

CONGRATULATIONS

We congratulate and welcome Jozef Tobiasz Jelen, Niya rose Levy Jackson, Sophie May and Alice Lorna Ford and Zayne Cameron Lanre Christopher, who were baptised last week in our church. Please pray for them and their families.

LITURGY, CONFESSION & MASS TIMES

Sun 3 Dec	+ 1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT <i>Ps week 1</i> <i>Isaiah 63:16-17, 19; 64:1,3-8 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 Mark 13:33-37 (p.82)</i> OLSG: 8am, 9am, 10.30am, 12 noon Mass; 12noon-1pm Confessions; 6pm Mass OLW: 10am Mass
Mon 4 Dec	Advent Feria HFC: 7.30am Mass OLSG: (10am-12noon church cleaning), 12.30pm Mass
Tue 5 Dec	Advent Feria HFC: 7.30am Mass, 7-8pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament OLSG: 12.30pm Funeral Mass of Ruth Fox RIP
Wed 6 Dec	Advent Feria OLSG: 12.30pm Mass, 7pm Carols performed by the Westminster Choir Boys HFC: 8-9pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Thu 7 Dec	St Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor OLSG: 12.30pm Funeral Mass of Phyllis Morrow RIP HFC: 4.45-5.45pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Fri 8 Dec	THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY OLSG: 12.30pm Mass, <u>7pm</u> Mass OLSG: 3pm Wedding Mass Richard Antao and Jennifer Rodrigues
Sat 9 Dec	Advent Feria OLSG: 9.30am Mass (followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament); 10.45am Benediction; 10-11am Confessions; 5pm Evening Prayer followed by Adoration until 5.45pm; 5.15-5.45pm Confessions; 6pm Mass
Sun 10 Dec	+ 2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT <i>Ps week 2</i> <i>Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11 2Peter 3:8-14 Mark 1:1-8 (p.85)</i> OLSG: 8am, 9am, 10.30am, 12 noon Mass; 12noon-1pm Confessions; 6pm Mass OLW: 10am Mass In OLSG: On weekdays the Litany, Angelus and Rosary are said at 12 noon, before 12.30pm Mass.

OLSG: Our Lady of Mount Carmel & Saint George, 45 London Road
OLW: Our Lady of Walsingham, Holtwhites Hill
HFC: Holy Family Convent, 52 London Road

OLSG is open daily for private prayer: Monday-Friday 7am-8.30pm; Saturday-Sunday 7am-7pm

Our Lady of Mount Carmel & Saint George

with Our Lady of Walsingham & the English Martyrs

A Parish of the Catholic Diocese of Westminster

No. 1403

First Sunday of Advent

03 Dec 2017

You and I live in a world that is bombarded with information, and thus, actions have to be taken in order to process this information. It is good to see that our 21st century Britain is never idle, things are always in flux, they keep moving and flowing like the internet broadband. If you happen to walk down Oxford Street, it appears as if Christmas is already here. It looks like we have skipped the four preceding Sundays in Advent.

As Christians, Advent is a time of slowing down, rather than fast-forwarding. Advent is a time of waiting and hoping, rather than being impatient. It is a time of preparation, ob-

erving, repentance and transforming.

What are we preparing for? Advent as in the Latin word, *adventus*, means 'arrival' or 'coming'. Advent helps us to prepare for the coming and arrival of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

Christ's coming has two strands; the realised eschatology - Christmas, and the future eschatology - the second coming of Christ. Advent is not only a sacred time to prepare our hearts for the Lord, but also to observe our actions and allow ourselves to be transformed. Let advent be advent.

Maranatha - Come Lord Jesus!

Fr Chinedu

Novena to the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

A novena is a powerful devotion of prayer, said over nine consecutive days, asking God and the saints for special graces. **From Wednesday 29th November** we begin saying this novena prayer in preparation for the feast of the Immaculate Conception.

Please pray the novena with the parish and at home. May these prayers bring us many graces, especially as we begin the holy season of Advent. We will pray for a number of special intentions and you could also decide upon your own personal intentions for the novena.

Father, you prepared the Virgin Mary to be the worthy Mother of your Son.

You made it possible for her to share beforehand in the salvation of your Son, Jesus Christ, who would bring life by His death, and kept her without sin from the first moment of her conception.

Give us the grace by her prayers ever to live in your presence without sin.

We ask this through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

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Reception Times: Monday-Friday 9am-8.30pm; Saturday 9am-1pm; Sunday 10.15am-1pm

Email: enfield@rcdow.org.uk **Web:** www.catholicenfield.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/CatholicEnfield **Twitter:** @CatholicEnfield

Parish Priest: Fr Sławomir Witoń **Assistant Priest:** Fr Chinedu Odo

Catechetical Co-ordinator: Sybil Lee email: sybillee@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Secretary: Susi Thompson (Monday - Thursday)



PARISH NOTICES

Please pray for those who have died: Monsignor George Tutto, Phyllis Noone, Franics Braganza, Phyllis Morrow, Ruth Fox and Eilish Lloyd **and for those whose anniversaries occur about now:** Monica Wafford, Patrick Dyar, William Loughane, Michael Diamond Snr, Lino Galano, Kay Allen and Odette Carpen.

Please pray for sick and housebound parishioners: Iris Egerton, Vanessa Jackson, Anya Diamond, Eileen and Melanie Perciato, Therese Egan, Patrick Timoney, Keith Woollard and Joy Folkes.

