



# 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*



**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT** 15th 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 are to *Rejoice*, because he is coming soon! God sends his only Son to save us.

Joy and gladness are ours and the time for sorrow and lamenting is over. Christ is standing

at the gates and we know he is the one for whom we have been waiting. Do not lose heart. Take courage!

Your God is coming, so, rejoice!



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

**Evensong & Benediction**, at 4pm today will be sung by our excellent choir.

**The Pilgrim**, the Diocesan Newspaper for December is available the back of Church.

**David Pierson** died last week after a long illness. He was an early member of the Ordinariate. His Funeral is here tomorrow. *Lord have mercy on him.*

**Fr Ken Berry's** Funeral is at St Mary's Croydon on Thursday this week at 1pm. *Lord have mercy on him.*

**Gaudete Sunday** is today (Rejoice Sunday).

It's so called because of the Entrance Antiphon *Rejoice in the Lord always...* Today we use the liturgical colour rose (and that's rose, not pink!)

**Cleaning and Decorating** – will you offer some time today? The trees and the Nativity Scene today; then lots of polishing, sweeping, vacuuming etc on Saturday from 10am.

**Bring Poinsettias**, the traditional plant for the Christmas Crib. There can never be too many!

**Confessions** before Christmas. You know the times, or make a request or appointment.

**Christmas Carol Service** for our School is in MPB on Wed this week, 2pm. *All welcome.*

**Christmas Lunch.** Is there room for another? Too many people spend Christmas lunch on their own, could you invite someone?

**Christmas Gifts** (not presents) have no doubt been already bought. But how about giving a Missal, a Rosary or a devotional book –much better than chocolates which'll go straight to the waist-line!

**Going away for Christmas?** Don't forget to go to Mass! Staying with family and friends can be a great excuse to (re)introduce them to the Catholic Church.

**Christmas Offering for the Clergy** can be made using the envelopes at the back.

**Bambini** (the baby Jesuses). Bring yours next Sunday to Mass to be blessed, so he can go in your crib at home.

**Christmas Flowers.** There will be a retiring collection next week.

**Founded: 1891**

**Constructed: 1892**

**Consecrated: 1st July 2019**

# O Antiphons

On the evening of December 17 the final phase of preparation for Christmas begins with the first of the great "O Antiphons" of Advent. These prayers are seven jewels of liturgical song, one for each day until Christmas Eve. They seem to sum up all our Advent longing for the Saviour.

The "O Antiphons" are intoned with special solemnity in monasteries at Vespers, before and after the *Magnificat*, Mary's prayer of praise and thanksgiving from the Gospel of Luke, which is sung every evening as the climax of this Hour of the Divine Office.

A vestige of the "Great Os" can be seen in verses of the familiar Advent hymn, "O Come, O Come Emmanuel".

Families interested in the liturgy have discovered these gems of liturgical poetry and use them in their evening prayers. An "O Antiphon House" -- similar to an Advent Calendar -- can be made, with seven windows, each concealing an appropriate symbol for the different "O Antiphons", and an eighth window hiding the Nativity scene. As with an Advent calendar, one window is opened each day.

The sublime meditation of the "Great Os" would be excellent for families with children who have outgrown the Jesse Tree or Advent calendar. In any case, they are beautiful additions to your family prayers in the days just before Christmas. And they form part of the classic Christmas Novena.

The "O Antiphons" appear below in English translation, with scriptural sources and suggested symbols.



**Sapientia (Wisdom)** who came from the mouth of the Most High, reaching from end to end and ordering all things mightily and sweetly: Come, and teach us the way of prudence. *Sirach 24:2; Wisdom 8:1. Symbols: oil lamp, open book.*



**Adonai (Lord and ruler)** of the House of Israel, who appeared to Moses in the flame of the burning bush and gave him the law on Sinai: Come, and redeem us with outstretched arm. *Exodus 3:2, 20:1. Symbols: burning bush, stone tablets.*



**Radix Jesse (Root of Jesse)** who stands for an ensign of the people, before whom kings shall keep silence and unto whom the Gentiles shall make supplication: Come to deliver us, and tarry not. *Isaiah 11:1-3. Symbol: vine or plant with flower (especially a rose).*



