



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8th December 2024 · Year C · Weekday I · Psalter II

Cathedral House, Unthank Road, Norwich, NR2 2PA

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Cathedral Office: 01603 624615

Cathy Casey [weekdays 9am-1pm]

TIMES OF CEREMONIES

Sunday 8th Dec	SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT		
	9am	Mass	<i>Thanksgiving for the Caasi Family</i>
	11am	Solemn Mass	<i>Victor Boyet Maranan +</i>
	4.30pm	Vespers & Benediction	
	5.30pm	Mass	<i>Mascarenhas Family (F)</i>
Monday 9th	IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY		
	10am	Mass	<i>Private Intention (AC)</i>
	7pm	Solemn Pontifical Mass	<i>Pro Populo</i>
Tuesday 10th	<i>B Henry Heath, John Robinson & Comps</i>		
	10am	Mass	<i>George Middleton (F) +</i>
	5pm	Vespers	
	5.30pm	Mass	<i>Patrick D'Arcy +</i>
Wednesday 11th	<i>Advent Feria</i>		
	7.30am	Mass	<i>The McLean Family</i>
	10am	Requiem Mass	<i>Peter Thrupp +</i>
Thursday 12th	<i>Our Lady of Guadalupe</i>		
	10am	Mass	<i>Francis Cushing (F) +</i>
Friday 13th	<i>S Lucy</i>		
	7.30am	Mass	<i>Relatives of Alexandra</i>
	10am	Mass	<i>Doreen Sellar (F) +</i>
Saturday 14th	<i>S John of the Cross</i>		
	10am	Mass	<i>Conor Geoghegan +</i>
	6pm	Mass (Anticipatory)	<i>Efren & Adela Alfonso 50th Wedding</i>
Sunday 15th	THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT [Gaudete Sunday]		
	9am	Mass	<i>Alfreda Machale</i>
	11am	Solemn Pontifical Mass	<i>Pro Populo</i>
	4.30pm	O Emmanuel (with Cantor)	
	5.30pm	Mass	<i>Holy Souls in Purgatory</i>

The Cathedral Church is open daily from 7.30am until 6pm

From 25th December to 6th January the Church will be open from 9am – 5pm (except weekends)

Very Revd Alan Hodgson KHS

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Cathedral Collection

£4,793.40

Loose Plate = £1,790.86

Dona = £2,023.00

Envelopes = £179.54

Standing Orders = c £800.00 *

*Averaged out and remains the same each week



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Confessions

Tuesday: 6pm
Saturday: 10.30am
Saturday: 5.15pm
Sunday: 4.45pm

Rosary

The Rosary is prayed in
the Lady Chapel.
Monday to Friday after
the 10am Mass.

Divine Office

Lauds is prayed in the
Precious Blood Chapel.
Monday to Friday at
9:40am.

HOLY APOSTLES CHURCH

Scarnell Road, Norwich NR5 8HT

parish@sjbcathedral.org.uk

<i>Saturday</i>	5pm	Holy Qurbana (Anticipatory)
<i>Sunday</i>	8am	Holy Qurbana
	10am	Mass & Confessions
	4pm	Holy Qurbana
<i>Wednesday</i>	6pm	Mass (UEA Chaplaincy, term time only)

A message from Fr Alan...

New Lectionaries - It was with great joy that we introduced our new lectionaries to our daily liturgy last Sunday. We have moved from the old-style Jerusalem Bible that has stood us in good stead for the last fifty or so years to the new English Standard Version [ESV]. This is not a decision that was taken lightly by the Bishops' Conference but one that was seen as necessary in light of updating all of our liturgical books [remember when the Missal changed in 2011, and we all had to learn new responses?]

The ESV is translated directly from the original languages [as opposed to the Jerusalem Bible that went from the original languages to French and then to English] so therefore it is more accurate to the actual text. The publishers assure us that the ESV translation is more faithful to the original languages, reflect current biblical scholarship and provide a text that is more conducive to proclamation. We have a range of the new edition lectionaries for sale in the Narthex shop should you wish to have a copy in your homes.

