

Coffee/Tea in church after Mass. All welcome

5<sup>th</sup> December, 2021

**This week: Divine Office - Psalter Week 2**

**Mon: St. Nicholas**

9:30am Mass. Int: Save the Children  
(Is 35 v.1-10, Luke 5 v. 17-26)

**Tues: St Ambrose**

9.30am Mass Int: All Bishops  
(Is 40 v1-11; Matt 18 v 12-14)

**Wed: IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF OUR LADY**

1.30pm Exposition of Blessed Sacrament  
2.30pm Mass and healing  
(Gen.3v.9-15, Eph.1v3-6, 11-12, Luke 1v.26-28)  
Int: Ministry of healing

**Thurs:** 9.30am Mass. (Is 41 v 13-20; Matt 11 v11-15)  
Int: Peace of the world

**Fri:** 9.30am Mass (Is 48 v17-19; Matt 11 v16-19)  
Int: All who reflect the Gospel  
4.00pm Sacrament of reconciliation

**Sat:** 10.00am 1<sup>st</sup> Mass of Sunday. Int: Carol singing.  
( Readings as on Sunday)

**NEXT SUNDAY: ADVENT III (C)**

9.30am Parish Mass & Address & Blessing of outside crib  
Preacher + Mike, Bishop of Dunwich  
(Zeph. 3 v.14-18; Phil. 4 v.4-7; Luke 3 v.10-18)  
5.00 pm – 8.00 pm – Carol Singing around the village and Mendlesham Green  
- also a visit from Santa - **ALL WELCOME. See December newsletter & poster for approximate timetable.** Collecting for St Martin's Housing Trust, Norwich for the homeless  
7.30pm (after Mendlesham village ) and 8.00 pm (after Mendlesham Green):  
Soup, mince pies and coffee in church.

Notices:-

1. Please buy draw tickets from Auntie Jean : 1<sup>st</sup> prize **£100**. To be drawn next Sunday.
2. We don't take a collection in Mass, but welcome donations either in the red box or by Contactless giving - both by the door.
3. Offers of soup and mince pies for Carol singing
4. Carol singers please sign list at the back of the church
5. Santa will also visit church on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> December in the afternoon

**PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, MENDLESHAM**

**ADVENT II (C)**

*(Please keep silence from 9.25 to prepare for Mass)*

**THEME:** Just as John the Baptist prepared the way for the Lord in his time, Advent invites us to herald Christ's coming to our fellow men. Baruch, the prophet, wants a change of heart; Paul makes the same demand on his Christian converts and John the Baptist urges a total response and reversal of values.

**Entrance Hymn:** 60 v. 1 - 4

**PENITENTIAL RITE**

**Celebrant:** Forgive us Lord, when we resist the call for a change of heart.  
Lord have mercy. **People: LORD HAVE MERCY.**

**Celebrant:** Forgive us Lord, when we try to justify our crooked paths. Christ have mercy. **People: CHRIST HAVE MERCY.**

**Celebrant:** Forgive us, Lord, because we do not love each other as Christ loves. Lord have mercy. **People: LORD HAVE MERCY.**

*(No Gloria during Advent)*

**OPENING PRAYER:** *Let us pray that nothing may hinder us from receiving Christ with joy. God of power and mercy, open our hearts in welcome. Remove the things that hinder us from receiving Christ with joy, so that we may share his wisdom and become one with him when he comes in glory, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever.*

**LITURGY OF THE WORD OF GOD. 1st Reading: Baruch 5 v 1-9**

If the exiles wish to live in peace, they must act with integrity: if they wish a crown of glory, they must be faithful to God. The latter alone will reconcile men and gather his people into a new city where light and joy will break forth. *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

® **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, On our lips there were songs. ®

The heathens themselves said  
“what marvels the Lord worked for them!”  
What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad  
® **What marvels the Lord worked for us. Indeed we were glad.**

Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage  
As streams in dry land.  
Those who are sowing in tears  
Will sing when they reap. ®

They go out, they go out full of tears,  
Carrying seed for the sowing;  
They come back, they come back full of song,  
Carrying their sheaves. ®

**2nd Reading:** Philippians 1 v 3-6, 8-11. Christ will come again and we journey towards his day: Paul is convinced of this and wished with all ardour that those he loves may obtain in fullness the grace of his coming.

Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy, remembering how you have helped to spread the Good News from the day you first heard it right up to the present. I am quite certain that the One who began this good work in you will see that it is finished when the Day of Christ Jesus comes; and God knows how much I miss you all, loving you as Christ Jesus loves you. My prayer is that your love for each other may increase more and more and never stop improving your knowledge 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.

**Gospel Hymn: 60 v. 5**

**Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia! Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight. And all mankind shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!**

**Gospel:** Luke 3 v. 1 – 6. John’s stark challenge to repent in order to prepare for the Lord’s coming echoes down the ages to touch our hearts today.

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, every mountain and hill be laid low, winding ways will be straightened and rough roads made smooth. And all mankind shall see the salvation of God.’

**Lighting of 2<sup>nd</sup> Advent Candle - Hymn 563 v.2**

**HOLY BAPTISM: Albert James Wrinch**

**PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL:**

**Celebrant:** God calls us to rejoice at the coming of our Saviour. Let us make ready to greet him with love, by praying for the needs of his people.

**Reader:** Let us pray that the Gospel may spread to all parts of the world, so that people everywhere may share in the joy of Christ’s coming and that the joy of the Gospel Message may not be lost in controversy and criticism.

Let us pray for ourselves, that we will encourage and support each other in our efforts to live a Gospel life and be willing to change for the sake of the Gospel.

We pray for Albert James, baptised today, for his parents Harry and Beatrix and his godparents Rebecca, Lachan and Edward.

Let us pray for all families under stress from the pressures of the world; that we and all Christians will do everything possible to help ease those pressures. We pray for the work of St Martin’s Housing Trust, Norwich.

Let us pray for the sick, for the lonely and isolated, that they may be supported by the love and concern we are willing to share with them, especially for all to receive the laying on of hands and anointing at our healing service this week; and for Billy Carter, Julie Gray, Lucy Muskett, Marcel and Marjorie Rousseau and Betty Self.

Let us pray for those who have died, especially Margaret Giffin, Alfred Freeman, Audrey French, Rosemarie Buckle, Harry Potter, Paul Flounders, Becky Studden, John Hammond, John Garrard, Elsa Jacks, Joan Butlin and Geoffrey Hails, whose anniversaries fall at this time. May they attain to the Light and Glory of Christ.

Let us ask Mary to pray with us that we may share her glad expectation of Christ’s coming - **Hail Mary full of grace the Lord is with thee, blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death.**

**Amen**

**S I L E N C E**

**All: God our Father, you sent your prophets and messengers of old to prepare a straight way for the coming of your Son. May we and all Christians be those prophets and messengers today as we wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Lord. Amen.**

**Offertory Hymn: 184 v. 1 - 2** Offertory prayers & hymn 184 v 3-6

**SANCTUS:** John Allen setting Mystery of Faith No. 3 pg 10 of Hymn book

**Blessed and Praised be Jesus Christ in the most Holy Sacrament. Hosannah! Hosannah! Hosannah in Excelsis!**

Mass continues – P11 of Hymn Book – Lord’s Prayer etc.

**AGNUS DEI:** John Allen setting

**Hymns at Holy Communion: 508 & 395** Please join in.

**Hymn at Ablutions: 196.** Post Communion Prayer

**Angelus** (front of hymn book).

Notices.

**BLESSING** **Recessional Hymn 439.**