

SACRED HEART

REJOICE!

Today we begin the third week of our preparation and waiting for the coming of the Lord - 3rd Sunday of Advent. In the tradition of the Church, this Sunday is known as Gaudete, a Latin word which means "Rejoice".

Our liturgy today highlights the theme of Joy. From the opening words of the Entrance Antiphon in the Missal, the Opening Prayer, the Responsorial Psalm and the Second Reading, this theme of Joy is continually reinforced and emphasized.

In the Gospel passage, we read that people from different walks of life reacted to John the Baptist preaching by asking about his identity. "Who are you?" As John continued to cry out for them to prepare the way of the Lord, they were touched and so came to him and asked - "Who are you?" This question is constantly repeated in the gospel passage we have just listened to. Like those people, we too today in the midst of our doubts, problems and anxieties ask the same question in one way or another and more particularly during such seasons as Advent. "Who is this person - John the Baptist?" However, it is important to realize that underneath this question is a deeper search for the person of Christ.

In asking for the personality of John the Baptist, the issue at stake is the identity and mission of Christ. There was a great expectation of the Messiah. So to be sure, the Jews sent priests and Levites to ask John. The answer given by John is quite brief but very rich in content and meaning "a voice in the desert, crying out: Make straight the way of the Lord". John came as a voice to announce the coming of Christ the Messiah. He has come to prepare a people for the Lord and to point out the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. He did this by his voice and his life.

We are the John the Baptist of today. It is our irreplaceable responsibility as Christians to prepare ourselves and others for the coming of the Messiah. What kind of people we should be while waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ at Christmas, and in that perspective for His final coming to judge the living and the dead. One of the ways to prepare is what our liturgy highlights today: REJOICE - for the Lord is near. Advent is marked by a crescendo of joy. As the coming of the Lord draws nearer and nearer, so we become more excited. The rhythm of Advent is well captured by the Advent wreath which starts with one lighted candle and ends with four.

READINGS

FIRST READING:
ISAIAH 61:1-2,10-11

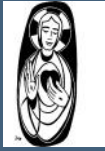
RESPONSORIAL PSALM :
LUKE 1:46-50,53-54

SECOND READING:
1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-24

GOSPEL:
JOHN 1:6-8,19-28

*"REJOICE
IN THE
LORD
ALWAYS;
AGAIN
I SAY,
REJOICE"*

PHILIPPIANS 4: 4-5



SACRED HEART OF JESUS – CAMBERWELL

Archdiocese of Southwark
Third Sunday of Advent - Year B

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 0TS
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

SUNDAY MASSES

6:00pm (Sat) 8:30am
10:00am 11:30am* 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

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

13TH DECEMBER—19TH DECEMBER, 2020

SUNDAY 13TH

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B)

6:00PM

People of the Parish

10:00AM

James & Lara Ogunleye, 40th Wedding Anniversary, God blessings upon members of their family. Sandra Bennett, RIP, Maureen Kelleher, RIP

12 NOON

6.00PM

MONDAY 14TH

MEMORIAL OF ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS

9.00AM

Desmond Lewis, RIP

7.00PM

Nicholas Tertullien, RIP

TUESDAY 15TH

FERIA

9.00AM

Holy Souls/ Gabriel Mejia's intentions

7.00PM

WEDNESDAY 16TH

FERIA

9.00AM

7.00PM

THURSDAY 17TH

FERIA

9.00AM

John & Martha Rayne. Mary White, RIP.
Odia, Imiavan, vanni, Ehiguese, Omobude's intention

7.00PM

Holy Souls in Purgatory/Libardo Quicero

FRIDAY 18TH

FERIA

9.00AM

7.00PM

SATURDAY 19TH

FERIA

10.00 AM

Christopher Ogunleye, Birthday Thanksgiving. Ruth Okoye, Birthday Thanksgiving and God's protection

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 unending 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

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice.
Indeed, the Lord is near

FIRST READINGS

ISAIAH 61:1-2,10-11

‘The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for the Lord has anointed me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor, to bind up hearts that are broken; to proclaim liberty to captives, freedom to those in prison; to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord.’

I exult for joy in the Lord. My soul rejoices in my God. for he has clothed me in the garments of salvation, he has wrapped me in the cloak of integrity, like a bridegroom wearing his wreath, like a bride adorned in her jewels.’

