



No: 3345 **FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

27th November 2016

Parish Newsletter

PARTNERS IN CHURCHES TOGETHER IN SURBITON

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PARISH PRIEST: Canon Edward Perera

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OUR LADY IMMACULATE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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HEADTEACHER: Mrs Frances Robertson



Parish Office Open on Monday—Friday 10am— 1.00pm

26th/27th November 2016

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (Year A)

Sat 6.30pm Holy Souls

Sun 9.00am Gerard Dodds RIP
Intention of Pope, Cardinals, Bishops and Priests

11.00am Lydia Ault (Maria Simmonds)

12.30pm **Baptisms:** Rose Helena Dickinson

6.00pm People of the Parish

FIRST WEEK OF ADVENT

28th November— 3rd December 2016

Mon 28th **Feria**
9.30am Int. of Pope, Cardinals, Bishops and Priests
Sean Keane

7.30pm **Advent Prayer Service**

Tues 29th **Feria**
9.30am Andrew Keane

Wed 30th **Saint Andrew**
9.30am Michael McDonagh

Thurs 1st **Feria**
9.30am Holy Souls

Fri 2nd **Feria**
9.30am Holy Souls

Sat 3rd **Saint Francis Xavier (Day of Prayer for Migrants)**
9.00am Giovanni Storoni (Alessa Storoni)

3rd/4th December 2016

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (Year A)

Bible Sunday

Sat 6.30pm John & David Doyle (Kathleen & Mary Doyle)
Ted Howe (Sheila Howe)

Sun 9.00am Holy Souls

11.00am Peter Groves RIP (Ann Groves)

12.30pm **Baptisms:** No Baptisms

6.00pm People of the Parish

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION THIS WEEK
Saturdays 9.30-10.00am and 5.30 to 6.00pm

Please remember in your prayers all those who have died especially those whose anniversary falls at this time. We remember also all those who mourn the loss of loved ones.

Please remember and pray for the sick, the housebound and all who care for them, especially those within our own parish community:

Vanessa Andrew, Arthur Bailey, Christina Beyer, Jim Creighan, Martin Dray, Anthony Durkin, Jenny Elborough, Robert Estall, Tony and Mavis Fisher, Geoff Grenade, Anne Groves, Thomas Haley, Fr David Hutton, John Keane, Jan Leightley, Roisin Loftus, Frances Powell, Simon Munnery, Pat Parker, Lewis Penn, Cecelia Russell, Genny Santhirasagarum, Rouben Sarkissian, Cerys Sullivan, Roman Szymanski, Chris Wade and Mrs Wallace.

REGULAR EVENTS IN THE PARISH

SVP meet fortnightly on Wednesdays at 7.30pm.
Next meeting: 7th December
To contact SVP please ring **07427922420**.
Junior SVP meets at 6.30pm.

Justice & Peace Group meet on the second Monday of each month at 7.45 in the RDJ Room, except July, August and December.

St Vincent de Paul Coffee/Tea in the Old Chapel
Every 3rd Sunday of every month after the 9am mass.

Afternoon Tea and Chat in the RDJ Room
2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month at 2pm.

Monthly Syro Malabar Mass is on the fourth Saturday of each month at 3.00pm.

Library: last weekend of the month - after Saturday 6.30pm and Sunday 9am Masses.

Union of Catholic Mothers meet on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 8pm.

Knights of St Colomba every 3rd Monday at 8pm in RDJ Room.

Cafe: Every Wednesday after the morning mass.

Afternoon for Adults meets 2-4pm on 2nd and 4th Tuesdays every month, in RDJ room.

The Kingston Franciscan Fraternity meet in the Pastoral Centre on 3rd Saturday of the month at 3pm.

Last Sunday's Collection: £ 1613.81
Collection for the Catholic Youth Services: £372.47
Thank you for your continued generosity.

Next Sunday's Readings:

First Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10

Second Reading: Romans 15:4-9

Gospel Matthew 3:1-12

AN ADVENT THOUGHT

My Dear People,

This weekend we begin the Season of Advent, and also we begin a New Liturgical Year. The general instructions of the Roman Missal remind us, "Advent has a twofold character, for it is a time of preparation for the Solemnities of Christmas, in which the First Coming of the Son of God to humanity is remembered, and likewise a time when, by remembrance of this, minds and hearts are led to look forward to Christ's Second Coming at the end of time. For these two reasons, Advent is a period of devout and expectant delight."

Advent comes from the Latin word *Adventus* meaning *Coming* and we wait for this coming, the promise of the Messiah. Waiting is always a challenge especially in this modern world where we want everything to be instant— instant coffee and modern technology which drives us to believe that things can happen at the click of a button etc., etc. But yet, we forget that we have wait for so many things each day however frustrating this waiting can be.

In the book 'Letters from the Desert', Carlo Carretto the

wonderful spiritual writer who spent many years as a hermit in the Sahara Desert, speaks to us who live busy lives today. He asks the question what is God trying to say to us in our busy lives? He says, "be patient, learn to wait for love, for happiness, for God." This is the challenge for us today—learning to wait!

This waiting in the Season of Advent is not like the famous Samuel Becket play 'Waiting for Godot' who never comes. It is a waiting of joyful hope. All the biblical characters we meet during the Season of Advent in the Scriptures are all those who wait in hope. That is because, this hope is the promise of God given to them.

So as we begin this Season of Advent it would be good for us to take time to reflect, to ponder, What is God's promise to me? and How am I waiting for that promise to be fulfilled?

