



St Joseph's Church Wealdstone and Harrow Weald

Served by the Society of the Divine Saviour – The Salvatorians

Parish Priest: Father Paul Vianney Harris SDS
Assistant Priests: Father Frank Waters SDS; Father Fortunatus Banzi SDS

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Parish Office: Mon & Tues 9am-5pm; Wed-Fri 9am-4pm

www.catholicwealdstone.org

Also in the Parish: Sisters of Our Lady of the Missions

High Road, Harrow Weald

Salvatorian Trustees Registered Charity No 231410



First Sunday of Advent

3rd December 2017

"Stay awake...!"

Mass Times

2nd	Sat	Feria	10.00 18.00 <i>Vigil Mass with Hymns</i>
3rd	Sun	First Sunday of Advent	08.15 09.30 <i>with Children's Liturgy</i> 11.00 <i>Solemn Mass</i> 12.30 18.00
4th	Mon	Advent Feria	07.30 10.00
5th	Tue	Advent Feria	07.30 10.00
6th	Wed	Advent Feria	07.30 10.00
7th	Thu	St Ambrose	07.30 10.00
8th	Fri	The Immaculate Conception of the BVM	07.30 10.00
9th	Sat	Advent Feria	10.00 18.00 <i>Vigil Mass with Hymns</i>
10th	Sun	Second Sunday of Advent	08.15 09.30 <i>with Children's Liturgy</i> 11.00 <i>Solemn Mass</i> 12.30 18.00

Confessions:

Saturday 10.30-11.00 & 19.00-19.30
First Friday 18.15-18.45

Adoration & Benediction: Saturday 19.00-19.30
First Friday 18.00-18.50

Baptisms: Saturdays at Noon - by appointment

Form Signing: Mondays & Wednesdays in the Presbytery
18.00 for one hour - during school term time only

Public Rosary: Tuesday & Thursday evenings 18.45

Sunday Readings: Year B **Weekday Readings:** of Advent

Cycle of Prayer for England & Wales Advent & Christmas:

Openness to the Word of God;
Migrants & Refugees
Expectant Mothers

It's been said that Christmas is for children. If this is the case then Advent is for adults. As we know, children live very much in the present. They have little notion of time so they are able to enjoy or hate whatever they are doing. Whatever they are doing is their whole world in that moment. Not so for adults. We have so many things going on - work, family, kids, and so on. As such we often find it difficult to prepare and plan for things. Spiritually speaking, this is very true for Christmas. We often get so tied up with the run up to Christmas itself we forget about the preparation season that is Advent.

Advent is a two-fold season in which we firstly consider the return of Christ, and latterly, the first coming of Christ as the Babe of Bethlehem. Both aspects demand of us that we are ready to meet with Christ, so we need to stay awake and be vigilant. We can't be vigilant if we are too restless to spend time in the present. Being vigilant also means calming down or slowing down to consider what is really important. With this in mind, and in order to be more prepared to enter into the joy of Christmas, I offer a few suggestions.

Firstly, when you come into the church take time to remember where you are and who is waiting to commune with you - Pope Francis recently remarked "how sad it is that we come into church and want to chatter, especially when most have only an hour a week to get away from the noise and rush of the outside world..." So when we enter the church let's remember why it is we come, and then prayerfully prepare for an encounter with Christ by keeping the peace and silence of the church. Secondly, try to develop your prayer time, even if it's getting up that little bit earlier to simply sit and offer your day to God, asking Him to help you recognise Christ in those you meet that day, You may try using the "Advent Extra" books available at the back for a more guided journey through Advent. Thirdly, and for the more adventurous, why not consider attending the 7.30am weekday mass before you head to work? This mass runs about 20-25 minutes and is a very quiet affair with workers very much in mind. If this is not possible then try getting to Sunday mass that little earlier and consider again the first point above.

Advent really is for us adults, so whatever you do this Advent please do something to help you prepare a place for Christ in your heart. Only then will you be able to receive the real joy and hope Christ brings at Christmas and recognise His grace and salvation at work among us.

With love, Father Paul



GRAND CHRISTMAS



PRIZE DRAW

1st Prize: £500

2nd Prize: £200

3rd Prize: Luxury Hamper

4th Prize: Bottle of Malt Whisky

Please pick up books of tickets after mass and return counterfoils and money to the Presbytery

Tickets £1 each or £5 per book

Donations of Prizes needed and most welcome

Draw takes place after 12.30 Mass on 17th December

Sanctuary Lamp Intentions

Two red candles constantly burn before the tabernacle to indicate the presence of Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. The candles burn for 7 days - Saturday to Saturday. Parishioners may offer these candles for their intentions at £10 each. Intentions will be printed each week in the bulletin. Please enquire at the Repository.

