



Ordinariate and Parish Church MOST PRECIOUS BLOOD

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



ADVENT I

29th November 2020

In the gospel reading today, we hear that Advent is a time of waiting and watching for the second coming of the Lord Jesus. The Holy Spirit is our constant help that we may always be on our guard and remain awake so that we are prepared for the last day. The best preparation is a good life lived in the knowledge that God is our father and we are the work of his hands. So Stay Awake!



Sunday Mass today will be at 11am only and the only way we can participate is on-line by YouTube and FaceBook. Subscribe and 'like'. See *website*. Take part as much as you can.

Mass with a Congregation is possible from Wednesday. The pre-lockdown restrictions will apply - hands, face, space.

Sunday Mass next week will be at 09.30 & 11.00 Registration is required, as before, to ensure no-one turns-up and cannot get in. Please register on the website.

Christmas Mass times are scheduled for Midnight Mass and Mass on Christmas Day. Registration is required, again, to save disappointment. If they reach capacity, additional times will be scheduled. Although we don't have to attend Mass during the pandemic, many will want to at Christmas, so you can attend during the octave: the eight days. Mass will be live-streamed, whatever happens.

Mass Stewards are once again needed. Thank you to those who have volunteered before.

There's room for more. Please volunteer on the App or via ChurchSuite.

The First Sunday of Advent sees the beginning a new Christian Year. Life offers many new beginnings, so why not make a new-liturgical-year's resolution?

Advent is the preparation for Christmas when we spend four weeks getting ready for the birth of Jesus. Use Advent well. The preparation is part of the event!

Advent Reflections, sign up for the daily email from Bishop Robert Barron. www.adventreflections.com

The Year of St Mark begins today. The three synoptic Gospels, Matthew, Mark and Luke, have a three year cycle - we are now *Year B*.

Pastoral Visits are an important part of parish life (ie the parish-priest calling to see you), made doubly difficult atm. Give him a phone call during Advent, have 'phone visit!

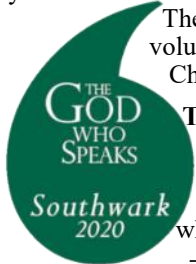
November ends this week, have you updated Holy Souls updates? Last chance!

Beverley Cooper's funeral will be at 11.30 on Friday at St Peter's Eastwood. Email FrC for the live-stream link. *Lord have mercy.*

Evangelist, catechist, formator. We are asked to appoint someone to each of these roles. It's an initiative of the Archbishop. Who could your recommend? *Tell FrC*

Financial Giving. You might not attend in person, but please consider regular giving, preferably on-line. Thank you to all who already do.

Keep an eye on friends and neighbours...





Covid-19 Vaccine.

Vaccines against Covid-19 are beginning to be developed. This is indeed great news. But with it comes a question: can Catholics have it?

The question is about whether the vaccine has used Human Embryo stem cells in the development or testing.

To answer the question we need to understand something of Catholic Moral Theology - how the Church comes to define things as acceptable or not: are we co-operating with evil?

There are number of distinctions. Is the co-operation *formal* or *material*? This depends on our intention: do we share in the intention of doing evil? If, for example, you drive the get-away-car from a bank robbery, you did not rob the bank but you are complicit in the act by driving the car, even if you morally disapprove of bank robbery! How we acted determines the rightness or otherwise, even if we did not agree with the act. Our action denotes *material* approval. If you loaned your car, or gave a lift to and from the bank and the robber never told you why he was going to the bank, it would be wrong, but you are not *materially* culpable.

It may also be that our involvement in the robbery is *proximate* or *remote*. If you are the person who filled the get-away-car with fuel, when you knew the car was to be used in a bank robbery, you are *remote*, so remote that you are not complicit in the robbery. After all, the car is also used to take the kids to school, get the shopping etc. So we can have some distinctions in our involvement in the bank robbery. Bank robbery is wrong. Did we *co-operate*? Was our co-operation *formal* or *material*? Was our material cooperation *immediate* or *mediate*? Was our mediate material cooperation *proximate* or *remote*? We need also to consider if it were under duress or has other mitigating circumstances? It is possible for our involvement, even fully aware, to be so distant

that we can have no culpability. Just because you filled the get-away-car with fuel, does not make you a bank robber!

What has all this got to do with the Covid-19 vaccine? Everything.

If a vaccine has been developed using tissues from aborted human embryos either by development or testing, this clearly is an evil act. So if we have this vaccine are we being complicit in the evil act of abortion?

