

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

6TH — 12TH DECEMBER, 2020

NEWSLETTER

SACRED HEART

Year B • Advent Season • Psalter Week 3

ADVENT: A TIME OF COMFORT & CONSOLATION

Today's message is one of comfort, consolation, courage and confidence in God's saving love. He calls us to be His prophets. Bring comfort to His people. To do this we have to be committed to His kingdom. We have to be committed to His lifestyle, to His love. In this way, the recognition of the presence of God gives comfort to His people.

"The Book of Consolation", from which our first reading was taken, like the Gospel of Mark, begins by announcing good news - the servitude of the people of God is ended and their iniquity is pardoned. This is a message of consolation addressed to the Jewish deportees in Babylon toward the end of their exile. It was then that the voice in the wilderness of their desolation was heard: The Lord is coming, make straight his paths, bridge the valleys (of despair), level the mountains (of presumption). John the Baptist echoes the words of Isaiah in the Gospel: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."

That is the mission of Advent: prepare ourselves and prepare our world for Christ. We have to bring His peace to others by entrusting ourselves to His love. We have to be so full of Christ's love that others will be able to sense His presence within us and experience His peace. We have to comfort His people in the very essence of our existence, by being Christians.

Actually, Christmas means that Christ Himself suffers with us. What He does promise and provide is some kind of understanding, of meaning, for life. He allows us to join our sufferings to His own for the greater good of the world, and He provides courage and strength to come to terms with life and suffering.

The Psalmist of today spoke with great assurance of the imminent good news from the Lord. He declared: "I will hear what the Lord God has to say, a voice that speaks of peace, peace for his people. His help is near to those who fear him and his glory will dwell in our land." (Psalm 84:8-9)

My dear brothers and sisters, because we really matter to God, Christ has come to make us free to accept and to experience a whole new way of life. Accept it, experience it, and inside you will be so filled with joy you will be compelled to share it. Every Christian should proclaim the "good news," how the Lord has come to free every person from slavery of sin. Jesus has not come to tell us that we are sinners (we knew this already). He has come to tell us such beautiful news that it sounds almost unbelievable: the love of God is so great and powerful that He will not allow anybody to get lost.

From the Gospel of today, one may ask: Why were so many ordinary people drawn to John the Baptist? It was not the religious leaders who went there. They considered John a kind of maverick and lone ranger. It was ordinary people – people like you and me. So, what was the attraction? Did they go out there to be told that they were sinners and needed to repent? I am not sure that is the kind of message that attracts the normal ordinary person. I believe it was the sense and spirit of hope that John conveyed in his message and ministry.

READINGS

FIRST READING:
ISAIAH 40:1-5,9-11

RESPONSORIAL PSALM :
PSALM 84(85):9-14

SECOND READING:
2 PETER 3:8-14

GOSPEL:
MARK 1:1-8

ADVENT



COME LORD JESUS COME!!!



SACRED HEART OF JESUS – CAMBERWELL

Archdiocese of Southwark
All Saints - Year A

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

6TH DECEMBER—12TH DECEMBER, 2020

SUNDAY 6TH

10am

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B)

Joshua Osinibi, Birthday Thanksgiving
Daniel + Mary Ellen Shiel

12noon

Bertha Dzunod, birthday Thanksgiving and special intentions
Lady Clare Abrafi Amissah, 2nd Birthday Thanksgiving
UCM, praying for Rose Agbukor for recovery and wellbeing
Alan Butcher, RIP. Joseph Kwaku Abban, eternal repose

6.00 pm

D'Silva Family

MONDAY 7TH

9.00 AM
7.00PM

MEMORIAL OF ST. AMBROSE

Holy Souls & Maria Vasquez

TUESDAY 8TH

9.00AM

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Ndubuisi Ani, Birthday Thanksgiving and God's protection
Shane Davies, Simeon Sargent, Birthday Thanksgiving

7.00PM

WEDNESDAY 9TH

9.00 AM
7.00pm

FERIA

Jenny Osibamowo for speedy recovery.
People of the Parish,

THURSDAY 10TH FERIA

9.00 AM
7.00PM

Winnie Pepple, RIP

FRIDAY 11TH

9.00 AM
7.00PM

FERIA

SATURDAY 12TH

10.00 AM

FERIA

Holy Souls & Salman Khan
Elizabeth Brobbey, RIP, One year memorial in thanksgiving

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

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

ISAIAH 40:1-5,9-11

‘Console my people, console them’ says your God. ‘Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her that her time of service is ended, that her sin is atoned for, that she has received from the hand of the Lord double punishment for all her crimes.’ A voice cries, ‘Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord. Make a straight highway for our God across the desert. Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low. Let every cliff become a plain, and the ridges a valley; then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all mankind shall see it; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.’