For as the earth makes fresh things grow, as a garden makes seeds spring up, so will the Lord make both integrity and praise spring up in the sight of the nations. “

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

LUKE 1:46-50,53-54

R. My soul rejoices in my God. .

- 1 My soul glorifies the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.
He looks on his servant in her nothingness;
henceforth all ages will call me blessed .
- 2 The Almighty works marvels for me.
Holy his name!
His mercy is from age to age,
on those who fear him .
- 3 He fills the starving with good things,
sends the rich away empty.
He protects Israel, his servant,
remembering his mercy. .

SECOND READING

1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-24

Be happy at all times; pray constantly; and for all things give thanks to God, because this is what God expects you to do in Christ Jesus. Never try to suppress the Spirit or treat the gift of prophecy with contempt;

think before you do anything – hold on to what is good and avoid every form of evil.

May the God of peace make you perfect and holy; and may you all be kept safe and blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has called you and he will not fail you.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ISAIAH 61:1 / LUKE 3:4,6

Alleluia, alleluia!

**The spirit of the Lord has been given to me. He has sent me to bring the good news to the poor
Alleluia!**

GOSPEL

JOHN 1:6-8,19-28

A man came, sent by God. His name was John. He came as a witness, as a witness to speak for the light, so that everyone might believe through him. He was not the light, only a witness to speak for the light. This is how John appeared as a witness. When the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, ‘Who are you?’ he not only declared, but he declared quite openly, ‘I am not the Christ.’ ‘Well then,’ they asked ‘are you Elijah?’ ‘I am not’ he said. ‘Are you the Prophet?’ He answered, ‘No.’

So they said to him, ‘Who are you? We must take back an answer to those who sent us. What have you to say about yourself?’ So John said, ‘I am, as Isaiah prophesied: a voice that cries in the wilderness: Make a straight way for the Lord.’ Now these men had been sent by the Pharisees, and they put this further question to him, ‘Why are you baptising if you are not the Christ, and not Elijah, and not the prophet?’ John replied, ‘I baptise with water; but there stands among you – unknown to you – the one who is coming after me; and I am not fit to undo his sandal-strap.’ This happened at Bethany, on the far side of the Jordan, where John was baptising”

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to You Lord Jesus Christ

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We implore your mercy, Lord, that this divine sustenance may cleanse us of our faults and prepare us for the coming feasts. Through Christ our Lord.

NOTICES OF THE WEEK

PARISH FINANCE: WEEKLY DONATIONS

Donations can be paid into the Parish Account:
Sacred Heart Church Camberwell
Sort Code: 60-50-01
Account Number: 79102409

GIFT AID & OFFERING

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

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.

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.

CHRISTMAS COLLECTIONS

From the Archbishop's Office
This year, due to the global pandemic all of the collections (including electronic giving) which are taken on each of the days within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord and up to and including 6th of January 2021, will constitute the annual personal Christmas offerings of the faithful for their priests. The offerings should be recorded through the parish bank account in the normal way. Thank you for your generosity.

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Due to the restrictions presently in place for the safety of us all, parishioners should please note that our Christmas Vigil Masses 24th Dec, will be at 7pm and 10pm. Elderly parishioners and young families are encouraged to attend the 7pm Mass. On Christmas Day, we shall have 3 Masses at 8am, 10am and 12noon. For our cross over night into 2021– Adoration will begin at 11pm. Plans have been made to livestream the service in the Parish Hall to accommodate people.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

We are reminder that Adoration of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is every Sunday from 5pm to 6pm, followed by Mass.

St. JOSEPH'S CAMBERWELL CATHOLIC SCHOOLS FEDERATION.

Reception places available for September 2021.
please call : 02077039264 for more information.

MASS BOOKING

We have Mass spaces for this week. Kindly call or text any of the priests to book a Mass on any of the free days. See the parish newsletter on the website or on the parish WhatsApp group to know the days that are free.

FACE MASK/FACE COVERING

Please be reminded that face mask or face covering is recommended for everyone attending Mass except for those exempted on health grounds. The parish is no longer able to provide you with one. Kindly ensure you have your own mask for the safety of us all.

MESSAGE FROM SOUTHWARK COUNCIL KEY COVID MESSAGES

- Infection rates in London are too high. We will need to take urgent action to bring things under control .
- Londoners: don't let your mask slip. When you leave home wear your face covering throughout your shopping trip.
- Don't meet people from beyond your household or bubble indoors. That includes your home or in a pub or restaurant setting.
- We all want to return to normality, and this is most keenly felt at this festive time of the year. All Londoners must step up their efforts to keep each other safe.
- Wash your hands. Cover your face. Make space.



