



# The Parish of the MOST PRECIOUS BLOOD

*a Catholic Parish in the Archdiocese of Southwark  
in the Pastoral Care of the Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham*



**DOMINICA I ADVENTUS**

**2nd December 2018**

## **Welcome** to Mass today!

If you are new to the area or this church, please make yourself known to one of the priests after Mass. There is tea and coffee available after the Solemn Mass in the Rectory, we hope you'll come through.

**In the gospel reading today**, we hear that our liberation is near at hand. We have no reason to fear the second coming of Christ if we allow God to teach us how to grow in holiness. We ask him to help us in love towards one another with integrity and generosity. In this way we will be able to hold our heads high and have strength to survive all that might happen to us. We will be able to stand before Christ and his saints.



**Sunday School** at the 11.00am Mass is for Children of Primary School age. They are invited to join the others at the *Kyries*, follow the Cross.

**Catholic Teachers** working as leaders in non-Catholic secondary education are invited by the Archbishop to a meeting about moving to leadership in Catholic Schools. See poster at the back.

**Chaplaincy Adviser** needed by the Archbishop to support Catholic life and Religious Education in the 169 schools and colleges of the Diocese. See poster at the back.

**The new floor** has been covered to protect it. We'll not see it again till mid-to-late February. Last chance intentions!

**The Season of Advent** begins today! It's the first day of the Church's year, and the start of a new Reading Cycle, year C, the year of Luke. This is a time of preparation, of getting ready. Having to wait is not something we are good at these days. Maybe that's why we need Advent all-the-more!

**The Archbishop** has sent a letter today. There are some copies at the back.

**The Archbishop** has also sent a letter from Pope Francis: copies are...you might guess...at the back.

**Room at the inn?** HOST is seeking people who could offer an invitation to adult international students for a day, weekend, or four days at Christmas. To be put in touch with your local organiser, visit [www.hostuk.org](http://www.hostuk.org) or call 020 7739 6292.

**For your prayers**, on the back of this sheet are things, err....for your prayers! Take this sheet home and use it each day when you pray your intercessions.

**The New Lighting** installation is well under way. During the next weeks there will be a little disruption in Church, but we can now see the end of the restoration in sight. Only the repainting to do. MPB will be open for Mass each day but access will be limited.

**Senior Citizens** Christmas Celebration at St Michael's Catholic College, Wednesday 19th December, 4.30pm-7.30pm. Christmas Dinner with drinks, games, raffle and live music from the students. See FrC for a ticket.

**The Good Counsel Network** ask that on Friday this week, the Vigil of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, we pray and fast for the end of abortion and euthanasia in this Country. More info at [www.GoodCounselNetwork.com](http://www.GoodCounselNetwork.com)



**Christmas is coming.** And it should be more, much much more, than just an orgy of shopping and eating.

Here are some tips for a really happy Christmas - and it's important to get planning now.

★ Advent has its own special delight. Enjoy it. An Advent wreath, with four candles - one to be lit each week as Christmas gets nearer and nearer - is a lovely way to mark Advent.

★ Organise getting to Mass at Christmas. Check the timings. Midnight Mass is a must for teens and up - morning Mass at 11am works better with small children and with grandma or other elderly relations. Mass is the heart of Christmas - the whole things makes no sense without it.

★ children can't enjoy unlimited amounts of plastic junk - they get bored and fractious. With gifts for children, less is often more. We all know that toddlers often prefer the paper that the gift is wrapped in to the gift itself! Don't spend money you haven't got by giving in to "pester power", only to find that Christmas isn't much fun after all.

★ make sure you give generously to charity. Think about how much you are spending on your family - and your favourite food and treats - and give a reasonable amount to people who will be enduring hardship, loneliness, or hunger this Christmas.

★ Choose some presents, and wrap them up to await Christmas morning. They should be hidden away, or put out of reach.

★ get a Nativity scene and make it the centre of your home at Christmas. You can get beautiful ones at Catholic shops, or via the internet, and they aren't expensive. Mary, Joseph, the

shepherds, the angels...and get the children busy making a stable scene out of some cardboard. Any supermarket will let you have a spare cardboard box - they have dozens of them.

★ Carol singing - we'll be at London Bridge station - come and join us!

★ Christmas dinner is a special meal. Make it special by saying Grace: easy to learn: "Bless us, O Lord, and these, Your Gifts, which we receive from your Bounty. Through Christ Our Lord, Amen."

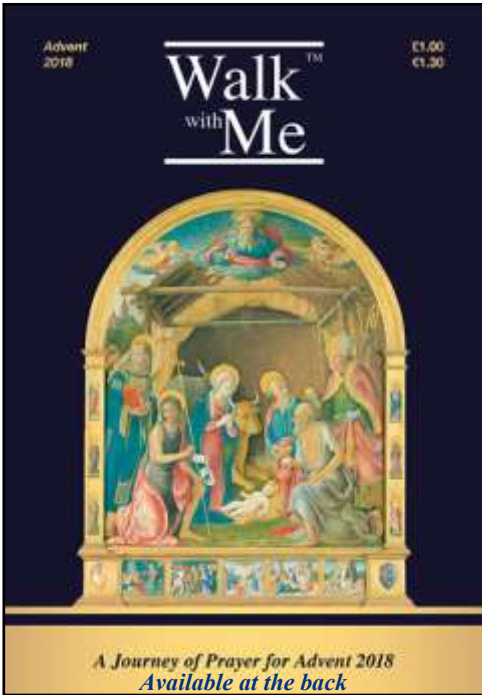
★ There's more to life than the TV and the computer screen! With grandparents coming in for Christmas, don't leave them lonely and forgotten while the kids sit at their computers. Get the children to sing/.act out/ tell about some of the things they've been doing at school to mark Christmas. Get singing together. Get some stories going about family Christmases in weird places or in wartime or whatever.

