

## LITURGY, CONFESSION & MASS TIMES

Sun 3rd Dec + 1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT

*Ps Wk 1*

*Isaiah 63:16-17; 64:1, 3-8; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:33-37 (p. 82)*

**OLSG:** Mass 8am, 9am, 10.30am, 12 noon (LS) and 6pm. **OLW:** Mass 10am

Mon 4th Dec St John Damascene, Priest & Doctor

**HFC:** Mass 8am. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 7-8pm

**OLSG:** Church cleaning 10am, Mass 12 noon (LS)

Tues 5th Dec Advent feria

**HFC:** Mass 8am. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 7-8pm

**OLSG:** Funeral Service for Cynthia Faint RIP 10am, Mass 12 noon (LS)

Wed 6th Dec St Nicholas, Bishop

**HFC:** Mass 8am. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 7-8pm

**OLSG:** Funeral Mass of John Thomas Winters RIP 12 noon (LS)

Thur 7th Dec St Ambrose, Bishop & Bishop

**OLW:** Mass 10am (in Advent)

**OLSG:** Mass 12 noon (LS)

**HFC:** Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 4-5pm

Fri 8th Dec **THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BVM** *No Friday abstinence*

**OLSG:** Mass 10am, 12 noon (LS) and 7pm

Sat 9th Dec Advent feria

**OLSG:** Mass 9.30am followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament; Confession 10am-10.45am; Benediction 10.45am; Adoration & Confessions 5pm-5.45pm, Mass 6pm

Sun 10th Dec + 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

*Ps Wk 2*

*Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11; 2 Peter 3:8-14; Mark 1:1-8 (p. 85)*

**OLSG:** Mass 8am, 9am, 10.30am, 12 noon (LS) and 6pm. **OLW:** Mass 10am

**Parish** 45 London Road, Enfield EN2 6DS Phone: (020) 8363 2569

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

**Details** Office Opening Times: Mon-Fri 9am-5pm; Sat 9.30am-1pm; Sun 10am-1pm

**Parish Priest:** Fr Daniel Humphreys

**Assistant Priest:** Fr Patrick van der Vorst

**Deacon:** Rev. Peter Jones email: peterjones@rcdow.org.uk

**Catechetical Enquiries:** email: enfieldcat@rcdow.org.uk

**Parish Secretary:** Susi Thompson

**Parish Safeguarding Reps:** Deborah Thompson : enfieldsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

Samantha Seth email: enfieldsg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

**OLSG is open** Monday-Friday 7.30am-6pm; Saturday 8.30am-7pm; Sunday 7.30am-7pm unless otherwise stated in this newsletter.

## Our Lady of Mount Carmel & Saint George

with Our Lady of Walsingham & the English Martyrs

A parish of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Westminster

Year B

+ 1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

3rd December 2023

**Advent through Art: the light of Christ is coming!**



Today is New Year's Day in our Liturgical calendar – the First Sunday of Advent. So first of all, happy new year!

For the past few weeks, we have been living through the darkness of November, seen the trees shed their leaves and it has gone cold. The days are getting shorter... until 21st December, the Winter solstice. That day has the fewest daylight hours of the year. We do not know exactly when Jesus was born or what time of year it was. So the Church in the year 336AD, almost immediately after the Roman persecutions, said if we are going to celebrate his birth, let us choose a symbolic time. And so the Church chose to celebrate Christmas close after the Winter solstice, when light is coming back into our world. The physical light of our Universe starts to re-appear, as the Light of Christ came into this world!

This sense of light is beautifully conveyed in our painting from 1641 by Matthias Stom. He was a follower of Caravaggio and we see the use of dark-light to great dramatic effect. The Christ child is at the centre of our painting. He is bursting with light

and already reaching out with outstretched arms to the people around Him. His love for us is already on full display from the first hours He graced this earth. Our Lady is watching on with loving tenderness, gently holding the white blanket which covers the manger filled with straw.