Pray for Bethlehem - This will be the second Christmas where Manger Square and the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem stands virtually empty for the Christmas season and, especially, on Christmas Day. This is because it is not safe for the vast number of pilgrims that generally visit this site. Pray for the people of the Holy Land over this season as they struggle, not only with war, but with the dwindling number of pilgrims as well as the enhanced security measures, they are struggling financially with a lack of employment and a very uncertain future. Many, in Gaza particularly, have lost everything over the last year or so. Cardinal Pizzaballa, the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem, who visited this country recently, has spoken very movingly about the hope that still remains amongst the Christian community and that our prayers and support are vital. We must be optimistic that peace will soon be declared in this troubled region.

Our Crib Appeal for this year will be for the peoples of the Holy Land and every penny that we raise will go directly to the Latin Patriarch who will use the funds to assist the Christian communities in that area. I thank you for your generosity and prayers.

Parking – it is with dismay that I have noticed the inconsiderate parking around the Cathedral campus on weekends and weekdays. In particular, the reserved bays along the Earlham Road side of the Cathedral are licenced to contract holders in the local area and should not be used under any circumstances by parishioners. Secondly, people are parking very inconsiderately, blocking other cars in and the points of access and egress from the car parks, The blocking of exits is particularly worrying should there be the need of emergency services to enter the car parks.

If you are fit and able, please consider parking in the local neighbourhood and walking the last part of your journey to the Cathedral and thus leaving your Cathedral parking spaces for those who are less able to walk. When sitting in Cathedral House, I often hear how people interact with each other over parking spaces. All I can say is, that from a Christian point of view, this leaves much to be desired. Please be considerate to one another when parking your vehicles.

READINGS AT MASS

Sunday 8th December 2024

First Reading

Baruch 5:1-9

'God will show your splendour.'

Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem, and put on for ever the beauty of the glory from God. Put on the robe of the righteousness from God; put on your head the crown of the glory of the Everlasting. For God will show your splendour everywhere under heaven. For your name will for ever be called by God: 'Peace of righteousness and glory of godliness'. Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height and look towards the east and see your children gathered from west and east, at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing that God has remembered them. For they went forth from you on foot, led away by their enemies; but God will bring them back to you, carried in glory, as on a royal throne.

For God has ordered that every high mountain and the everlasting hills be made low and the valleys filled up to make level ground, so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God. The woods and every fragrant tree have shaded Israel at God's command. For God will lead Israel with joy in the light of his glory, with the mercy and righteousness that come from him.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 126(125):1-2b. 2c-3. 4-5. 6. **R3**

O What great deeds the LORD worked for us! Indeed, we were glad.

When the LORD brought back the exiles of Sion,
we thought we were dreaming.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter.
on our tongues, songs of joy.

Then they said among the nations,
'What great deeds the LORD worked for them!'
What great deeds the LORD worked for us!
Indeed, we were glad.

Bring back our exiles, O LORD,
as streams in the Negeb.

Those who are sowing in tears
will sing when they reap.

They go out, they go out, full of tears,
bearing seed for the sowing.
they come back, they come back with a song,
bearing their sheaves.

Second Reading

Philippians 1:3-6, 8-11

Be pure and blameless for the day of Christ.'

Brothers and sisters: I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all, making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

Gospel Acclamation**Luke 3:4, 6**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia.

Gospel**Luke 3:1-6****All flesh shall see the salvation of God.'**

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness. And he went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet,

'The voice of one crying in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

Every valley shall be filled,

and every mountain and hill shall be made low,

and the crooked shall become straight,

and the rough places shall become level ways,

and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."

HYMN NUMBERS FOR THE 9AM MASS

94, 84, 96, 88, 92

Reflections...