Solidarity Card signing at all Masses this weekend, 2nd & 3rd Dec. This weekend we ask that you take a few minutes to write a card to express your solidarity with those brave individuals and groups standing up for human and environmental rights around the world. Whether it is the peaceful protester arrested and tortured, an activist fighting against forced evictions or refugees left in limbo rather than offered a place of safety, your words can help provide the strength to carry on in the face of harassment, intimidation and threatened detainment. Please can you sign one or two cards of solidarity as you leave church today and offer a contribution of £1 towards postage if you can too. Let's stand up for justice together. Thank you. The Justice & Peace Group.

Enfield Foodbank Collection this weekend, 2nd & 3rd Dec. Thank you for your continued support. We will resume the Foodbank collections in March 2018.

Confessions in Advent. As well as the regular Confession times on Saturdays 10-11am & 5.15-5.45pm, Confessions will also be heard 12 noon-1pm on 3rd and 10th December.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: The initial enquiry period for our parish's group of enquirers will be moving into its second stage this Sunday at the 10.30am Mass, with the unbaptised enquirers celebrating the Rite of Acceptance into the Order of Catechumens and the baptised members of the RCIA group being welcomed as candidates for full communion in the Catholic Church. All in the group ask you please to pray for the new catechumens and candidates as they continue their conversion journey. We, as a parish, will

journey with them as they come to understand more deeply what it means to follow Christ as a Roman Catholic.

The Choristers of Westminster Cathedral will be performing Benjamin Britten's 'A Ceremony of Carols' in the church (OLSG) on Wednesday 6th December at 7pm. Free entry, retiring collection. All are welcome.

Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Friday 8th December. Mass at 12.30pm and 7pm in OLSG.

Re-Commissioning of Readers at all Masses on 9th and 10th December.

Change to Mass Time on Tuesday 12th December. Mass at 9am (not 12.30pm in OLSG) due to clergy attending the deanery meeting.

Notices for Eucharistic Ministers in OLSG: List with details of Eucharistic Ministers. Can all Eucharistic Ministers please check the list in the sacristy and update where necessary.

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. If you are planning to attend Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Mass, please add your name to the list in the sacristy. This is to ensure that we have enough ministers at each of the Masses.

Parish Christmas Carol Service at 3pm on Sunday 17th December followed by refreshments in the parish centre. All welcome.

At the end of the Service a special collection will be taken towards the costs of the Christmas Day Lunch for the elderly and housebound.

If you are able to help transport guests to & from the parish centre on Christmas Day or help on the day in the parish centre, please contact Chandra ccj.woollard@hotmail.co.uk

Primary School Priest Reference. Final week to make an appointment with the parish priest to obtain a Certificate of Catholic Practice. Please call at the presbytery during office hours to book. The appointments are done through a brief interview with the parents/carers and child.

Knights of St Columba. Fr Witon would like to thank the Knights for granting him the distinction of becoming a Member of Honour of their Order. May God bless you and your ministry in the service of the Church.

Summer in the Forest, a film about Jean Vanier and L'Arche community, is being shown to the Relaxation and Meditation Group, Tuesday 12th December, 10:30am in the Bishop Challoner room followed by a bring and share lunch. Anyone interested welcome.

Mount Carmel Ladies Group next meet on Thursday 7th December for an afternoon of poetry – A Word in Your Ear. We start to gather in the Parish Centre after 12:30pm Mass. All Welcome.

SVP Coffee Morning. Thank you to everyone that participated in the recent coffee morning where we raised over £200.

Repository is now stocked with a range of **Christmas items** as well as the **Westminster Year Book 2018**, £4.50. The bookshop is run by volunteers and opens before/after 12.30pm weekday Mass & weekend Masses.

Our Brownies did an amazing job last Thursday packing care bags for the Homeless. On a Wednesday night a local charity TODOS take hot meals to about 200 people in Kings Cross. Next week they will be giving out the bags our girls packed. Girls we are so proud of you. Also thank you to the Confirmation candidates who helped

supervise the evening – Daisy, Elle, Grace & Naomi. This was certainly Love in Action. Flic.

OUR LADY OF WALSLINGHAM

Prayer Group - Wednesdays in OLW at 10am followed by tea/coffee. All welcome.

OTHER NEWS

Do you support Catholic schools and the right of Catholics to send their children to them? Then we need you to make your voice heard. The Government is making a critical decision on whether to overturn the admissions cap which prevents Catholic schools from allowing all Catholic pupils to attend. They have acknowledged that this policy discriminates against Catholics and promised to abandon it; now we need you to tell them not to u-turn on their promise to Catholics. Visit: <http://catholicnews.org.uk/> or search for 'Catholic Education' in your search engine to write to the Government and urge them to drop their policy which bans new Catholic schools.

Pax Christi Advent Peace Service Monday 4th December 7pm at St. Aloysius Church, Phoenix Road, Euston followed by an "alternative" Christmas market, mulled wine and mince pies. St Aloysius is only a short walk from Euston on the Victoria Line.

St. Anne's Catholic High School for Girls – Carol Service on Thursday 14th December at 7pm at Our Lady of Mount Carmel & St. George Church. As well as a service of readings & carols, our award winning Gospel Choir will be performing. After the service, all are invited for Mince Pies & Mulled Wine in the Parish Centre.

Winter Art Workshop for kids aged 4-10 on Friday 29th December 1pm-4.30pm in the Mount Carmel Parish Centre. Cost £20. Limited spaces. Contact Maria marialouvazquez@yahoo.com