



## **SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT** **SUNDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2022**

### **Advent – a Call to Repentance**

Today's first reading from Isaiah, looks forward to the coming of the long-awaited Messiah, who will be filled with the fullness of God's Spirit. He will bring peace to the world, a peace he describes in a vision where "the calf and the young lion shall browse together" (Is 11:6). The coming of Jesus inaugurates this fulfilment.

The reading from the Letter to the Romans connects back to the hopes of the Old Testament. Jesus' coming fulfils the promises made to the patriarchs and extends them to the Gentiles "so that [they] might glorify God for his mercy" (Rom 15:9). Jesus' coming brings all peoples together in their praise and glory of God.

In the Gospel reading, God's Word comes to the people in the desert through the person of John the Baptist. The desert is the place where the Israelites had wandered for forty years and where God formed them into a people. The prophets foresaw that God would lead the people back to the desert to form them again into God's people. John the Baptist, who resembles the prophets with his clothing and diet, calls for a change of heart: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." (Mt 3:2). John speaks of one who is to come, one who is far greater than he. While John baptized with water, the one to come, Jesus, will baptize "with the Holy Spirit and fire" (Mt 3:11). As John the Baptist called on his people to set things right, so we are called this Advent to set things right with God as we await the coming of Jesus at Christmas and welcome his presence into our lives.



**Second Sunday of Advent**  
**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2022 (Cycle C)**

**Parish Diary**

<b>Sunday Masses</b>	<b>10.00 am &amp; 6.30 pm</b>
<b>Weekday Masses</b>	<b>9.00 am</b>
<b>Wednesdays</b>	<b>9.00 am – Eucharistic Service</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Adoration following 9.00 am Mass</b>
<b>Holy Days of Obligation</b>	<b>9.30am &amp; 7.30pm</b>
<b>Confessions</b>	<b>Saturdays 9.30 am - 10.00 am</b>
<b>Legion of Mary</b>	<b>After Sunday morning mass (11.30 am onwards)</b>
<b>Baptisms</b>	<b>By Appointment (Saturdays 12.00 pm - 12.30 pm)</b>

**Liturgical Calendar**

<b>Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>Second Sunday of Advent (A)</b>
<b>Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>St Ambrose, Bishop, Doctor of the Church</b>
<b>Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Solemnity</b>
<b>Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>Third Sunday of Advent (A) (‘Gaudete’ Sunday)</b>

**Masses & Intentions This Week**

<b>Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>10.00 am</b>	<b>Paul Hogan – RIP/Anni (donor – Eileen Hogan)</b>
	<b>6.30 pm</b>	<b>For Parishioners</b>
<b>Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>9.00 am</b>	<b>Doug Taplin – RIP/Anni (donor – Michelle Taplin)</b>
<b>Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>9.00 am</b>	<b>John Roach, Iris Roach &amp; Ben Berkshire (donor – Carol Hart)</b>
<b>Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>9.00 am</b>	<b>Eucharistic Service</b>
<b>Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>9.00 am</b>	<b>Greta Street – Well being (donor – Michelle Taplin)</b>
<b>Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>9.00 am</b>	<b>Audrey Eileen Pollard – RIP</b>
<b>Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>9.00 am</b>	<b>Ben Cummins – RIP/Anni (donor – Michelle Taplin)</b>
<b>Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>10.00 am</b>	<b>Paddy Collins – RIP</b>

6.30 pm (donor – Mr and Mrs Barry)  
For Parishioners

## **Parish Notice Board**

### **Advent Reconciliation Service**

In preparation for the celebration of the Birth of Our Lord, our Parish will be conducting an Advent Reconciliation Service Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm.

### **Confirmation Programme 2022/23 – IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

Candidates who have already shown an interest by filling in their details on the list, kindly collect your envelope at the back of the church which gives important information for your first meeting which will take place on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December at St Mary's, Hornchurch. *Candidates are obliged to attend the Catholic obligation of weekly Sunday worship*

### **Missio/ Red Boxes**

The end of the year is fast approaching, therefore could you please bring your box to the sacristy with your name written on it. If you would like your box collected phone Dorothy on 01708 473303. Replacement boxes can be found on the window ledge at the back of the church. Many thanks.

### **Parish Open Meeting – Minutes and Volunteer List**

As well as collecting a newsletter from the back of the church, Mandy will be handing out the Minutes and a volunteer list for your kind completion and return. It is important that we have this drive to increase our volunteers here at English Martyrs. Please complete and return via the presbytery letter box. Many thanks.