**Clavis (Key) of David**, and Sceptre of the House of Israel, who opens and no man shuts, who shuts and no man opens: Come, and bring forth the captive from his prison, he who sits in darkness and in the shadow of death. *Isaiah 22:22. Symbols: key; broken chains.*



**Oriens (Dawn) of the East**, brightness of the light eternal, and Sun of Justice: Come, and enlighten them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death. *Psalms 19:6-7. Symbol: rising sun.*



**Rex (King) of the nations** and their desired One, the Cornerstone that makes both one: Come, and deliver man, whom You formed out of the dust of the earth. *Psalms 2:7-8, Ephesians 2:14-20. Symbols, Crown, sceptre.*



**Emmanuel (God with us)** our King and Lawgiver, the expected of the nations and their Saviour: Come to save us, O Lord our God. *Isaiah 7:14; 33:22. Symbols: tablets of stone, Chalice and Host.*

## An Advent Quiz

...to get us all thinking about Christmas! Find out the things the shops won't tell you! Try this quiz with friends and family – or just test yourself. Answers are at the bottom of the page.



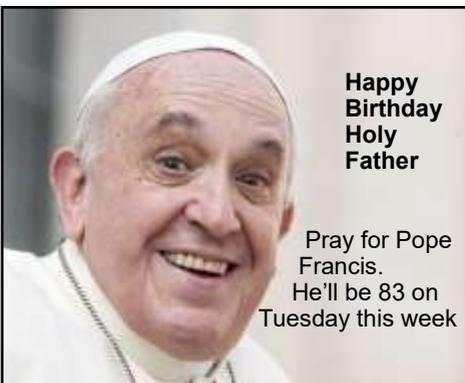
1. What does the word "Advent" mean?
2. Why are there four candles on the Advent wreath and why is one of them rose-coloured and the others purple?
3. What was the name of the angel who came to tell Mary that she was to bear the Saviour? Where was Mary living at the time?
4. Why don't we sing the *Gloria* on Sundays at Mass during 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 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 ....; Silent night,....night*

## Christmas Mass

Christmas Eve  
11.30pm  
*Midnight Mass*

Christmas Day  
11.00am  
*Holy Mass*

(nb no 8.30am),



**Happy  
Birthday  
Holy  
Father**

Pray for Pope Francis.  
He'll be 83 on  
Tuesday this week

**CHRISTMAS OFFERING**



**Christmas Offerings for the Clergy**  
can be made using these envelopes.  
Thank you for your generosity

**Answers:** 1. It means "coming"; the word is Latin in origin. When we say the Our Father in Latin, we say "Aventiat regnum tuum – "they kingdom come." Same word. 2. Advent is four weeks long. one candle for each Sunday. 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 of bread". Think about it. 7. The manger is the place where animals eat. Same word as "munch". 8. Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar. 9. Herald, the Holy Innocents. 10. "God with us". 11. St Stephen. He was the first martyr. 12. David's Herald, Manger, Holy.

**Rejoice**

## This Week: Mass & intentions

Day	Time	Intention
<b>Today</b> <i>Third Sunday of Advent</i>	8.30am <b>11.00am</b>	Geraldine Davy ✕ Parishioners
Mon 16th <i>feria</i>	11.00am 1.05pm	David Pierson ✕ <i>funeral Mass</i> Holy Souls ✕
Tues 17th <i>O Sapientia</i>	1.05pm	Pope Francis <i>birthday</i>
Wed 18th <i>O Adonai</i>	1.05pm	Elizabeth Quinn
Thurs 19th <i>O Radix</i>	1.05pm 6.30pm	Mark Fallon Ken Berry <i>priest ✕ funeral today</i>
Fri 20th <i>O Clavis</i>	1.05pm	Florrie White ✕ <i>d.2013</i>
Sat 21st <i>O Oriens</i>		
<b>Next Sunday</b> <i>O Rex</i> <i>Fourth Sunday of Advent</i>	8.30am <b>11.00am</b>	Jim Powell ✕ <i>birthday</i> Parishioners

**Next Week's Readings** Isaiah 7:10-14 Romans 1:1-7 Matthew 1:18-25

**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:** £1,695.07 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, Mila Espinoza

*Anniversaries:* Florence White (2013)

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

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