Mass Intentions

The Archdiocese of Westminster have a recommended amount of £10 for a mass intention. Whilst the clergy are happy to receive any reasonable amount, the diocesan recommendation ought to be kept in mind. Please also note that intentions written on the offering envelope should be as clear as possible. If the intention cannot be understood, it will be recorded on the list as "donor's intention".

Christmas Day Lunch

Sign-up sheets are now available in the St Joseph's Chapel. Please note that we will not require any spirits or beer, just wine, juice and soft drinks.

Cosy Bar Seniors Christmas Dinner

Once again, the Cosy Bar on Weald Lane will host their annual Christmas Dinner for the local seniors on Friday 15th December from 3pm. This is a free event and all are very welcome to come along and enjoy what is always a great afternoon.

First Holy Communion 2018

Next classes: Wednesday & Thursday 6th/7th December. The children's Course Book "I Belong" has an accompanying "Parent's Guide" in order for parents to take an active role in the instruction of their children for Holy Communion. They are priced at £8.50 and are available for purchase in the Repository.

Christmas in Song

With Sister Avril and Friends on Friday 15th December at 7pm at the Niland Conference Centre. Suggested donation £10. See noticeboard for details.

Reflections with Sister Avril OP

Tuesday 19th December after the 10am Mass in the hut: An Advent Ceremony.

Carols by Candlelight

St Dominic's Sixth Form College warmly invite you to Carols by Candlelight led by Bishop John Sherrington, in the Chapel, on Tuesday 19th December at 6pm. See notice board.

Forthcoming Dates

Cosy Bar Christmas Lunch.....15th December
Grand Christmas Draw.....17th December
Salvatorian College Carol Service.....18th December
Sister Avril's Reflection.....19th December

It's Advent...

Please avoid loud chatter in church

URGENT ACTION REQUIRED

Do you support Catholic schools and the right of Catholics to send their children to them? Then we need 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 to send a strong message to them not to u-turn on their promise to Catholics. Please visit www.catholicnews.org.uk to sign the online petition to the Government and the local MP, Bob Blackman so as to send the strongest message to them in this regard. Please support our schools and act now!

Salvatorian College Hampers

The boys are requesting names of those in and around the parish who would benefit from receiving a Christmas Hamper. Nomination forms available at the back of church.

Advent Extra Devotionals

Available to buy at the back of the Church for £1.00.

Christmas Day Lunch

Sign-up sheets are now available in the St Joseph's Chapel. Please note that we will not require any spirits or beer, just wine, juice and soft drinks.

Family Bingo

Will be held on Friday 8th December at 7.30pm in the hut, in aid of the Parish Development Fund. Donations of gifts for prizes would be gratefully received.



No mobile phones

Sanctuary Lamp Intentions

1: People of the Parish 2: First Holy Communion Children

Last Week's Offertory Collection

26th November £2,958 - for which, many thanks.

Counting Group

Today Group 4: Next Sunday Group 5.

Church Cleaning

Thursday 7th December, Group 1, 11.30 - 12.30.

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist Rota

3rd Sat 18.00 C D'Souza, G Teague, S Mantio; Sun 8.15 E D'Souza, R Yep, M Correa; 9.30 J Donohue, P Horne, J Fay; 11.00 I Walker; 12.30 J Conneely, L McGloin; 18.00 E McCarthy, A Arrigo. **10th Sat** 18.00 G Teague, S Mantio, C D'Souza; Sun 8.15 T Drew, M Correa, R Yep; 9.30 J Donohue, P Horne, J Fay; 11.00 G Simpungwe, I Walker; 12.30 L McGloin, J Conneely; 18.00 E McCarthy, A Arrigo.

Readers' Rota

3rd Sat 18.00 A Goldwyn; Sun 8.15 E Amalathas, A Yep; 9.30 A Avenia-Viney; 11.00 M Kelly; 12.30 **Reader Required**; 18.00 E Amexo. **10th Sat** 18.00 **Reader Required**; Sun 8.15 E Arjune; 9.30 A Avenia-Viney; 11.00 **Reader Required**; 12.30 **Reader Required**; 18.00 P Arrigo, A Goldwyn.

Recently Deceased

Ella Mulgrew, mother of Graham and Karen Mulgrew. Reception: Wednesday 13th December at 7pm. Funeral: Thursday 14th December at 10am followed by burial at Carpenders Park Cemetery.

Rest in Peace