At the start of Christmas we must not forget Christ in CHRIST-mas. Shops, restaurants, TV ads all show the joys of Christmas, but where is Jesus? He is nowhere to be seen. I have not seen any cribs so far. So what can each of us do to counter this trend of Christ disappearing from our Christmas celebrations? Well, as I mentioned the straw in the manger earlier, there is a lovely tradition that one of my friends does each year with his children. From the First Sunday of Advent onwards, the parents put out a crib in the living room and they also put out an empty manger. Every time one of their children does a kind deed, he or she puts in one piece of straw in the manger. The kids are thus encouraged to do small kind deeds throughout Advent... the aim being that by Christmas there is plenty of soft straw... for baby Jesus to lie on... - Fr Patrick

### PLEASE PRAY FOR:

**The sick & housebound:** Tabitha David, Kumud Lakhani, Jonathan Oron, Logan Valera Ramos, Archie Thompson, Martin Fleming, Mary Goulding, Vilma Taborda & Patrick Mortimer.

**Those who have died:** Norah Sliman, Charlotte Hayes, Cynthia Faint, John Thomas Winters, Josefine Roberts, Luciano Santiago Goveia Papadonis, Maria Haralambous, Sonia Antoniazzi, Margaret Holleran, Mary Eastlake and Margaret Colletta.

**Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Fr Anthony Yates, Monica Wafford and Angus (Gus) Carroll.

### THE LAMPS IN OUR CHURCHES

#### This week the lamp:

by the Tabernacle (left side) burns for Joseph Richard Mensah - Thanksgiving

by the Tabernacle (right side) burns for Merlyn Thomas - Healing

by Our Lady's Chapel burns for Marie Coutinho - Healing

by the Sacred Heart Chapel burns for Cecilia Reyes - Rest in Peace



**Marian Missionary Sisters of the Poor** will be giving a talk at Masses this weekend. They run a Centre for vulnerable and disabled children in Leyton, London as well as the Marian Retreat Centre in Gloucestershire. There will be a retiring collection at all Masses to support their work.

**North Enfield Foodbank Collection today, 3rd December.** The most needed items are: Christmas food treats, gravy granules/cranberry sauce/stuffing, tinned potatoes & vegetables, long life milk, hot chocolate/coffee, specialty food items: vegetarian/gluten & dairy free. Sweet and savoury snacks, noodles and ready meals, squash/long life juice, toiletries, washing powder, baby items: nappies size 5 & 6, baby food, baby wipes and carrier bags. Thank you for your generosity.

**Campaign in Support of Human Rights Defenders this Weekend.** You are invited to sign a card to either a prisoner of conscience or an individual who is in danger of arrest. Sending a card is not only a sign of support to the individual, but also gives a message to the authorities that the outside world is aware of the unjust situation. We have just heard that some of the Prisoners we campaigned for in recent years have been released. Donations towards postage will be appreciated. Please keep human rights defenders in your prayers.

**Mass at OLW on Thursdays at 10am for Advent** - 7th, 14th & 21st Dec. All welcome.

**Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary on Friday 8th December.** Mass at 10am, 12noon (LS) and 7pm at OLSG church.

**Confessions in Advent & before Christmas:**  
Sat 9th & 16th Dec: 10 - 10.45am & 5 - 5.45pm  
Confessions from Mon 18th to Sun 24th Dec:  
Monday 18th Dec: 11am - 11.45am  
Tuesday 19th Dec: 11am - 11.45am  
Wednesday 20th Dec: 11am - 11.45am  
Thursday 21st Dec: 11am - 11.45am  
Friday 22nd Dec: 7pm - 8pm **Holy Hour**  
Saturday 23rd Dec: 10-10.45am & 5- 5.45pm  
Sunday 24th Dec: 3pm - 3.45pm

**Advent Bible Reflections.** Fridays in Advent (8, 15 & 22 Dec.) after 12 noon Mass to 2pm in the Challoner room. Bring your own lunch.

