



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*

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8th December 2019

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 we prepare ourselves for the coming of Christ through repentance. We need to change the pattern of our lives in order to be ready when indeed he does come. In the next few weeks, we must straighten out our lives so that the Lord will have no obstacle in his path. Prepare the way of the Lord.



Sunday School at the 11am Mass is for Children of Primary School age, follow the cross for a *Liturgy of the Word*.

Evening Prayer & Benediction, in Advent each Sunday at 4pm

Accommodation sought by Catholic professional, 35, working in Westminster. Can supply excellent references. See FrC

Land Mark Court, an exhibition of proposed developments, 9th Dec 5.30pm - 8pm at Bankside Community Space.

Bible Sunday is today and the beginning of the *Year of the Word*. Do you read the bible? Do you have a bible... a Catholic Bible?

Christmas gifts have probably been thought about, if not already bought and hidden away. Consider a gift which will help someone to be a better Catholic.

The Christmas Decorations go up in Church next Sunday after the 11am Mass. Can you lend some help? Many hands....

Poinsettias needed for the Crib. Bring one or two next week.

The General Election is on Thursday this week. Cast your vote after considering the issues for the Catholic Faith, think, pray, ponder. There is only one person * to vote for in this constituency!

A Christmas Party for Senior Citizens is being offered by St Michael's Catholic College on Wednesday 18th December 4.30-7.30pm. Drinks, Christmas Dinner and entertainment. See FrC for a ticket.

Going away for Christmas? You will have planned lots of things already. Have you planned for Mass on Christmas Day?

Fr Ken Berry died last week, a priest of the Ordinariate based in Croydon. His Funeral Mass will be at St Mary's Croydon on 19th Dec at 1pm. *Lord have mercy.*

The Portal, the monthly magazine for the Ordinariate is available at the back. There are some articles about things here at MPB

The Church will be open only for Mass whilst a roof beam is replaced. It looks like it will not be finished till after Christmas!

*there is only one person in each constituency.

Founded: 1891

Constructed: 1892

Consecrated: 1st July 2019



Keeping silence before Mass

When we go to Mass, maybe we arrive five minutes before, and we start to chitchat with those in front of us, or next to us, however, it is not a moment for chitchat.

It is a moment of silence for preparing ourselves for dialogue, a time for the heart to collect itself in order to prepare for the encounter with Jesus: silence is so important.

The Mass is not a show, but a place where we encounter the Lord. In this encounter, silence is what prepares us and accompanies us

But to really understand this, first we have to answer a question: What is prayer?

Prayer is, first and foremost dialogue, a personal relationship with God. And in prayer, just like in any dialogue, it needs moments of silence together with Jesus. This is because it is only in the mysterious silence of God that his word can resound in our hearts.

Prayer is something that Jesus himself taught us to do, first of all by example, when in the Gospels he withdraws to a secluded place to pray. And second, he teaches us again when he tells his disciples that the first word in knowing how to pray is "Father."

This is so simple. So we have to learn 'Father.' Then we must take on the attitude of a small

child, one full of trust and confidence, knowing that God remembers you and takes care of you.

The second attitude we should take is one of childlike surprise and wonder. The child, always asks a thousand questions because he wants to discover the world; in our relationship with the Lord, in prayer, open the heart to wonder.

When we say we don't have time to pray, we are really saying something else is more important and we lose sight of what is fundamental: our life of the heart, our spiritual life, our life of prayer with the Lord. .

However, Jesus surprises us in truth by loving us and calling us even in our weaknesses, he said, adding that just as Christ called his disciples, he also calls us to him at each Mass.

This is, therefore, the greatest grace: to be able to experience the Mass, the Eucharist. It is the privileged moment to be with Jesus, and through him, with God.

When you arrive for Mass, don't chitchat, but prepare for the arrival of the Lord Jesus.

*Pope Francis
St Peter's Rome
November 2019*

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is often misunderstood and confused with the conception of Jesus which is the Annunciation. It points to the fact that Mary was free from Original Sin from the very first moment.

Original sin, the first sin, which was of Adam in the garden of Eden, has tainted all humanity ever since. We are washed free from Original sin by baptism. Which is why baptism at the earliest opportunity is so so important, for by baptism we receive God's Grace. Before Jesus, this was not possible. We rejoice in the single privilege given by God to Mary that she should be free from this ancient curse, by 'preventive grace'. We celebrate Mary and what God has done in her tomorrow.



Advent II

Father in heaven, the dawn draws near when the glory of your Son will make radiant the night of the waiting world. May the lure of it not impede us from the joy which moves the hearts of those who seek him. May the darkness not blind us to the vision of wisdom which fills the minds of those who find him, through whose Advent we await, Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen.

Christmas Mass

Christmas Eve

11.30pm Midnight Mass

Christmas Day

11.00am Holy Mass (nb no 8.30am),

Fish on Fridays. Advent is not a penitential season, but a season of preparation and of new beginnings. If you don't abstain from meat on Fridays, Advent is a good time to begin. It is the day the Lord died.



S	M	E	S	S	E	N	G	E	R
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RIVER
ISAIAH
MESSENGER
WILDERNESS
BAPTISM
REPENTANCE
CAMELSKIN
LOCUSTS
HONEY
STRAP
SANDALS
SPIRIT

This Week: Mass & intentions

Day	Time	Intention
Today Second Sunday of Advent	8.30am 11.00am	Gertrude Dawson <i>foundation</i> Parishioners
Mon 9th IMMACULATE CONCEPTION	1.05pm	Beatification of Fulton Sheen
Tues 10th <i>feria</i>	1.05pm	Ken Berry ✕ <i>priest, recently</i>
Wed 11th (<i>Pope St Damasus I</i>)	1.05pm	Holy Souls ✕
Thurs 12th (<i>OL of Guadalupe</i>)	1.05pm 6.30pm	Luke & family Those who will be elected today
Fri 13th <i>St Lucy</i>	1.05pm	David Pierson ✕ <i>recently</i>
Sat 14th <i>St John of the Cross</i>		
Next Sunday Third Sunday of Advent	8.30am 11.00am	Geraldine Davy ✕ Parishioners

Next Week's Readings Isaiah 35:1-6.10 James 5:7-10 Matthew 11:2-11

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

Evensong 4pm Sunday with Benediction
6pm Thursday during term time.

Last week: £1,361.92 inc Standing Orders and Cashless 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. *The Future of the Very Young*

That every country take the measures necessary to prioritise the future of the very young, especially those who are suffering.

For your prayers:

Those in formation for Ministry, Br Philip novOP (Jeff Gerlomes)

The Sick & Housebound: Dora, Mary, Ada, Fr John, Geoffrey, Mark

Recently Departed: Kenneth Berry *priest*, David Pierson

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

Fr Christopher Pearson *OLW Parish Priest*

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