



Parish of Saint Joseph

Malvern

Worcestershire

Archdiocese of Birmingham
Registered Charity 234216



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THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

12 December – 13 December 2020

REFLECTION ON THE SEASON OF ADVENT



Isaiah 6: 1-2, 10-11

1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24

John 1: 6-8, 19-28

The mysterious figure of John the Baptist, introduced in last week's readings, comes into sharper focus today. Who he is, we see in today's Gospel, is best understood by who he isn't. He is not Elijah returned from the heavens, although like him he dresses in the prophet's attire and preaches repentance and judgment, fulfilling the mission of Elijah. Neither is John the prophet Moses foretold, although he is a kinsman and speaks God's word. Nor is John the Messiah, though he has been anointed by the Spirit since he was in the womb. John prepares the way for the Lord. The baptism he performs is symbolic, not sacramental. It is a sign given to stir our hearts to repentance. John comes to us in the Advent readings to show us the light, that we might believe in the One who comes at Christmas. And as Paul exhorts in today's Epistle, we should rejoice, give thanks, and pray without ceasing that God will make us perfectly holy in spirit, soul, and body—that we may be blameless when our Lord comes.

Masses and Intentions for This Week

Sat	12	Advent Feria	10.00 am	Holy Mass	Marian Longstaff† (Anniversary)
Sat	12	THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT	6.00 pm	Holy Mass	People of the Parish
Sun	13	THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT	10.00 am	Holy Mass	Thanksgiving (T & B Jennymon)
Sun	13	THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT	4.15 pm	Holy Mass	Family Mass for First Communion Candidates
Mon	14	Memorial of St John of The Cross, Doctor of the Church	12 noon	Holy Mass	Private Intention (S & D Craig)
Tue	15	Advent Feria	12 noon	Holy Mass	Chris Marsh† (L Harper)
Wed	16	Advent Feria		Private Mass	
Thur	17	Exposition	9:30 am- 6:45 pm	Aldwin Room	
Thur	17	Advent Feria <i>O Sapientia</i>	7.00 pm	Holy Mass	David Allen† (L Harper)
Fri	18	Advent Feria <i>O Adonai</i>	9.15 am	Holy Mass	Maura Smith† (L Harper)
Sat	19	Advent Feria <i>O Radix Jesse</i>	10.00 am	Holy Mass	People of The Parish
Sat	19	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT <i>O Clavis David</i>	6.00 pm	Holy Mass	Mike Clarke† (C Clarke)
Sun	20	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT <i>O Clavis David</i>	10.00 am	Holy Mass	Pim van Ling† (Fr Naz)

HOLY MASS FROM ST JOSEPH'S is livestreamed via YouTube except for Wednesday and Saturday evening:
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCq9QGYz7CmmPDRxzmT_ttow



@CatholicMalvern



St Josephs Catholic Parish, Malvern UK

PRAYER BEFORE THE ADVENT WREATH



Father in heaven, our hearts desire the warmth of your love and our minds are searching for the light of your Word. Increase our longing for Christ our Saviour and give us the strength to grow in love, that the dawn of his coming may find us rejoicing in his presence and welcoming the light of his truth; Our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you, for ever and ever. **Amen**



First Holy Communion Programme

- Zoom Meeting on Saturday, 12 Dec, at 4pm on receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
- Sunday, 13 Dec, First Reconciliation for First Holy Communion Candidates (Group A) at 3:30pm in Church.
- Family Mass for groups A & B at 4:15pm on Sunday, 13 Dec, in Church.

Children from Year 3 and up who would like to join the First Holy Communion cohort for next year should contact the Parish Office. Those not yet baptised may join the programme and will, with parental consent, be baptised shortly before First Holy Communion.

The Parish Carol Service will be livestreamed at 4pm on Sunday 20 December. Don't miss it!

Christmas Masses are planned as follows:

Christmas Eve	4.30 pm	Outdoor Family Mass
Christmas Eve	8.30 pm	Christmas Vigil Mass
Christmas Day	8:00 am	Christmas Day Mass
Christmas Day	10.00 am	Christmas Day Mass

Booking Christmas Mass parishioners may book a Mass by contacting the Parish Office by either phone on 01684 574 250 or email (stjoseph.malvern@rcaob.org.uk). Please tell us:

the number of people in your party _____
the number of children under 11 years of age _____
the names of everyone in your party _____
and a contact number _____

We will note the date and time of your email or phone booking and book in the order requests are received. We will then call or email to confirm.

NB We can have up to 100 people at Outdoor Family Mass and up to 35 people at indoor Masses.

Many thanks to all our event organisers & helpers.

100+Club December Draw took place on 9th December. Congratulations to the winners who are: **1st prize £90 – Clare Gray ; 2nd prize £45 – Lindsey Latimer ; 3rd prize £45 Liz & Chris Burger – ; 4th prize £22.50 – Margaret Hill ; 5th prize £22.50 – Chris Park.** The next draw will take place in January, hopefully. The 100+ Club provides essential funds for church maintenance. Thank you to all who support of it. If you would like to join the 100+ Club, or wish to have more entries, please contact Anne Lewis in the parish office.

The parish's traditional Christmas Appeal organised by the One World Group during Advent is here once again! Details of the appeal and how to contribute in person, by post or by bank transfer can be found [here](#).



*Mary holds her finger out
and a divine hand closes on it.
The maker of the world
is born
a begging child.*

A. Farrar

MAKE AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

If you cannot attend Mass, you may make an Act of Spiritual Communion by saying:

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You. AMEN.

PLEASE PRAY for the sick & housebound of St Joseph's parish: Anne Wiseman, Martin Burger, Raymond Bree, Nicholas Ratcliff, Jonah Willis, Anne-Marie Elder, and Jessica. We include all those in hospitals, nursing homes & their own homes. Our Lady, Health of the sick, pray for them. **Amen**

Prayer for the End of the Pandemic

Almighty and merciful Father,
You show your love to all your creation.
We come before You asking for an end to the coronavirus pandemic.
Hear graciously the prayers we make for those affected by the virus.
Grant healing to the sick, eternal life to the dead and consolation to bereaved families.
Be with those who are lonely, unemployed & anxious.
We thank You for the vaccines and pray they may be delivered safely, effectively and ethically to all.
We pray that governments and health authorities work for the good of all people. **Amen.**

Confession Fr Naz will hear confession in the Aldwin Room on Saturdays during Advent from 10:30 - 11am. On arrival, please take a seat in church and a steward will direct you to the Aldwin Room in order of arrival.

Anointing of the sick To arrange an anointing please phone Fr Naz on 01684 574 250.

St Joseph's School have a vacancy for a lunchtime supervisor. The successful applicant would work between 12 and 1pm every day, supervising the children in the hall and or outside at play. They need only to provide two references, and have a short meeting with the Head Teacher and a Governor. If you know anyone who may be interested please do let them know about this opportunity.

*The Word of God became flesh and blood,
and moved into our neighbourhood.*

John 1:14 (Message version)