

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

5TH DECEMBER – 11TH DECEMBER, 2021

NEWSLETTER

SACRED HEART

Year C • 2ND Sunday of Advent •
Psalter Week 2

THE COMING OF A GREAT KING, PREPARE FOR HIM

The mood of Advent is alertness, excitement, readiness: because something important is going to happen soon. So important, indeed, that Baruch says, "God has decreed the flattening of the mountains and the filling of the valleys". So important that John the Baptist cries in the wilderness: "Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight... so all may see the salvation of our God." The instinct to announce the coming of the Lord is Always a sound one.

Alertness, even excitement, about Christ's coming at Christmas and return at the end of ages, fine: but readiness? Are we ever really ready? How could we prepare for such a thing? Well, Jesus once told a story that helps us get it. A king held a wedding feast for His Son, but those who He first invited wouldn't come (Mt 22:1-14). He asked repeatedly. But they stuck to their own concerns and treated the King's messengers shamefully. It's a parable, of course, about God's repeated calls to Israel to join the party that is life in His Kingdom. Finally, in frustration, the King invites strangers, and nobodies "both good and bad" from the highways and byways – in other words, the less than holy Jews and even the Gentiles. But then we get a strange twist in the story somebody came to the feast dressed in thongs, a torn cloth. The King has had enough of all this disrespect. So, he gets the bouncers to throw him out. You see, even vagabonds in the Kingdom of God are expected to put their best foot forward. Though we might never be completely ready for Christ's coming at Christmas and at the end of time – or our coming to Him at the end of our lives – we can at least do our bit to prepare ourselves to participate. Even the poor shepherds in the field, received a little catechesis beforehand from the Angels and though they had no gold, frankincense, or myrrh to offer, they brought their lambs and carols and adoration.

It is important to bear in mind that then, whenever a king was to travel, messengers are sent ahead to announce to the local people who then prepared for his visit in several ways: by storing up provisions for his entourage, by providing a suitable dwelling and by repairing the local roads so the royal carriage or the chariot might not bounce over the potholes and get stuck in the ruts. So, like the old-time town crier, John uses that image to point to the coming of the Lord who is actually a king, the King of King.

It is obvious that John was not speaking about the mountains and hills, the valleys, the crooked and rough ways that abounded in Palestine in his time, and still abound around us today. Rather, he was talking about the mountains and hills and those obstacles in the hearts and lives of men and women, you, and me.

READINGS

FIRST READING

JEREMIAH 31:7-9

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PSALM 126:1-2,2-3, 4-5,6

SECOND READING

HEBREWS 5:1-6

GOSPEL

MARK 10:46-52

REFLECTION

Prepare by seeking forgiveness." What gets in the way of our appreciating God's gift of Jesus as Saviour is that we have let idols clutter our lives as the Jews of old did.



SACRED HEART OF JESUS — CAMBERWELL

Archdiocese of Southwark SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Year C

Clergy: Fr Victor Darlington (Parish Priest)
Assistant Priest: Fr. Alfred Ebalu.

Parish Office open Mon - Fri 9:30am - 12:30pm
Presbytery & Parish Office: 2 Knatchbull Road, London SE5 9QS
Telephone: (020) 7274 1908
E-mail: camberwell@rcaos.org.uk Website: www.sacredheartchurchcamberwell.co.uk.

Executive Head of St Joseph's Catholic Infants' & Junior Schools: Pitman Street, SE5 OTS
Delia Jameson Tel: 020 7703 3455

St Joseph's Catholic Infants' School - Head of School - Tel No: 020 7703 9264
St Joseph's Catholic Juniors' School - Head of School - Theresa Mokogwu. Tel: 020 7703 3455
Executive head of Sacred Heart & St Thomas the Apostle Catholic Secondary School:
Mr Serge Cefai Tel: 020 7 274 6844

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

SUNDAY 5TH DECEMBER

6.00PM

10.00AM

12.00NOON

6.00PM

MONDAY 6TH DEC

9.00 AM

7.00PM

TUESDAY 7TH DEC

9.00AM

7.00PM

WEDNESDAY 8TH DEC

9.00AM

7.00PM

THURSDAY 9TH DEC

9.00AM

7.00PM

FRIDAY 10TH DEC

9.00AM

7.00PM

SATURDAY 11TH DEC

10.00 AM

6.00PM

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SYLVIA & ASHLEY BASTIAN, PRAYING FOR THEIR CHILDREN & GRANDCHILDREN. PHIL JARIKRE, SPECIAL INTENTIONS

PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

BERTHA DZNOO, 60TH BIRTHDAY IN THANKSGIVING. AGATHA MOMOH, RIP. 4 YEARS IN MIND

MICHAEL IDEMOH'S FAMILY, SPECIAL INTENTIONS

FERIA

DEPARTED MEMBERS OF DE OLIVEIRA FAMILY

MEMORIAL OF ST. AMBROSE

ETHNA HARRIS, RIP

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF BVM

FOR A DONOR'S INTENTIONS. NDUBUISI ANI, BIRTHDAY THANKS AND FOR OUR LADY'S INTERCESSION. JOSEPH GEORGE MASSAQUOI, RIP. GERMAINE & FAMILY INTENTION. MARY JONES FOR GOOD HEALTH.

FERIA

MADIANA KUTUBU, RIP

FERIA

JOHANNA SIMS, RIP
PRINCE AFAM ORIZU, QUICK RECOVERY

FERIA

LENA MCMAHON'S INTENTIONS. MARY UKINEBO IKPONMWONBA, RIP. 3RD YEAR IN MIND

SYLVIA & ASHLEY BASTIAN IN THANKSGIVING & FOR THEIR INTENTIONS. ROSE FLAHERTY, RIP

SUNDAY MASSES

6:00pm (Sat)

10:00am 12:00 Noon * 6:00pm

* with Children's Liturgy

3:00pm (KCH chapel)

CONFESSION:

Sat: 10.30am - 10.45am

5.00pm - 5.45pm

Eucharistic Adoration:

Sunday 4:30 - 5:30pm

Friday 7:30 - 8:30pm

MORNING PRAYER

Monday - Friday 8:45am

Saturday 9:45am

ROSARY

After weekday Masses

PRAYER GROUPS

Sacred Heart Association:

Friday: 6.00pm

1st Friday 7:30pm

Our Lady & Divine Mercy:

Thursday 5:30 pm

Legion of Mary Seniors:

Thursday 7.00pm

Catholic Charismatic Renewal

Saturday 7pm

St. John Bosco Junior Altar

Servers

Tuesdays 5.30pm

Adult Altar Servers

Sunday after 11.30am Mass

MISSION STATEMENT

We, the Parish community of Sacred Heart, Camberwell celebrates the presence of Christ in our lives. Central and true to our name, we celebrate, we stand, and we dedicate our lives, witnessing to the unfailing love and friendship of God, through His beloved Son, in whose Heart of love we find daily strength for our journey. We are a catholic community, diverse and multicultural. Everyone has a voice and everyone is welcome.

We strive to make visible, God's love and care for the world in word, sacrament, and service to all. Nourished by the sacraments and in our diversity, we strive to create a supportive parish family that fosters communication. We use our talents as responsible stewards-accountable to God, to our neighbour, to our community and to the world at large.

Rev Fr Victor Darlington .

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON **CF. ISAIAH 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.

FIRST READINGS **BARUCH 5:1-9**

Jerusalem, take off your dress of sorrow and distress, put on the beauty of the glory of God for ever, wrap the cloak of the integrity of God around you, put the diadem of the glory of the Eternal on your head: since God means to show your splendour to every nation under heaven, since the name God gives you for ever will be, 'Peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness.' Arise, Jerusalem, stand on the heights and turn your eyes to the east: see your sons reassembled from west and east at the command of the Holy One, jubilant that God has remembered them.

Though they left you on foot, with enemies for an escort, now God brings them back to you like royal princes carried back in glory. For God has decreed the flattening of each high mountain, of the everlasting hills, the filling of the valleys to make the ground level so that Israel can walk in safety under the glory of God. And the forests and every fragrant tree will provide shade for Israel at the command of God; for God will guide Israel in joy by the light of his glory with his mercy and integrity for escort.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM **PSALM 125:(126)**

R. What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.

When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage,
it seemed like a dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
and our lips there were songs. ***R.***

The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels the Lord
worked for them!'

What marvels the Lord worked for us!
Indeed we were glad. ***R.***

Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage
as streams on the dry land.

Those who are sowing in tears
will sing when they reap. ***R.***

They go out, they go out, full of tears,
carrying the seed for the sowing,

They come back, full of song,
carrying their sheaves. ***R.***

and deepening your perception so that you can always recognise what is best. This will help you to become pure and blameless, and prepare you for the Day of Christ, when you will reach the perfect goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us for the glory and praise of God.