I wish you all a Season of Advent of Joyful Hope
God Bless and Love You
Fr Edward

ADVENT PRAYER

Lord Jesus,
Master of both the light and the darkness,
send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations
for Christmas.

We who have so much to do,
seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day.

We who are anxious over many things,
look forward to your coming among us.

We who are blessed in so many ways,
long for the complete joy of your kingdom.

We whose hearts are heavy,
seek the joy of your presence.

We are your people, walking in darkness,
yet seeking the light.

To you we say, "Come Lord Jesus!"

(Henri Nouwen)



Novenas to Saint Anthony and Our Lady of Perpetual Help

From this Tuesday we begin Novena Prayers to Saint Anthony and to Our Lady of Perpetual Help. On Tuesdays after the morning mass and in the evening at 6.30pm we will pray together Novena Prayer and the Litany to Saint Anthony. On Wednesday evenings at 6.30pm we will have the Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help.



Advent Prayer Service

This Monday 28th November at 7.30pm. This will be an opportunity to come together to pray and to open our hearts to welcome The Lord as we begin the season of Advent.

Advent Scripture Study Day with Fr Denis McBride

We are delighted that Fr Denis McBride Csr will be with us on Saturday 3rd December for a Scripture Study Day on Infancy Narratives from 10.30am—2.30pm. This will be a wonderful opportunity for us to prepare for

Christmas. I would like to encourage all to attend this day and especially those who are interested in Scripture and all the catechists.

Tea and coffee will be available from 10am onwards and please bring a packed lunch. Please sign the sheet at the back of the church.

SACRAMENTS and LITURGY

CONFIRMATION 2017 - Last day for registering for Confirmation is today, Sunday 27th November.

BAPTISMS IN THE PARISH

Parents who want to have their children baptised are expected to follow the two Baptism Preparation Sessions held on the 1st & 2nd Sunday of the

month (except in of August) between 10.00am –11.00am in the parish hall. **Please speak to the priests first and register as early as possible.**

RCIA - continues Monday 21st November at 6.30pm.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION '17
Next meeting for First Holy Communion parents is on Monday 5th December at 7.30pm in the parish hall. Next Preparation for Children is on Saturday 10th December at 10.30am.

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

Death

With sadness we announce the death of Bernadette Dicker who died on Wednesday 23rd November. Her funeral will take place on Monday 5th December at 10.30am at Kingston Crematorium.

Toy Sunday—11th December

We need someone to organise the charity, co-ordinate the collection and deliver the toys to the charity . Any volunteers?

The Parish Lenten Project

The forms are at the back of the church. If you have not completed the form please do so as soon as possible and either email it to in-f@olionline.co.uk or place it through the Presbytery letter box. For more information please contact Phil Townsend on 8399 3481 or email Townsend4@blueyonder.co.uk. Thank you.

AGM is on Sunday 27th November at 7.00pm in The Old Chapel.

Kingston Foodbank Collection

This weekend after all Masses - so do please remember to pop your donations in the box in the church porch. Even one item can make a difference. Many thanks for your continued support. OLI Foodbank Team.

Choir Members Needed

Our Lady Immaculate Senior Choir is looking to recruit new members. We sing at the 11am Sunday Mass and also at Midnight Mass and the Easter services. You would need to be able to attend practice sessions from 7.30 to 9pm on Thursdays, in the church. If you are interested please phone Rosemary (07557057082) or Mary (02083998013).

We would also like to hear from any competent pianists who would be interested in learning to play the organ.

SVP Games & Social Afternoon

This afternoon—27th November
Please see poster in the church for details. Everyone is welcome.

SVP Christmas Lunch

Saturday 17th December at 12 noon. If you would like to come please speak to Fr Edward or one of SVP members.

Come meet the Repository team

Please come and say hello to the Repository team on Wed, November 30th after the 9:30 am mass in the Old Chapel. If you are interested in helping out or looking for a specific item, don't hesitate to contact Helen on 07828704653. The repository is open after the Saturday 6:30 pm mass and on Sunday after the 9 and 11 am masses. Please do come in!

Cleaner Needed

Reliable and experienced cleaner needed for a 3 bedroom house in New Malden...I am living alone..no pets or children...easy house to clean. Please telephone 0208 942 0609.

DEANERY /DIOCESAN /SCHOOL/ LOCAL EVENTS

Healing Mass

Saturday 3rd December at 2pm-4pm
Sons of Divine Providence, Chapel of Our Lady of Westminster, Hampton Wick. KT1 4EU. More details on notice board.



The St Vincent de Paul Society have launched their Christmas Time Appeal.

Although they always need and welcome financial donations, they're also asking parishioners to give a little of their time to help others by joining our parish SVP group. As you plan your Christmas celebrations, spare a thought for those who dread the festive season. For many it's a time of profound loneliness and solitude, while for others it means not being able to afford the

family presents or delicious foods that the rest of us take for granted. But giving a little of your time or money (or both) to help those in need could transform someone's bleak Christmas. It might be the best gift you've ever given. To find out more please contact an SVP member of your parish.

Art of Dying Well

Art of Dying Well is a new website that offers a helping hand to those grappling with issues around death and dying. Based in the Catholic tradition but open to all, it features real-life stories about dealing with the journey through death to eternal life. www.artofdyingwell.org

Laleham Lea School—Vacancy Experienced School Secretary

Start 3rd January. Closing Date: 9am 2nd December. For Details contact:

secretary@lalehamlea.co.uk or 020 8660 3351. See notice board