, Emma Rees , Rhian Knap-
 gate, Brenda Killeen, Peter Groves, Amandina Marsella,
 Roisin Loftus, Theresa Keys, Felicia Nazareth, Mary
 McDonnagh, Thomas Haley, Anna Maria Maini, Elizabeth
 Joège, Francis Nazareth, Sergio Della Grotta, Marie Bast,
 George Matthew, Jenny Sathirasegaram, Bridget McNal-
 ly, Brenda Flaherty, Rowan Wolsgrove, Marcus Bird, San-
 dra Burlinson, Sophie Burridge, Sam Hitchin, Nicky
 Bushell, Tom Tyler, Margaret Inskip, Giancarlo Paler-
 mo, John Gleeson, Jeffrey D'Cruz, Michael Byrne, Martin
 Dray, Seema Day, Graham Taylor, Samantha Nosalik,
 Manual Pillai, Fay Kearney, Winna Duncan, Jennifer
 McIntyre, Carl Williams, Bridie O'Driscoll, Christine
 Keane, Josephine Bull and Vic Carrion.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays 9.30am to 10am and 5.30pm to 6pm

Special Collections, December

Would Gift Aid members please be sure to use their special envelopes for their Christmas Offerings to our priests.

Standing Order donors should also use envelopes, and be sure to put their Gift Aid number on the front. Any who do not know their number should contact Rob Estall (8399 0430)
Thank You

OLI OLD CHAPEL APPEAL

Fr Ed and Fr Tom are extremely pleased to announce that we have now reached our **£70,000** target for the renovation of the Old Chapel. This is due to the truly amazing generosity of parishioners. Many many thanks to **all** those who have donated to the Appeal.

There are a few other fundraising events coming up. A very talented parishioner is selling boxes of beautifully decorated homemade Christmas cupcakes at a bargain price of £10 for a box of 6 cupcakes. Supplies are limited and it is suggested that you put your order in as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. Orders should be returned to the Presbytery **by Wednesday 10th December (latest)**, with potential collection dates of Friday 19th December, between 1pm to 2pm, or Sunday 21st December, after the 9.00 and 11.00 Masses. An order form is attached to this weeks' newsletter. There will also be a cupcake sale on Sunday 21st December (cost £2 each).

Please continue to bring in your Old Chapel Appeal Boxes and please do make any promised donations. Any extra money raised will be used for finishing touches and unforeseen eventualities.

Thankyou!

“ CHRISTMAS MASSES

Volunteers are needed for all our Christmas Masses i.e. 6.00 pm Christmas Eve and Midnight, 8.00 am, 9.15 am and 11.00 am on Christmas Day. We need Altar Servers, Readers, Gift Bearers, Collectors, Welcomes and Eucharistic Ministers. If you can help at any of these masses please add your name to the appropriate sign-up sheet in the RDJ room. We need a lot of people to ensure these masses are successful so please help if you can and thank you in advance for your assistance. Jacques Lambert Parish Master of Ceremonies.”

Christmas Crib Offerings

Usually the Crib Offerings were sent to Cabrini Children's Society. Following their request earlier in the year not to take the crib offerings for the them, and at the request/suggestion of Archbishop Peter Smith, the Crib offerings will be sent to Friends of Holy Land. The Friends offer help to the poorest families in Bethlehem, contributing to their medical costs and paying for school and university fees.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION: If your son / daughter is in Year 9 or above and they would like to be Confirmed next year, please visit the parish website, go to Sacraments, then Confirmation, and then read carefully the contents of the page. Please download the application form. All application forms, once completed, must be countersigned by a priest before an application can be accepted. The form signing sessions (which are to be attending by at least one parent / guardian and the candidate themselves) last 5 minutes each, so please attend whenever you like during the following time slots and be prepared to wait for your turn: 12th December (6 -7pm), 13th December (11am-12pm), 16th December (5.30-6.30pm), 18th December (7.30-8.30pm). 18th December is the absolute closing date for next year's programme.

Children's Church Choir

Please note that from the 9.00 Mass on Sunday 30th November and all subsequent **FAMILY** Masses (9.00 Masses on the last Sunday of the month), all children in Years 4 and above are invited to join in the Children's Church Choir. Hymns will be chosen which the children should know from school or previous Masses. The children do not need to make any regular commitment or attend rehearsals—just turn up with a smile. Spaces will be made available at the front of the church.

Thank you from the Children's Liturgy Group

AFTERNOON CLUB- TEA, COMPANY & CHAT!

We meet on every 2nd and 4th Tuesday at 2pm in the RDJ Room. Why not pop along for a slice of cake, a cuppa and a nice chat. All are welcome.

Repository

Christmas Cards, Advent Calendars, Crib Sets, Children's Books are now on sale after the Saturday 6.30pm, Sunday 9.00am and 11.00am Masses.