The Word of the Lord - ***Thanks be to God***

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION **LUKE 3: 4,6**

Alleluia, Alleluia!

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

GOSPEL **LUKE 3: 1-6**

In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's reign, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of the lands of Ituraea and Trachonitis, Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the pontificate of Annas and Caiaphas the word of God came to John son of Zechariah, in the wilderness. He went through the whole Jordan district proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the sayings of the prophet Isaiah:

A voice cries in the wilderness:

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

Every valley will be filled in,

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.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Baruch 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.

PARISH FINANCE: WEEKLY DONATIONS

Donations can be paid into the Parish Account:

Sacred Heart Church Camberwell.

Sort Code: 60-50-01

Account Number: 79102409

PARISH FINANCE COLLECTION

First collection amounted to £754.79

Gift Aid amounted to £188.10 not including standing orders.

GIFT AID & OFFERING

We have the Offering and Gift Aid boxes at the entrance and exit doors for our offering. Thank you for your generosity.

FROM THE FINANCE DESK

We can now register our gift aid envelope online by picking a form from the parish website. After the details are entered, kindly email to:

camberwellfinance@rcaos.org.uk

GIFT AID USERS

Please all gift aid users are kindly encouraged to pick up their envelopes at the exit door of the church with your names & numbers indicated on the envelopes.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES

Gift aid envelopes for one off donations: we have now gift aid envelopes for anyone wishing to make a one off donation to the church. Please speak to any priest or pick up one from the sacristy.

SECOND COLLECTION

Our second collection for today is for the needs of the parish

INFANT BAPTISM

Infant Baptism is ongoing. Kindly see any of the priest after Mass to discuss when you want your child baptised.

LEGION OF MARY—JUNIOR PRAESIDIUM

The junior praesidium of the Legion of Mary is will be held every Sunday after 12noon mass, at our Lady's chapel.

RCIA

The RCIA programme holds every Wednesday at 7.30 pm in the hall. The enquiry period is still open for those who want to deepen their Catholic faith.

UCM

The last meeting for the year after the 12 noon mass at the parish hall .
All mothers are invited



SUNDAY 5 PM ADORATION

We are reminded that Adoration of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament takes place every Sunday at 5pm to 6pm followed by Mass.

PEW REFURBISHMENT

The pews at the back on the far left of the baptismal font is still undergoing refurbishment and the other pews at the back will be ready before Christmas. Thank you for your understanding. A big thank you to all those who continue to donate towards the ongoing pew refurbishment.. More donors are still needed for the back pews, anyone interested please speak to Fr Victor . Thank you for your generosity. For those who have pledged to support the pew refurbishment, kindly start redeeming your pledges. Thank you for your cooperation..

MASS BOOKINGS

We have spaces available for the weekday Masses. Kindly call or text any of the priests to book a Mass.

SACRED HEART SCHOOL

Sacred Heart School 6th form application forms are now due for submission. If you have not yet registered please visit the school website and follow the link provided.

SYNOD

As the parish synod delegates we would like to thank everyone who took part in the listening phase of the process. Your generosity in sharing your experiences was deeply appreciated. We both felt truly inspired and encouraged by your witness and faith. God bless you with a fruitful advent and a Happy and Holy Christmas. Anthony and Madeleine

THE SEASON OF ADVENT

The holy season of Advent is a special time set aside to look ahead to Christ's second coming and to remember his first coming - at Christmas. It is a time we prepare our hearts to welcome him again at Christmas, thus it is a period of devout and expectant delight.

I encourage you all to make the best use of this special season spiritually. Individual Confessions are encouraged at this time, please speak to any of the priests if you want confession or go to Westminster Cathedral if you like to see a different priest. May the advent season be truly blessed and fulfilling for us all Amen.

CONFIRMATION 2022

Confirmation forms are now available for catholic children who are not in sacred heart school and are in year 9 or year 10 and have not done their confirmation. Please pick up a form from the sacristy. The forms will need to be completed and returned back to the priests latest by Sunday 19th December with copies of your baptism and first holy communion certificates. The first compulsory class for candidates and one parent is Sunday 16th January immediately after the 12 noon mass. During this meeting the format and modality of the programme will be explained.