**Christmas Cake Raffle and Other Prizes.** Raffle tickets will be on sale before/after all Masses on Sat. 9th/Sun. 10th Dec. If you can help sell raffle tickets, please contact the parish secretary. The draw will take place at the parish centre on Sunday 17th Dec., after gam Mass at the Sunday café.

All proceeds will go towards the cost of the Christmas Day Lunch for the elderly, housebound and those on their own.

**Carol Concert of Christmas music and readings on Sunday 17th December** at 3.30pm by our parish organists and other musicians in OLSG church. All welcome.

**First Holy Communion Reminder** - Meeting for parents of candidates for First Holy Communion on Monday 4th Dec., at 7 pm in the church.

**Our Lady of Walsingham - Cleaning Morning.** 9th December, 9.30-11.30am. All welcome to help clean the church ready for Christmas.

**Christmas Day Lunch.** In accordance with the diocesan health & safety and safeguarding guidelines, we must know in advance if you want to volunteer and help at the Christmas Day Lunch. Please email Chandra ccj.woollard@hotmail.co.uk

**Lay Fraternity of St Charles De Foucauld** next meet on 5th December 10.15-11.45 am in the Challoner room and will focus on Advent and the important role that Mary was called to fulfill in bringing our Saviour into the World. Scripture, prayers and sharing thoughts. Kathy 0208 366 4034.

**Mount Carmel Ladies Group** will meet on Thursday 7th December. Please arrive by 1pm in the parish centre for our last meeting of 2023, where we will be having our pre-arranged lunch and our usual Christmas raffle.

**Tuesday Bereavement/Social Group** will meet on 12th December after 12 noon Mass in the Challoner room. All welcome.

**The Power of the Rosary Prayer Group** will meet on Wednesday 13th December at 10.30am in the Challoner room. All welcome.

**Pat Bennett** would like to thank everyone for their kind words and prayers after the loss of his wife, Nora. Special thanks to Fr Daniel for his support and to Tony & Ann McCarthy for organising the catering after the funeral.

**The Sunday Café opens 10-11am in the parish centre.** No café on 24th Dec., but will be open on 31st Dec. Thanks to our generous customers and great volunteers we have donated £66 to Children's Week. The more customers the more charities we can support. To volunteer, contact Mary Newman in the centre.

### - FINANCE -

**To Donate to the Parish or Gift Aiding your Donation.** Details are on our Diocesan website: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/enfield/donate/>

**Giving by Standing Order.** Would you consider donating your offering by Standing Order? If so, the payment details are: **HSBC Bank Plc**, Sort Code: **40-05-20**, a/c no: **21309110** a/c name: **WRCDT Enfield**; your surname as reference. Please email us to let us know: [enfieldgac@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:enfieldgac@rcdow.org.uk)

### - OTHER NEWS & INFORMATION -

**St. George's Catholic Primary School – NURSERY Admissions for 2024.** The Governors invite applications from parents of children who reach their 3rd birthday between 1st September 2023 & 31st August 2024. To book a place on our open afternoon on Wednesday 13th Dec., please visit the school website or call 020 8363 3729.

**Accommodation needed.** Enfield Refugee Welcome is looking for a property for one of its families ASAP. Three or four bedroom and can pay up to £1900 per month for a 3 bed or £2100 for a 4 bed home. If you can help please contact Denise Sheen 07961 953816 [denisebsheen@gmail.com](mailto:denisebsheen@gmail.com) .

The SVP are distributing **over 10,000 Vinnie Packs** containing cold weather essentials to the homeless this winter. Please consider sponsoring packs at a suggested donation of £4.20 each. Donations to be sent to **Vinnie Packs, PO Box 72264, SW1P 9EZ**. Cheques payable to SVP or bank transfer to Nat West **sort code 60-60-04, a/c no. 4608 8237** . Thank you so much for your support.