Please call in

Eucharistic Ministers & Readers- New Rotas

The new rota, is now available on the Parish website (www.olionline.co.uk). If you are unable to access the website please take a paper copy which is available in the RDJ Room. If you cannot minister or read when your name is shown on the rota please try to find a substitute. Rota Co-Ordinator, Pat Parker (pdparker@blueyonder.co.uk) OR 0208 390 0179.

CHURCH CLEANING

As a new rota is to be prepared, will anyone able to carry on, advise Gerry Hague on 32565 3142 after 3rd December.

Thank you for all your efforts in 2014.

OUR LADY IMMACULATE CHURCH PARISH LENTEN PROJECT

The Parish Lenten Project has been running successfully for 43 years. The aim of the project is to give the parish a charitable focal point during Lent and give everyone (all groups, clubs and societies) in the parish the opportunity to take part in fund raising for third world projects.

The Lenten Project AGM will be on Sunday 7th December at 7.00pm in the Old Chapel. At that meeting we will select the charities which we will be supporting during Lent 2015. We are now actively seeking parishioners to nominate suitable charities.

Criteria for Selecting a Charity

1. Charity or organisation needs to be based in the third world
2. Direct help - we are looking for small charities/ organisations rather than large established charities - no intermediate organisations or government agencies.
3. Christian based
4. Confidence in the recipient - we need to know that the money will be going directly to the charity.
5. Value for money - small and professionally run charity/organisation in the third world.
6. Organisations that have small overheads - we want to make sure that our money will make a real difference.
7. Only one charity will be supported per country per year.
8. Only four charities will be supported per year.

If you have a charity you would like the parish to support in Lent during 2013 then please complete the charity nomination form which can be found at:

<http://www.olionline.co.uk/parish-groups/lenten-project>

You can also find blank copies of the form at the back of the church or obtain one from the parish office.

Once you have completed the form please either email it to info@olionline.co.uk or place it through the Presbytery letter box. If you would like any more information please contact Phil Townsend on 8399 3481 or email Townsend4@blueyonder.co.uk
Thank You

Easy Funding

With the shelves full of ideas for Christmas, join those 'Friends' who are raising money for Friends of the Holy Land when shopping on line just by using easyfundraising.org.uk. There are no catches and it's completely free to use. It's really simple - just shop online via easyfundraising.org.uk with over 2,700 well known retailers like Amazon, Argos, M&S, eBay (and many more!) and whenever you buy something online, the retailer makes a donation to Friends of the Holy Land. Get started now and visit - <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/invite/36F38Z/>
When you collect £10 of donations with this invitation link, FHL will get an extra £5.

KINGSTON FOODBANK COLLECTION

As ever, a huge thank you to everyone who has supported us in our monthly Foodbank collections – it is very much appreciated (see website for more information www.kingston.foodbank.org.uk). Foodbanks continue to be extremely busy, and the one in Kingston is very much in demand.

Our next Foodbank collection is due to be after all Masses next weekend (29/30 November) – so do please remember to bring donations, even if it is one item, it really does help to make a difference. We need new, in-date, undamaged, non-perishable food, and donations can be left in a box in the church porch.

Food they particularly need at the moment is milk (long life or powder), fruit juice (long life or squash), vegetarian meals (tins of macaroni cheese, vegetable curry, vegetable chilli, ratatouille etc), noodles (packets or pot noodles), steamed puddings and it may be nice to include some Christmas treats (chocolates and biscuits). They have lots of pasta, baked beans and tea so please avoid those items at the moment.

Many thanks for your help.

Helen Emmett, Jackie Murphy, Anne O'Brien, Ruth Oliver (OLI Foodbank Coordinators)
Telephone: 0208 399 9550
Website: www.olionline.co.uk

Diocesan Vocations Centre—

Made for Glory Advent Video Calendar

The team at the Vocations Centre have been working on a series of short commentaries on the Gospel for each day of Advent. Produced by young people for young people, the two minute videos can be used in variety of different contexts to help foster a spirit of Christian discipleship. Starting with first Sunday of Advent, the videos will be available on Youtube day by day: www.youtube.com/user/madeforgloryuk

Noah's Ark Pre-School

Noah's Ark Pre-school is now accepting applications for September 2015. Noah's Ark provides safe and stimulating surroundings for children with well qualified, caring staff. All our activities are designed to be educational and enjoyable. We encourage independence in all aspects of care and learning in preparation for school. You can download an application form from our website www.noahsark-preschool.org.uk or pop into the pre-school to collect one. Deadline for applications: end of March 2015.

APPEAL FROM LIFE:

Baby clothes and equipment - especially double buggies - are needed for our Caring Centre at Hounslow. If you have any items you no longer require please contact Therese on 020 8390 1080 for collection. Thank you for your generosity in the past. It is much appreciated. Life is a national organisation which helps unsupported mothers to keep and care for their babies.
Come and sing carols with LIFE on Victoria Station from 5-7pm on Wednesday December 17th. Everyone welcome.