ADVENT PRAYER

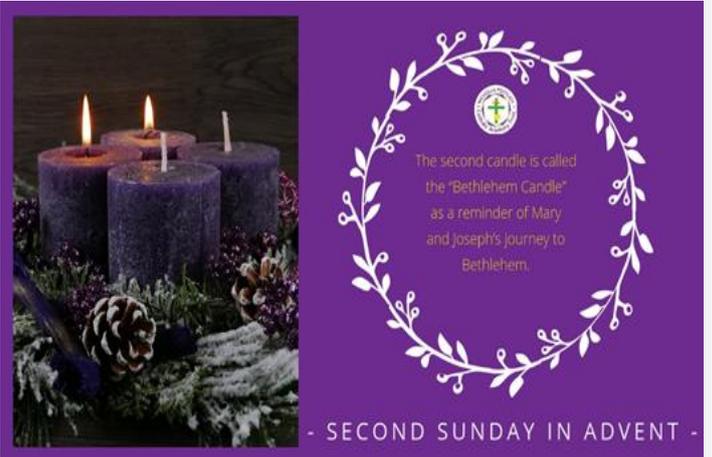
(For lighting the Second Candle of Advent)

Merciful God, You sent John the Baptist to preach repentance. Forgive us for the times when we have hurt other people and damaged our earth. Lead us to make a change, to live differently, preparing a way and making your paths straight. Amen.



SYMPATHY

We sympathise with our dear parishioner Uche Okwulu at the passing of her dear mother Theresa Adafor Onwochei recently. May God grant consolation to her dear family and grant her eternal rest in His kingdom. Amen.



Sacred Heart Catholic Church "Tap to Donate" Online



Please be informed that the parish have started using the two devices for our contactless method of donation which are now located at the two entrances of the church.

Thank you for your generosity.



Donation by Credit/debit card

We can use our credit/debit cards in the contactless/chip and pin terminals in church. Nowadays, we often don't carry cash with us when we go out, and many venues encourage cashless payments. With credit/debit cards, we can donate as we do online:



- the general parish funds (the same as the first collection at Mass)
- for a specific fundraising purpose in the parish
- Mass offerings
- Charitable/second collections (when they occur)

Christmas programme

Christmas Eve: Friday 24th December

10am - Mass
6pm - Vigil Mass for Children.
11pm - Carol Service.
12am - Midnight Mass.

Christmas Day: Saturday 25th December

Masses at 8.30am, 10am, 12 Noon.
No evening Adoration or 6pm Mass.

Sunday 26th December: Feast of the Holy Family

Masses at 10am, 12 Noon, 6pm
5pm Adoration.

Monday 27th December - to - Friday 31st December

Mass at 10am -
No 7pm evening Mass.

New Year's Eve: Friday 31st December

11pm - Adoration Crossover
12am - Midnight Mass.

Saturday 1st January: Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

10am Mass
6pm Vigil Mass.

Sunday 2nd January: 2nd Sunday of Christmas.

Masses at 10am, 12 Noon, 6pm.
5pm Adoration.

** Please pick up a copy of the Christmas programme at the exit doors as you leave church today

* * * For **Confessions**, please speak with one of the priests or visit Westminster Cathedral.

Fr Victor, Fr Alfred, and Seminarian Mark wish you and your family many blessings as we celebrate the birth of our Saviour. May the peace and joy of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph be yours forever.

CONSULTATION AND FORM SIGNING

Since the presbytery and the parish office is not Covid-19 risk assessed, unfortunately face to face consultation and form signing with Fr. Victor is not permitted at this time. However, for those who wish to sign any forms or other documents, they are encouraged to fill in their parts and then drop off the form through our letter box addressed to me. Such forms will be ready for pick up by next day between 10am and 4pm.

For sacred heart school forms please show your baptism and first communion certificates to the priest or seminarian after mass and submit the form. You will then have to follow up to submit copies of same to the school along with the supplementary form.

For other school forms, please submit same way to the priests or seminarian and pick them up from the parish office during the week for submission to the school concerned yourselves.

For any other consultations please email camberwell@rcaos.org.uk or call any of the priests directly or by text message, we shall respond to you promptly. Thank you for your cooperation.

FOUNDATION GOVERNOR

St Francis Xavier Catholic Sixth Form College, Balham, a successful provider of outstanding full-time education to 16 - 19 year olds from the whole community, is seeking a foundation governor. Do you have an interest in education with skills and experience that would be useful to our governing body, responsible for preserving and developing the educational character and mission of the College; its solvency and assets and the achievements and safeguarding of its students? This is a voluntary but demanding, interesting and professional role for a practising Roman Catholic who has the time to prepare for, attend and participate in at least six evening meetings each year (full Board and minimum one sub-committee). The governors are particularly, but not exclusively, seeking volunteers with current experience / expertise in Human Resources management or accountancy / audit.