In the second week of Advent, we reflect on peace.

The second Advent candle is often called "Bethlehem Candle." It calls to our minds Mary and Joseph's journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem before Mary gave birth to Our Lord.

We need to think of this theme in connection with the theme of the previous week, hope. Isaiah and the prophets told Israel that despite the division, destruction, and dispersion of the kingdom in the Old Testament, God promised that everything would be set right.

The Advent theme of peace reminds us how God fulfilled this promise through His Incarnation. Christ's coming into history reconciles humanity with God - and with one another.

NEWS AND EVENTS

Next weekend – there will be a second collection for the Dependent Priests' Fund taken at all Masses.

The Teresian Prayer Group - meets again on Tuesday 10 December at 4.30pm in the Narthex Bar to continue reflecting on the works of St John of the Cross. Everyone is welcome.

Enrich your Advent preparation – "What kind of God would become incarnate? " The next Advent talk at St George's parish hall Sprowston on Monday 9th December at 7.00pm. Refreshments available from 6.30pm. All welcome.

Guided Nativity Tour for Children, Monday 23 December 2024 at 11am - Join us for a guided Nativity Tour of the Cathedral, where we will look at the Nativity Story as shown in the stained-glass windows and stonework. Can you see the Angel Gabriel? And do you know who he speaking to? Where are the shepherds? Can you see the Baby Jesus in his crib? And where can you see Joseph caring for his wife and adopted son? Tick them off on the activity sheet and finish at the Nativity Scene, free to attend. Please contact the Heritage and Learning Officer for more details: Heritage@sjbcathedral.org.uk.

Joining the Cathedral Choir - The cathedral choir is looking for new members to join in singing at Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve. Music will be provided in advance and rehearsals will take place on selected Tuesday evenings in December. Please contact the director of music, David Grealy at david.grealy@rcdea.org.uk if you are interested in singing.

For those who are interested in joining the choir, but are unavailable for Midnight Mass, there will be other opportunities in 2025. Please contact the director of music at the e-mail address above if you would like to find out more.

Hospital Mass - Mass is celebrated at 12 noon on the 1st and 3rd Monday of every month in the Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital Chapel (Centre Block, Level 1). Our next Mass will be on **Monday 16th December** and then **Monday 6th January**.

The Duckett Library - has a display of Advent and Christmas reading – also a 1930's crib for sale. Do come in before we close for the Christmas break on Thursday 19th December.

✱

Of your charity, please pray for the soul of Patrick (Paddy) Joyce who died this week and for his family. Funeral details to follow.

This newsletter is sponsored by:

Love to Care
154 Dereham Road
Norwich
NR2 3AB



NEWS AND EVENTS

Mary's Meals (14-15 December) - Please visit the Mary's Meals table in the Rotunda after weekend Masses on 14 & 15 December. There will be an opportunity to learn more about the charity, buy beautiful Christmas cards & tree decorations, enter a Christmas raffle and pick up a prayer card, collection box or book. Every school day, Mary's Meals serves nutritious school meals to over 2.4 million children living in some of the world's poorest countries.

Festive Christmas Jumble Sale – December 15th from 10am-4pm. Join us in the Narthex for a fantastic day filled with treasures as we offer a selection of good-as-new second-hand items alongside brand new unwanted gifts, all in support of the St John's Cathedral renovation! We're also offering delicious homemade cakes and tasty treats to share with everyone. Come be a part of this exciting event and help us spread the holiday cheer! From Couples for Christ-Handmaids of the Lord Ministry.

