



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 III ADVENTUS 16th 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 Christ is the joy we await. God will bring to completion the work he has begun in us. Our love for one another in the charitable and kind acts we do, will help us to be blameless when Christ will come again. Our lives on earth are a preparation for the day when the Lord comes and so we should be full of joy and expectancy.



Sunday School at the Solemn 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. Steady as you go!

Check floor intentions. The list has been corrected and updated, so take a look, even if you have before. *Very* last chance today.

The Season of Advent continues. Preparation and Waiting are the main themes of Advent so we might have a better and more developed understanding of Hope. Having to wait is not something we are good at these days. Maybe that's why we need Advent more!

The Christmas Tress and Crib go up after the Solemn Mass today. Would you like to help? Many hands... The church restoration means we have to be imaginative with the Crib this year as the electricians need access to most parts of the building.

Going away for Christmas? Plan where you will go for Mass. Make sure it's a proper Catholic ie *Roman Catholic Church!* Are you having friends and/or family coming? Bring them to Mass here at MPB, even if...especially if... they are not Catholic.

Midnight Mass will be at 11.30pm. Security is part of modern London Life, so volunteers are needed again. Please see FrC today.

Bible Alive for Advent - a few copies are at the back foc.

Poinsettias needed for the Christmas Crib, ring one next week.

Christmas Offering for the Clergy envelopes are at the back; thank you for your generosity.

Mass intentions can be requested using the envelopes. There is no 'fee' but the diocese suggest a 'gift' of £10.

Thursday's Evensong & Mass - last one this week before the holidays. It will resume on 17th January.

Pope Francis has a birthday on Monday this week: he will be 82 years old. His anniversary of priestly ordination was Thursday in 1969. *God bless the Pope!*



Today is Gaudete Sunday

Gaudete means Rejoice. The third Sunday of Advent, is so called because of the Entrance Antiphon at Mass. At a Solemn Mass, an appropriate hymn replaces the Antiphon. Today we have: *Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel, Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

The season of Advent originated as a fast of forty days in preparation for Christmas, commencing on the day after the feast of Saint Martin (12 Nov), then called "St. Martin's Lent"-- a name by which it was known as early as the fifth century.

The introduction of the Advent fast cannot be placed much earlier, because there is no evidence of Christmas being kept on 25 December before the end of the fourth century, and the preparation for the feast could not have been of earlier date than the feast itself. In the ninth century, Advent was reduced to four weeks, and by the twelfth century the fast had been replaced by simple abstinence.

St. Gregory the Great was the first to draw up an Office for the Advent season, and the Gregorian Sacramentary is the earliest to provide Mass for the Sundays of Advent. In both Office and Mass, provision is made for five Sundays, but by the tenth century four was the usual number, though some churches of France observed five as late as the thirteenth century. Advent still preserved most of the characteristics of a penitential seasons which made it a kind of counterpart to Lent, the middle (or third) Sunday corresponding with Lae-

tare or Mid-Lent Sunday when organ and flowers, were allowed (unlike the rest of Lent and Advent) and rose-coloured vestments were allowed instead of purple. All these distinguishing marks have continued in use, and are the present discipline of the Latin Church. Gaudete Sunday, therefore, makes a breaker like Laetare Sunday, about midway through a season which is otherwise of a sombre character, and signifies the nearness of the Lord's coming.

In both Office and Mass throughout Advent continual reference is made to our Lord's second coming, and this is emphasised on the third Sunday by the additional signs of gladness permitted on that day.

Gaudete Sunday is further marked by a new Invitatory (the antiphon to the first prayer of the day at Morning Prayer). The Church no longer inviting the faithful to adore merely "The Lord who is to come", but calling upon them to worship and hail with joy "The Lord who is nigh and close at hand".

The joy of expectation is emphasized by the constant Alleluias, which occur in both Office and Mass throughout the entire season. In the Mass, the Entrance Antiphon "Gaudete in Domino semper" strikes the same note, and gives its name to the day. The second reading incites us to rejoicing, and bids us prepare to meet the coming Saviour with prayers and supplication and thanksgiving, whilst the Gospel, the words of St. John Baptist, warns us that the Lamb of God is even now in our midst, though we appear to know Him not.