If you are interested, or would like to know more, please contact Eleanor Lewis, Clerk to the Governors (020 8772 6062 – e.lewis@sfx.ac.uk). Website: sfx.ac.uk

NHS TEST AND TRACE APP

For those who have registered with this app you don't need to write down your names as you enter the Church. The parish now have the QR code which you can scan as you enter the church. This is located at the entrance of the Church. For those without the App, please continue to sign in on the sheets provided for each Mass, for the safety of us all. Thank you for your cooperation.

Do you have skills to offer as a Governor or Trustee in the Catholic schools in Southwark?

The Education Commission for the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Southwark (rcaoseducation.org.uk) is looking to build up its list of people able to offer time, expertise and commitment to support primary, secondary schools and sixth form colleges in Southwark.

The Diocese needs local people from its parishes to volunteer as foundation governors in Catholic maintained schools and academies. It also needs people to become trustees/directors in their multi-academy trusts.

Could you spare a few hours a month?

These are fulfilling roles though not without challenges. Governors and trustees work together as a team to ensure a good standard of education is being achieved. Being a governor or a trustee is an opportunity to develop the skills you have, undertake service to the community and to improve the futures of children today.

You do not need to be a parent or work in the education sector. The Diocese welcomes interest from all sectors of society and across all ages. It is looking for people with finance and accounting, legal and HR, premises and health and safety experience. Induction, training and mentoring will be provided.

Some further information can be found here: [DBS-Role-of-Foundation-Governor.pdf](#) (rcaoseducation.org.uk)

If you would like to know more, please fill in the form below to register your interest. A member of the team will be in contact shortly to talk with you about the process. Suitable candidates will then receive a statement of support from their parish priest, provide 2 referees and undertake a DBS before allocation to a school.

Could you become a Governor? – Education Commission for the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Southwark (rcaoseducation.org.uk)

Those interested please speak to any of the priests or to see exact details in the parish newsletter in the parish Whatsapp forum or on the parish website

SYNOD RESOURCES - 1

About the Synod - Helping people walk the Synodal Way

Introduction

Pope Francis has asked the whole Catholic Church worldwide to engage in a process of discernment under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. This process is called a synod. It involves everyone in the Church - clergy, religious, and lay Catholics, each participating according to the gifts and charisms of their vocation. The word 'synod' comes from two Greek words 'sun' meaning together and 'hodos' meaning way. The English word synod therefore means making our way together, journeying together along the way, united in Christ, the Way, the Truth and the Life.

In our Archdiocese, Archbishop John is inviting everyone to respond to the invitation of Pope Francis and take part in the initial diocesan listening phase of the Synod. Each local parish is asked to host a meeting, or series of meetings, where conversations about the Church's mission in the life of the parish and the diocese can be prayerfully examined; and where the will of the Lord can be discerned, as we seek to grow in faith and number.

Coming together in this way, we place ourselves in the presence of the Lord, and one another, to hear His voice more clearly. All of this is done to help us to witness more effectively as missionary disciples in our parish and diocese as the Local Church.

To help with this phase of the process, we offer some meeting templates, together with prayer resources for parish meetings. These are to assist everyone who gathers to both listen and hear what the Lord is saying to his Church.

We would like every parish to have two delegates to enable this process. We also, therefore, offer guidance about how you might approach the selection of your parish delegates.

Every person matters to the Lord and his Church, every voice matters and every story is important.

To help in gathering together people from across the life of your parish and community, we have also included some commonly asked questions to help explain the Synodal Way and to encourage people to enter into this vital period of discernment.

Next Steps?

The Archbishop is calling us to take part in the listening phase of the Synod which Pope Francis has invited the whole Church to join.

Our parish delegates are Madeleine Merrifield and Anthony Asagba they will support the process in our parish and will attend the diocesan meetings on our behalf in the diocese. They will help to collect and co-ordinate our parish response in this process. We are very grateful for both of them for doing this on our behalf.

For more information, see below;

Websites: rcaos.org.uk/synod (from 18 October 2021)

aec.rcaos.org.uk/synod (from 11 October 2021)

Prayer cards for the Synod

Please pick up prayer cards for your family and friends at the entrance and exit doors as we all pray daily for the guidance of the Holy Spirit towards a successful Synod.