★ Pray. Make the effort and go to Confession in Advent to be ready to celebrate the feast joyfully. Drop in to church on a weekday to light a candle.

Have a glorious Advent!

### **An Advent Prayer:**

Come, long-expected Jesus. Excite in me a wonder at the wisdom and power of Your Father and ours. Receive my prayer as part of my service of the Lord who enlists me in God's own work for justice. Come, long-expected Jesus. Excite in me a hunger for peace: peace in the world, peace in my home, peace in myself. Come, long-expected Jesus. Excite in me a joy responsive to the Father's joy. I seek His will so I can serve with gladness, singing and love. Come, long-expected Jesus. Excite in me the joy and love and peace it is right to bring to the manger of my Lord. Raise in me, too, sober reverence for the God who acted there, hearty gratitude for the life begun there, and spirited resolution to serve the Father and Son. I pray in the name of Jesus Christ, whose advent I hail. Amen.



**Dates for Christmas**  
 Church Decorating  
*Saturday 15th 10am - 12noon*  
 Christmas Eve  
*11.30pm Midnight Mass*  
 Christmas Day  
*11.00am Holy Mass*

## Christmas Stamps 2018

The buying of Proper Christmas Cards is important for Catholic, and now so is buying stamps. This becomes more and more difficult. The Royal Mail have an on-line catalogue, scroll down and in the last items you will find them there.



Royal Mail have confirmed that they are available, but not all Post Offices will have them. Ask at your local Post Office. If they don't have them, ask them to get them.



As well as sending Christian Christmas cards, if you are posting them, use Christian Christmas stamps and help convey the real message of Christmas: Jesus born of Mary.

## Walsingham

Significant developments are taking place in England's Nazareth and consequently there is a need to increase the contemplative presence. With the aim of establishing a new, enclosed community, men aged 18-30 are invited to apply to come to **The Retreat of Our Lady and St Benedict** for an agreed period to share in the religious life alongside Br Robert-Augustine, a Hermit of the Ordinate of Our Lady of Walsingham, as part of their own discernment process.

- Rule of St Benedict
- Eight monastic Offices daily
- Periods of Adoration
- Daily Mass at the Shrine or in the Oratory
- Time for reading and study

For further details please contact Br Robert  
 E: brother\_robert@live.co.uk  
 T: 01328 820130  
 W: www.retreat-olb.co.uk

## This Week: Mass & intentions

Day	Time	Intention
<b>Today</b> <i>First Sunday of Advent</i>	8.30am <b>11.00am</b>	Deceased clergy ✕ <i>foundation</i> Parishioners
Mon 3rd <i>St Francis Xavier</i>	1.05pm	Ouverire Expiatoire ✕
Tues 4th <i>(St John of Damascus)</i>	1.05pm	Michaela Costello <i>birthday</i>
Wed 5th <i>feria of Advent</i>	1.05pm	Luke & family
Thurs 6th <i>(St Nicholas)</i>	1.05pm 6.30pm	Mrs Fannon ✕ Canonisation of Bl JHN
Fri 7th <i>St Ambrose</i>	1.05pm	Margaret Banister ✕ <i>5th anniv</i>
Sat 8th <b>IMMACULATE CONCEPTION of OL</b>		
<b>Next Sunday</b> <i>Second Sunday of Advent</i>	8.30am <b>11.00am</b>	Telma Baretto Teofonista Dias Parishioners

**Next Week's Readings** Baruch 5:1-9 Philippians 1:3-6.8-11 Luke 3:1-6

**Sacrament of Confession.** Sun 10.30 - 10.50; Mon-Fri 12.30 - 12.55

**Evensong** each Thursday 18.00 (during term-time).

**Adoration** of the Blessed Sacrament each Friday till 15.00 Divine Mercy

**Last week:** £ inc Standing Orders and Card payments

**Safeguarding.** The parish is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and vulnerable adults and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Safeguarding Officers: Kate Pope, Richard Hughes, Justina Onuorah. 0800 0935063

**Holy Father's Intention for December *Evangelisation* – In the Service of the Transmission of Faith.** That people, who are involved in the service and transmission of faith, may find, in their dialogue with culture, a language suited to the conditions of the present time.

**Ordinariate Weekly Intercession:** The Ordinary: Mgr Keith Newton.

### For your prayers:

*Those in formation* for Ministry, Dn John Waters, Br Philip novOP (Jeff Gerlomes)

*The Sick & Housebound:* Mary, David, Theresa, Dora, Jo, Geoffrey, Paula, Holly, Mary, Ada, Fr John

*Recently Departed:* Mary Crisp

**Find us on:** Facebook: "preciousbloodSE1" Twitter: @preciousblood1

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