Go up on a high mountain, joyful messenger to Zion. Shout with a loud voice, joyful messenger to Jerusalem. Shout without fear, say to the towns of Judah, ‘Here is your God.’ Here is the Lord coming with power, his arm subduing all things to him. The prize of his victory is with him, his trophies all go before him. He is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms, holding them against his breast and leading to their rest the mother ewes“

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PSALM 84(85):9-14

R. Let us see, O Lord, your mercy, and give us your saving help .

- 1** I will hear what the Lord God has to say,
a voice that speaks of peace,
peace for his people.
His help is near for those who fear him
and his glory will dwell in our land .
- 2** Mercy and faithfulness have met;
justice and peace have embraced.
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth
and justice look down from heaven.
- 3** The Lord will make us prosper
and our earth shall yield its fruit.
Justice shall march before him
and peace shall follow his steps.

SECOND READING

2 PETER 3:8-14

There is one thing, my friends, that you must never forget: that with the Lord, ‘a day’ can mean a thousand years, and a thousand years is like a day. The Lord is not being slow to carry out his promises, as anybody else might be called slow; but he is being patient with you all,

wanting nobody to be lost and everybody to be brought to change his ways. The Day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then with a roar the sky will vanish, the elements will catch fire and fall apart, the earth and all that it contains will be burnt up.

Since everything is coming to an end like this, you should be living holy and saintly lives while you wait and long for the Day of God to come, when the sky will dissolve in flames and the elements melt in the heat. What we are waiting for is what he promised: the new heavens and new earth, the place where righteousness will be at home.

So then, my friends, while you are waiting, do your best to live lives without spot or stain so that he will find you at peace.

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. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

MARK 1:1-8

The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is written in the book of the prophet Isaiah:

Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way. A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight and so it was that John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

All Judaea and all the people of Jerusalem made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. John wore a garment of camel-skin, and he lived on locusts and wild honey. In the course of his preaching he said, ‘Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals.

I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.”

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to You Lord Jesus Christ

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. 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.

RESUMPTION OF CONFIRMATION CLASSES

Parents and Candidates are hereby informed that our Confirmation classes have resumed, and are being held in the Parish hall at 7.00 PM on Wednesdays for Group 1, Thursdays for Group 2 and Fridays for group 3.

SYMPATHIES

We sympathise with Stella and Godstime Naziegbeneguan at the death of their 5 year old son Praise Naziegbeneguan. His funeral will take place at Camberwell New Cemetery Chapel tomorrow 7th December at 1pm, followed by burial. May his gentle soul rest in peace and may God grant his parents and siblings the fortitude to bear this great loss. Amen. We express our sympathy to Agnes Abban at the death of her father Joseph Kwaku Abban recently in Ghana. May his soul rest in peace. Amen.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

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

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.

BAPTISM AND FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CLASSES

The next class for the children and their parents is on Saturday 12th December at 11am via Zoom. Parents should ensure they are registered on the WhatsApp group to be acquainted with the necessary information concerning the classes.

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.



ADVENT PRAYER:

(For Lighting the Second Candle of Advent)

Lord God, during this time of Advent may your Word illuminate all darkness in our lives. May this second flame light a lamp by which we may find our way to you.

Come, Lord Jesus. Come, Emmanuel. Use us to shine forth Your Word to a world seeking light in the darkness. Amen.

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

Debitru 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, Andra Martin, Ashley Isochukwu Igwebike, Anthony Okoh, Johanna Sims, Ursula Lubrano, Troy Benjamin, Lucy Tousaint, Basil Pereira, Kathleen Lennon, Minnian Davies, MarieAugust, Rueben Jameson, AlbaJuliana Ramirez. Kenny Lawal, Kathleen Gray. Robert / Eileen O'Dempsey, Indria Singh, Ulina Pierre, Arielle Miambanzila, Paulin Ngang, 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, Jackie Skeete, Taylor Thompson, Zafar Jabal, Tina Kevitt, Nirajan Bhai, Nicola Hermenstine, Anne Keane, Pascal O'Cloo, Liam Whitfield. Monica White. John Howard, Charlie Quigley, Joshua Tomas, Collen McDonagh