Are you or someone you know hurting from past abortion(s)? Rachel's Vineyard is a healing ministry for those who are suffering from the trauma of abortion. The healing weekends offer a supportive, confidential and non-judgmental environment where women and men can deal with painful post-abortive emotions and receive healing. **The next Rachel's Vineyard retreat weekend in our diocese will take place on March 21st -23rd 2025. With booking now open and a limit of 8 people per retreat, it is advisable to book early.** For more information about this retreat or to arrange a time to chat please contact Charlotte on 07958 235 270; or email suffolk@rachelsvineyard.org.uk . For further information about Rachel's Vineyard or to find out about other retreat dates and locations please visit www.rachelsvineyard.org.uk

Workers required – thank you to those of you who volunteered your assistance with handy work and projects. We are in need of a new floor to be laid in the catechetical shed behind the Narthex Hall. Our current floor is rotting due to water ingress and therefore needs replacing. We hope to remedy this in the early new year, please contact Fr Alan or Cathy in the Parish office to volunteer.

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INSTRUCTIONS FOR REGULAR SACRAMENTS

With all sacraments, we do try to accommodate the needs of the individual or couple seeking to celebrate in our Cathedral. However, we are bound by the Rite of the Catholic Church in terms of liturgy and music. The priest or deacon assigned to work with you will guide you as much as possible. In general, eulogies are NOT part of the Catholic rite of Funerals and, as such should be deferred to the crematorium or a suitable gathering of loved ones after the funeral.

Our Director of Music will assist you with appropriate music that matches the dignity of the service and is appropriate to the Cathedral - this will be from a choice of sacred music generally played on the cathedral organ (no pre-recorded music).

All readings in the Cathedral must come from Sacred Scripture - poems and prose that do not comply with this should be used at the reception after the service.

BAPTISMS

Infant Baptisms - baptism is the joy-filled initiation into the Christian life and is celebrated as a public event within the community. The Sacrament of Baptism takes place on the 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month at 11:30am. This is a joint celebration with up to three other families. Baptism preparation classes are held on the last Saturday of every month from 4.30pm - 5.15pm. This needs to be booked, in advance, through the parish office.

Adult Baptisms - generally take place at the Easter Vigil and conferred by the Bishop in his Cathedral. Candidates will need to undergo adult instruction classes for at least five months (usually starting in late September). Classes take place every Friday evening from 7pm - commencing in September.

Baptisms do not take place during the seasons of Advent and Lent. For all Baptism enquiries, please contact the parish office.

WEDDINGS

A minimum of 6 months' notice is required of any marriage taking place in the cathedral. Wedding couples should be resident within the parish boundaries or have some strong link to the cathedral. Please **do not** make any arrangements nor book any venue or make any concrete plans until you have secured a wedding date.

There is a three-fold requirement for marriage preparation; Catechetical and Liturgical preparation (a marriage instruction course at the cathedral toward the middle of January as well as a one-day course in Newmarket), Civil paperwork (through the townhall) as well as documentation required by the Catholic Church for the chancery and parish registers. This applies whether you are planning to be married in the Cathedral or if you plan to marry in a different location.

FUNERALS

At St John's Cathedral, funerals take place during the weekday 10am Mass. The Cathedral is generally booked through your funeral director - so please speak to them first about your needs and they will contact the Cathedral on your behalf.

Prayers for the Sick

Cathy Adams, Dr Michael Anibueze, Philippa Barnes, Ian Beyts, Jennifer Boland, Eleanor Bray, Amanda Caistor, Brenda Devany, Jonathon Fitzimmons, Sophia Gough-Solar, Mary Hatcher, Joe Heaney, Gill Horan, Paul Horan, Nancy Horner, David Jamieson, Joan Marshall, Joel McDonough, Anne O'Leary, Maria Osorio, Mary Newby, Gary Newton, Isobel O'Connor, Christopher Parish, Canon David Paul, Anthony Preston, Nicholle Sales, Reece Sales, Linda Sheppard, Christine Taylor, Peter Thorn, Mary Ward, Fr John Warrington, Peter Willets, Adrian Woods, the Wood Family, Patricia Woolley, Isobel Woolner, the Watson Family and Shane Wissner. [GDPR compliant]

Going into hospital? Please inform the hospital ward itself that the Catholic Chaplain is needed.