### **English Martyrs – Social Committee**

1. We are selling Raffle tickets at £1 per ticket after every mass and during the coffee morning.
2. We would like to request some donations for our raffle prizes for our Christmas draw and our table top stall during coffee morning. Anything from smellies, wine, bric a brac, etc.
3. We will have a small table top selling donated stuff in the lounge during the coffee morning. All are welcome. All proceeds goes to English Martyrs.
4. Requesting more volunteers to join the social committee. Pls approach us (Jean, Mel or Norayda) after the 10am mass or send email through the church's email.
5. Pls continue to give donations for the coffee morning (i.e biscuits, mince pies, chocolates, etc.) Thank you.

### **Brentwood Diocesan Directory 2023**

Next year's Diocesan Directory has arrived and is at the back of the church. If you wish to have one, they are on sale for £2.95.

### **Parish Finance:**

**27.11.22 - Gift Aid: £ 127    Loose Plate: £ 210.95    Total: £ 337.95**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Collection – Columban Missionaries - £454.50**

**Please Pray for the Sick and Housebound in our Parish:**

Rosaleen Grimwood, Anna Heneghan, Brenda Humphreys, Pat Lark, George Malaj, Sheila McCurdy, Sheila Murphy, Rachel, Pradeepan Ragunathan, Mary Scully, Greta Street, Voni Tesi, Mary Thurgood, Mary Wright, Rose Yates, Claire Ryan in Emerson Court and John Buckley.

**Communication Desk**

**Mass Readings for Advent**

We are delighted to tell you that our full presentation of all the [Mass readings for Advent](#) with commentary by Fr Adrian Graffy is now available. Just visit [www.whatgoodnews.org](http://www.whatgoodnews.org) and click on the link. Any promotion you can arrange much appreciated. Many thanks

**The Friends of Westminster Cathedral**

Are raising funds towards the cost of replacing the sanctuary floodlighting in Westminster Cathedral. The present floodlighting is very old and replacement parts are not available, also it uses a great deal of power generating a huge output of heat. A new system would be easily maintained and save electricity.

There is a unique opportunity to do this through The Big Give where donations made online after 12:00 noon, Tuesday 29 November 2022 to 12:00 noon, Tuesday 6 December 2022 are matched by generous matched funders. A donation of £100 would contribute £200 or £225 for taxpayers agreeing to gift aid their donation. Please use the link below to give online. <https://tinyurl.com/FriendsBG22>

**Free Jesse Tree Booklet for Families**

The Jesse Tree is a wonderful resource for families to prepare for Christmas during Advent, telling the story of God's unfolding plan of salvation through the ancestors of Jesus Christ. A free, printable Jesse Tree booklet containing daily short scripture passages, simple reflections and prayers, as well as tree ornaments are available for all families in the Diocese of Brentwood by following this link: [www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/departments/marriage-family-life/family-life/](http://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/departments/marriage-family-life/family-life/)

**Christmas Concert**

Saturday 17th December @ 7:30 pm at Holy Cross Church, Hornchurch, RM11 1PXA selection of seasonal carols and choral works. Full programme is still to be confirmed. Ticket prices TBC. Can be purchased as above and will be on sale after the Autumn Concert on 5th November.

**BCCS**

This November, Brentwood Catholic Children's Society is pleased to re-launch their virtual Tree of Angels which will allow you to light up an angel on a virtual Christmas tree in memory of a loved one who has died while making a donation to the work of BCCS. Please visit [www.bccs.org.uk](http://www.bccs.org.uk) and click on the Christmas tab where you will see 'Tree of Angels'. You can read more about this initiative and can click onto the Tree of Angels portal to make your dedication and secure donation. If you have any questions about lighting an angel, please contact Julie [jabbott@bccs.org.uk](mailto:jabbott@bccs.org.uk)

Parish Priest: Fr Britto Belevendran, (01708 507020)
Parish Administrator: Daphne Thomas, Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri (10am-1pm) (01708 507020)
Pastoral Team Leader: Graham Daniels (07542 588763)
Steward of the Gospel: Mandy Meadway (07801 470516)
Parish Finance: Mrs Stephanie Mallen (07983 962465)

<b>Diocesan Safeguarding Representative: Katie Nash (07825 293308)</b>
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<b>Hall &amp; Lounge Bookings: English Martyrs Parish Office (01708 507020)</b>
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<b>Church &amp; Hall Caretaker: Mike Dineen (07415 727926)</b>
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<b>Legion of Mary: Michael Okafor (07956 586370)</b>
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**The English Martyrs Catholic Church (Diocese of Brentwood)**

**Parish address: 240 Alma Avenue, Hornchurch, Essex RM12 6BJ**

**Parish tel no: 01708 507020**

**Parish email: [hornchurchem@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:hornchurchem@dioceseofbrentwood.org) Parish website:**

**<http://englishmartyrshx.weebly.com/>**

**Founded 1955**

**Diocese of Brentwood**

**Registered Charity No. 23409**