What if a doctor in 1964 used aborted foetuses to develop a vaccine against Rubella (German Measles) which killed tens of thousands and in 2020 your child could have the vaccine, 56 years later. Would you be cooperating in evil?

To answer this question, in 2005 the Vatican produced a distinction between those who did the research (formal cooperation), those who distributed the vaccine (material cooperation) and those who received the vaccine (remote material cooperation). In other words, the Vatican said it is okay to receive the Rubella vaccination even in the knowledge that it was produced using aborted human foetuses. The co-operation, even in full knowledge, was so remote and the heath of the child so paramount it far out-weighs any formal cooperation in evil.

So, is this a green-light for Catholic to have the Covid-19 vaccine, even in the knowledge it was developed cooperating with this evil?

It depends. If there are alternative vaccines which have been developed or can be developed without this evil, we have a moral responsibility to promote and use them.

To date, some vaccines have been developed with varying degrees of effectiveness, costs and useability. Some have been developed using aborted human embryos, others have not. These are too early days to be able to give any definitive answers; and it is impossible to say whether the effective vaccines will be those using or those not using aborted human tissue.

So what if, just what if, the only vaccine available is that which uses aborted human embryos, can Catholics be vaccinated with it? Based on what has been said by the Vatican before, following the Bishops guidelines, and subject to on-going ethically developed vaccines, and as abstaining from it might cause more harm than good to the general population, yes we can.

Advent Reflections

www.adventreflections.com

Sign up for a daily email



Christmas Mass Times

Midnight Mass 23.30

Christmas Day 11.00

Booking required. If these reach capacity additional times will be added, firstly 09.30 on 25th, then 18.30 on 24th.



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.

St Andrew, like his brother Simon Peter, was a fisherman. He became a disciple of the St John the Baptist, but when John pointed to Jesus and said, "Behold the Lamb of God!" Andrew understood that Jesus was greater. At once he left John to follow the Divine Master. Jesus knew that Andrew was walking behind him, and turning back, he asked, "what do you seek?" When Andrew answered that he would like to know where Jesus lived, he replied, "Come and see." Andrew had been only a little time with Jesus when he realised that this was truly the Messiah.



Andrew was thus the first disciple of Christ. Next, Andrew brought his brother Simon (St Peter) to Jesus and Jesus received him, too, as His disciple. The Lord promised to make them fishers of men, so they left their nets and followed Him. It is believed that St Andrew went to Greece is said to have been put to death on a X shaped cross. He is patron of Russia and Scotland.

His feast is on tomorrow

Wash Cover Make
HANDS FACE SPACE



Sun 09.00-10.30 & Mon-Wed 12.30-14.00

This Week: Mass & intentions

Day	Time	Intention
This Sunday <i>First Sunday of Advent</i>	11.00	Parishioners
Mon 30th <i>St Andrew</i>	12.05	Sr Chris-Rose MC ✕ <i>d.2017</i>
Tues 1st <i>feria</i>	12.05	Deceased parishioners ✕
Wed 2nd <i>feria</i>	12.05	Deceased clergy ✕
Thur 3rd <i>St Francis Xavier</i>	12.05	Healing & discernment of donor
Fri 4th <i>(St John Damascene)</i>	12.05	Beverley Cooper ✕ <i>funeral today</i>
Sat 5th <i>of OL in Advent</i>	10.00	David Pierson ✕ <i>year's mind</i>
Next Sunday <i>Second Sunday of Advent</i>	11.00	Parishioners

Next Week's Readings Isaiah 40:1-5.9-11 2 Peter 3:8-14 Mark 1:1-8

Sacrament of Confession. Mon - Fri 12.30 - 13.00 or By appointment

Evensong 4.00pm, & Benediction, 1st Sunday *on-line only*
6.00pm, Thursday *term-time on-line only*

Last week: £1,059.00 Standing Orders and On-line 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: *For a Life of Prayer* We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.

For your prayers:

In formation: for Ministry, Br Philip OP (Jeff Gerlomes)

Those who are Sick: Dora, Mary, David, Rebecca, George, David, Paddy,
See FrC is any of the sick are your friends or relatives
And for all those with Coronavirus

Coronavirus: The medical profession, doctors, nurses, first responders, support-staff, research scientists, those who make big-impact decision,

Recently Departed: Beverley Cooper, Alan Griffin *priest*

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

Fr Christopher Pearson OLW *Parish Priest*

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