



Parish News

PARTNER IN CHURCHES TOGETHER IN SURBITON



OUR LADY IMMACULATE PARISH

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Rejoice

The Third Sunday of Advent is known as Gaudete Sunday—'gaudete' being the Latin word for the command to Rejoice. We are nearing the culmination of the Season of Advent, our time of preparation for the celebration of the birth of Our Lord Jesus.

What a pity it is when we hear this time of year is described as 'the run-up to Christmas'. The world around us is certainly moving expectantly towards a variety of climaxes, along a variety of paths of preparation, some of which anticipate the traditional celebration of Christmas Day itself.

When I hear what you and I know as Advent referred to as the run-up to Christmas, I feel a bit sad and disappointed, so it is uplifting to be reminded by the Church to rejoice, indeed to take heart.

One of the opening prayers at Mass this Sunday expresses this sentiment thus: 'Father of Our Lord Jesus Christ, ever faithful to your promises and ever close to your Church: the earth rejoices in hope of the Saviour's coming and looks forward to his return at the end of time. Prepare our hearts and remove the sadness that hinders us from feeling the joy and hope which his presence will bestow, for he is Lord for ever and ever.'

As the second paragraph alludes to, we live in a very complex and fast moving society. It is very easy for us, if we are not careful, to lose our way amid the jungle of news and opinions with which we are constantly assailed.

The mass media can both enlighten and lead astray the human mind, so we need to be able to sift out the things that hinder us from feeling the joy and hope of the imminent coming of our Lord Jesus.

We cannot opt out of the world that we each have been born into. Indeed our Saviour chose to opt in to our world in the earthiness of a stable in Bethlehem. We seem always to live in troubled and worrisome times—for our world and for our Church, whose mission, nevertheless, is to be in the world and to be part of these troubled times but also to give us a foretaste of the Kingdom of Heaven in which we will share in the Heavenly Banquet.

The beautiful Season of Advent has a two fold character. It is a time of preparation for Christmas, when Christ's first coming is remembered and celebrated, and it is a time to direct mind and heart towards awaiting his second coming.

Advent, therefore is a time of devout and joyful celebration. We are blessed to be part of it. Let us not rush it but wait patiently—and Rejoice.

Al Callan

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)

Daily Masses 15th—20th December 2014

Mon:	Feria
7.00am	Miriam Arguello RIP (Family)
9.30am	Pat Poulter's Intention (Heather Trutwein)
Tues:	Feria
9.30am	In Thanksgiving for guidance and blessings (Gasmier Family)
Wed:	Feria
7.00am	Private Intention
9.30am	Bridget Fillmore RIP (Carol, Marc and Michelle Perry)
Thurs:	Feria
9.30am	Susan Flood RIP (The Dowling Family)
Fri:	Feria
7.00am	Antonio Ambrocelli RIP (Piero)
9.30am	Francisca Villareal Nerona RIP (Family)
Sat:	Feria
9am	Anthony Durkin: In Thanksgiving (Rosemary Durkin)

SATURDAY/SUNDAY 20th/21st December 2014

Fourth Sunday of Advent (Year B)

Day of Prayer for Expectant Mothers

Sat 6.30pm	Violet & Laurence Seager RIP and Ken & Gwen Batty) RIP (Bev & Sandra Batty)
Sun 9am	People of the Parish
11am	In Thanksgiving (Himali & Xavier)
12.30pm	Baptisms - Baby Juric and Nathaniel Perera
6.00pm	Charles Rau RIP (Pat Poulter)

Last Sunday's Collection £1686

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

Cash counters

This week: Rob Estall and Roman Szymanski
Next week: Eileen Kaye and Elizabeth Christmas

Baptisms

We welcome into the Church Lois Joan Kinnell and Theo Harden who were baptised last Sunday.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

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

Next Sunday's Readings:

Fourth Sunday of Advent (B)

Introduction: God is building a house where all people may experience unity and peace. This is our home, and Jesus is coming to show us the way so that we may avoid the hurt and disappointment of broken promises

First Reading 2 Samuel 7:1-5. 8-12. 14. 16

King David wants to build a house, a temple, for the Lord; but the Lord promises rather to build a house, a dynasty, for David.

