

Tea/coffee in Church after Mass. Please stay

Today: 1.30 – 3.00pm Treasure Hunt on Church. “Elves Behaving Badly in Church”

This Week: Divine Office – Psalter Week 1

Mon: 9:00am Monthly Requiem Mass – December Anniversaries
(Genesis 12v. 1-4; John 6v.44-51)

Tues: St. Francis Xavier
9.30am. Int: Mission of Church
(Is.11v.1-10. Luke 10v.21-24)
10:00am Coffee, cakes etc in Church

Wed: 9.30am Mass Int: Christian Aid
(Is.425v.6 - 18; Matthew 15v. 29-37)

Thurs: 9.30am Mass. Int: Blind and Partially sighted
(Is.26 v.1-6; Matt. 7 v.21, 24-27.)

Fri: St. Nicholas
9.30am Mass. Int: Mission of Church
(Is. 29v.17-24; Matt. 9v.27-31)

Sat: St. Ambrose
10.00am 1st Mass of Sunday. Int: Forward in Faith
(Bar. 5v.1-9; Phil 1v.3-6,8-11; Luke 3v.1-6)

4.00pm Sacrament of Reconciliation

Next Sunday – ADVENT II (C).

9.30am Parish Mass and Address
(Bar. 5v.1-9; Phil 1v.3-6,8-11; Luke 3v.1-6)

NOTICES:

1. Please sign up for Carol Singing around the village on Sunday 15th December at 5.00pm
2. If you missed the online talk on 11th Oct by Ninya Mikhaila and Dr Toby Capwell for the Armoury Facelift project, then for a donation you can access it until next Sunday – 8th December. See church website for details.

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, MENDLESHAM
ADVENT SUNDAY (Year C)

THEME: The mood of the Advent season which we begin today is one that invites us to be attentive. It is a time to get ready. Not just all the things we associate with Christmass, the gifts, cooking, tree, etc. No, this would be to mistake the wrapping for the gift, and to get caught into the externals only. In Advent we prepare first and foremost for a PERSON, we prepare for the gift of God himself in Jesus.

Entrance Hymn: 28 v. 1 – 5.

PENITENTIAL RITE

Celebrant: Forgive us, Lord, for our shallow commitment and half-hearted attempts to follow you. Lord have mercy. **KYRIE ELEISON**

Celebrant: Forgive us, Lord, for those times we doubt that your Kingdom is within us. Christ have mercy. **CHRISTE ELEISON**

Celebrant: Forgive us, Lord, when we are fearful of the future. Lord have mercy.
KYRIE ELEISON

Celebrant proclaims God’s forgiveness.

No Gloria during Advent.

OPENING PRAYER: *Let us pray that we may take Christ’s coming seriously.* All-powerful God, increase our strength of will for doing good that Christ may find an eager welcome at his coming and call us to his side in the kingdom of heaven, where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

LITURGY OF THE WORD OF GOD

First Reading – Jeremiah 33 v. 14-16: God has promised that he will raise up a descendant of David to save his people. Jeremiah reminds them that the time is near.

Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will fulfil the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will dwell securely. And this is the name by which it will be called: ‘The LORD is our righteousness.’

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 24 ® **To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.**

O LORD, make me know your ways.
Teach me your paths.
Guide me in your truth, and teach me;
for you are the God of my salvation. ®

Good and upright is the LORD;
therefore he shows the way to sinners.
He guides the humble in right judgement;
to the humble he teaches his way. ®

All the LORD’s paths are mercy and faithfulness,
for those who keep his covenant and commands.
The LORD’s secret is for those who fear him;
to them he reveals his covenant. ®

Second Reading - 1 Thessalonians 3 v. 12 – 4 v. 2: Paul reminds us that only holiness based on love can make us ready for Christ when he comes.

Brothers and sisters: May the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you, so that he may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Finally, then, brothers and sisters, we ask and urge you in the Lord Jesus, that as you received from us how you ought to walk and to please God, just as you are doing, that you do so more and more. For you know what instructions we gave you through the Lord Jesus.

Gospel Hymn: 28 v. 6 – 7.

Alleluia, alleluia! Show us, O LORD, your mercy, and grant us your salvation. Alleluia!

Gospel – Luke 21 v. 25-28, 34-36: Christ will come again with power, to bring our liberation. We should not be afraid but stay awake, watching and praying.

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples: 'There will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of the roaring of the sea and the waves, people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.

'But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a trap. For it will come upon all who dwell on the face of the whole earth. But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.'

ADDRESS

CREED (Nicene – p.7)

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Celebrant: Let us pray today for the strength to make this Advent a time of whole hearted preparation for the coming of Jesus into our hearts this Christmass.

Reader: We pray that Christian communities throughout the world will listen attentively to God's word, and so be prepared to receive him with an increased faith.

We pray that the world will hear the Christian message and that Christians will play a leading part in working for peace. We pray especially for peace in Lebanon, Gaza and Ukraine.

Let us pray for all families and particularly those in our congregation; that they will help their children this Advent to prepare in a special way for Jesus' birth.

Let us pray for our schools. We pray for all the teaching staff as well as those who help in other ways, to make our schools places where Christ's love is found. We pray for the school in this parish.

Let us pray for all those who live in fear and anxiety. For those who dread the future; for those who live without hope.

Let us pray for our parish, that we will try to make more and more progress in the kind of life that we are meant to live so that when Jesus comes again, we will be ready to greet him.

Let us pray for the sick – Marcel and Marjorie Rousseau, Anna Horsnell, Andi Elstone, David Edge and all prayed for daily at Shrine prayers.

Make our hearts ready for our death, judgement and everlasting life with you. We pray for the dead, especially John Hammond, Elsie Jackson, Fr Anthony Yates, Jennifer Meadows, Peggy Taylor, Donald Fraser, Cliff Godart Brown, John Riley, Alfred Freeman, Audrey French, Sidney Hales, Margaret Giffin and Rosemarie Buckle whose anniversaries of death occur at this time.

Let us make our prayer with Mary, who waited for the coming of Jesus with joy and love.

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: Arouse in us, O Lord, that spirit of watchfulness which sees your presence in all that happens to us. In this way may we also be ready to meet you in your glory when you come again. Amen.

BLESSING OF ADVENT WREATH: Hymn 536 v. 1

Offertory Hymn: 112 v. 1 & 2.

Offertory Prayers: v. 3 – 5

Sanctus. - setting by John Allen

Mystery of Faith No. 3. When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus, until you come in glory.

**Blessed and praised be Jesus Christ in the most Holy Sacrament.
Hosannah! Hosannah! Hosannah in the Highest.**

Agnus Dei. – setting by John Allen

Communicants of other Christian denominations are welcome to receive Holy Communion. If you would like a blessing, please bring a hymn book to the altar.

Hymns at Holy Communion: 227 and 231. Please join in.

Hymn at Ablutions: 179.

Post Communion Prayer

Angelus.- in front of Hymn Book

Recessional Hymn: 110.