The spirit of the Office and Liturgy all through Advent is one of expectation and preparation for the Christmas feast as well as for the second coming of Christ. Although Advent is not a penitential season like Lent, the sombre mood are nevertheless on Gaudete Sunday suspended, as were, for a while in order to symbolise that joy and gladness in the Promised Redemption which should never be absent from the heart of the faithful.

Rejoice in the Lord always, again I say, "Rejoice!"

An Advent Quiz

1. What does the word "Advent" mean?
2. Why are there four candles on the Advent wreath and why is one of them rose-coloured and the others purple?
3. What was the name of the angel who came to tell Mary that she was to bear the Saviour? Where was Mary living at the time?
4. Why don't we sing the *Gloria* at Mass in Advent?
5. Why did Joseph and Mary have to go to Bethlehem?
6. What does the name Bethlehem mean? Is there a link with the Eucharist?
7. What is a manger?
8. What are the traditional names given to the Three Wise men who came to honour the infant Jesus?
9. What was the name of the wicked king who tried to kill the infant Christ? What name do we give to the babies who were killed?
10. What does the word "Emmanuel" mean?
11. The day after Christmas Day is traditionally called Boxing Day in England. But it's also the feast-day of a saint. Which saint?
12. And fill in the gaps in these lines from well-known carols: *Once in Royal...city; Hark the herald...sing; Away in a ...;*



Blessing of Bambino. Bring the figure of the Baby Jesus from your Crib at home to Mass next Sunday.

They will be blessed ready to be placed in the Crib on Christmas Day.



The Catholic Parliamentary and Public Affairs Internship Scheme

for recently graduated Catholics. Sept 19 - July 20. See poster at the back of Church.



Further info at faithinpolitics.org.uk.
closing date for 28 Feb 2019.
For more info
stephanie.macgillivray@cbcew.org.uk,
@faithinpolitics on Facebook or
@catholicinterns on Twitter



Dates for Christmas

Christmas Eve 24th December
11.30pm Midnight Mass

Christmas Day 25th December
11.00am Mass of Christmas Day

Daily Mass 26th Dec - 4th Jan
10.00am (ie no 1.05pm)

Thursday Evensong & Mass
resumes 17th January

All other times are unaltered.

Answers: 1. It means "coming"; the word is Latin in origin. When we say the Our Father in Latin, we say "Aveñiat regnum tuum" - "thy kingdom come." Same word. 2. Advent is a time of penance, so the colour is purple. On the third Sunday, we take a break and look ahead to Christmas and rejoice, so the candle is rose-coloured. 3. Gabriel. Mary lives at Nazareth. 4. It is a hymn of rejoicing, and Advent is a time of penance. 5. There was a census and everyone had to go to his own city to be registered. 6. "The place where animals eat." Same word as "munch". 8. Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar. 9. Herod. The Holy Innocents. 10. "God with us" 11. St Stephen. He was the first martyr. 12. David's Herald. Manger. Holy.

This Week: Mass & intentions

Day	Time	Intention
Today <i>Gaudete</i> Third Sunday of Advent	8.30am 11.00am	Family of MF Parishioners
Mon 17th <i>O Sapientia</i>	1.05pm	Pope Francis 82 years old today
Tues 18th <i>O Adonai</i>	1.05pm	
Wed 19th <i>O Radix</i>	1.05pm	John & Kate Rigby ✕
Thurs 20th <i>O Clavis</i>	1.05pm 6.30pm	Priests MF Canonisation of Bl JHN
Fri 21st <i>O Oriens</i>	1.05pm	Family & Holy Souls ✕
Sat 22nd <i>O Rex</i>		
Next Sunday <i>O Emmanuel</i> Fourth Sunday of Advent	8.30am 11.00am	Bartly Flannery ✕ Parishioners

Next Week's Readings Micah 5:1-4 Hebrews 10:5-10 Luke 1:39-44

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: £1,302.25 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 Coordinating pastors.

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, Wilma, Adrian

Recently Departed: Mary Crisp

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

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