Second Reading Romans 16:25-27

The mystery of God, revealed in Jesus, has to be made known to pagans everywhere to bring them to faith.

Gospel Luke 1:26-38

The angel Gabriel reveals to Mary that she is to be the mother of God's Son. He will be given the throne of his ancestor David and his reign will have no end.

Fr. Arbo's Brother

Your prayers are asked for Fr. Arbo's brother who is very ill after an accident.

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: Simon Andrew Shayo (brother of Fr Arbo), Philip Mooney, Sue Jones, Shirley Rutter, Chris Wade,, Bernie Dark, Catherine Spain, Ken Hammerton, Elizabeth Ciano, Rachapally Laxminarayana, Arthur Bailey, Cesare Cavazzi, Andrzej Domagalski, Margarita Mickericiene, Yvonne Faulds, Sheila Walsh, Pat Fulford, Guy Green, Eleo Kayrouz, James McGee, Andrea Shepherd, 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 Knapgate, 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 McNally, Brenda Flaherty, Rowan Wolsgrove, Marcus Bird, Sandra Burlinson, Sophie Burridge, Sam Hitchin, Nicky Bushell, Tom Tyler, Margaret Inskip, Giancarlo Palermo, 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 Carri-on.

OLI CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

The OLI Christingle Service will take place on Thursday 18th December at 5.30pm in the Church. This Service is a special Church Service that is held for children during Advent and celebrates Christ, who is the Light of the World.

Children (and adults) are invited to bring a Christingle to the Service. A Christingle consists of an orange, decorated with a red ribbon, sweets and / or dried fruits, in which a small candle is placed. (Instructions on how to make a Christingle can be found in the RDJ room or on the Parish website (<http://www.olionline.co.uk>). A candle will be provided when you arrive at the Service).

“ 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.”

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 Es-tall (8399 0430). Thank You.

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.

PARISH ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE

In preparation for Christmas our Parish Advent Reconciliation Service is on Friday 19th December at 7.30pm. Priests from other parishes will also be available to hear Confessions. Please be good enough to make use of this opportunity to make your sacramental preparations for Christmas.

Children's Church Choir

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

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 attended 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: 16th December (5.30-6.30pm), 18th December (7.30-8.30pm). 18th December is the absolute closing date for next year's programme.

OLI OLD CHAPEL APPEAL

We are 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.

Due to popular demand, we have extended the date for last orders of boxes of cupcakes to **Sunday 14th December**. The beautifully decorated homemade Christmas cupcakes are being made by one of our very talented parishioners. They are being sold at a bargain price of £10 for a box of 6 cupcakes, with all proceeds going to the Old Chapel Appeal. Potential collection dates are Friday 19th December, between 1pm to 2pm, or Sunday 21st December, after the 9.00 and 11.00 Masses. Order forms can be found at the back of the Church. In addition, there will 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!

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.

OUR LADY IMMACULATE CHURCH PARISH LENTEN PROJECT

At the AGM of the Lenten Project the group nominated four charities from the many requests made.

They are,

Hope Romania
Let the Children Live (Medellin, Columbia)
Preda Foundation (Philippines) and
Rakshabhavan Chartitable Society (India)

The details of these charities will be posted on the notice boards and the details of the Lenten Project Events will be advertised from the beginning of January. A detail description of these and a report from the AGM of Lenten Project will be printed next week.

Carol Concert

The Holy Cross School Carol Concert is on Tuesday 16th December at Our Lady Immaculate Church from 7.00 pm—8.00pm

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.

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.

**2015 Southwark Directory now available.
Cost £3**

Please call in

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

Apologies for the double request for Foodbank this month – we put it in the newsletter last week by mistake, but are very grateful for all donations, especially at this time of year.

Our next Foodbank collection is due to be after all Masses next weekend (20/21 December) – 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) and steamed puddings.

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

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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.