ADVENT PRAYER:

(For Lighting the third Candle of Advent)
**Lord God, during this time of Advent
may your Word illuminate all
darkness in our lives. May this third
flame warm our hearts, so that we
may love as you love. Come, Lord
Jesus. Come, Emmanuel. Use us to
shine forth Your Word to a world
seeking light in the darkness. Amen.**

NOTICES OF THE WEEK

RESUMPTION OF WEEKLY PRAYER GROUPS

IN THE PARISH

Any of the Pious Prayer Groups in the Parish, who feel they are ready to begin prayer meetings again under the new restrictions guiding us for Masses, are now encouraged to do the following:

1. Each prayer group should appoint a safeguarding officer and a steward and submit the names and contact information to Fr. Victor.
2. Soon after meeting this request, prayer groups can begin their weekly prayers. For the sake of clarity, the following are the weekly prayer groups of our parish: The Legion of Mary, the Charismatic, the Divine Mercy group and Sacred Heart Association.
3. At all prayer meetings, the 2 meter social distancing must be observed, sanitise your hands before entering the Church and when leaving the Church. Face covering must be used except by those exempted due to health reasons. The steward should ensure everyone writes their names for Track and Trace. No group singing is allowed during prayers. However, a cantor or a soloist can sing and the organ or Piano is permitted. No passing of prayer books, each person should have his/hers. Physical contact with anyone is not permitted during prayers. The duration for prayer meeting is maximum of one hour. After the prayer meeting, the safeguarding officer for the group and the steward will ensure the pews are thoroughly cleaned with recommended anti bacterial wipes without bleach.
4. The UCM and St. Theresa's society are also permitted to meet only for prayers avoiding their usual meeting patterns. This way such meetings are permitted inside the Church. Both groups can alternate their meetings at the choir gallery. If they must proceed with this arrangement, please give us the names of your safeguarding officer/steward as requested for other societies.
5. Please note that cultural/social gatherings of communities within the parish are not permitted at this time.

Finally, as we all are aware, the coronavirus is still very much with us and restrictions are being tightened. We have to adapt to safety rules and learn to live with it. In the last two weeks, two parishes and their parish priests tested positive of the virus and have been shot down for two weeks. Let us remain careful and cautious as we create a safe environment for our collective worship. God bless you all.

Father Victor

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 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.

CORONA VIRUS PRAYER

Loving and healing God, we turn to you in prayer, confident that you are with us and with all people in every moment. We stand before you as people of hope, trusting in your care and protection. May your faithful love support us and soothe the anxiety of our hearts. Generous God, fill us with compassion and concern for others, young and old, that we may look after one another in these challenging days.

Bring healing to those who are sick and all who work in our medical facilities. Give wisdom to leaders in healthcare and governance, that they may make the right decisions for the well-being of people. We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God. Do not despise our plea—we who are put to the test—and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and Blessed Virgin Mary. Amen.



HOUSEBOUND & SICK

Debitu Hadgu, Donaldson Opoku, Sue McCarthy, Peter Kellegher, Eileen Hartnett, Jessie Vincent, Adelaide Peters, Margaret Lynch, Birdie Heffernan, Angela Smith. Joan Bastin, Eileen Nimmo, Timothy Angol, Rita Greaway, Agnes Omeike, Ashley Isochukwu Igwebike, Anthony Okoh, Johanna Sims, Troy Benjamin, Lucy Tousaint, Basil Pereira, Kathleen Lennon, Minnian Davies, Marie August, Rueben Jameson, Alba Juliana Ramirez. Kenny Lawal, Kathleen Gray. Robert / Eileen O'Dempsey, Indria Singh, Ulina Pierre, Arielle Miambanzila, Cian Dinsmore, Joseph Murray, Sheelly Choudray, Nesar Ali, Ewen Aitchison, Rasheeda, Kelly Knightly, Eileen Moore, Agnes Smith, James Mc Donald, Fr. Chris Dooley, Velda, Mary Regan Marie Perla, Elsie Devereaux, Alba Juliana Ramirez, James Mc Donald, Doreen Barnett, Barbara Kendall, Esther Eugene, Declan Finn, Caleem McDonagh, Imelda Kerr, Taylor Thompson, Zafar Jabal, Tina Kevitt, Nirajan Bhai, Nicola Hermentine, Anne Keane, Pascal O'Clo, Liam Whitfield. Monica White. John Howard, Charlie Quigley, Joshua Tomas, Collen McDonagh