

This week at St Lawrence's



5th/6th December 2015

Second Sunday of Advent
(Missal Page 84 – YEAR C Vol. 1)

Baruch 5:1-9; Psalm 125; Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11; Luke 3:1-6

Next week: Third Sunday of Advent (Missal Page 87): Zephaniah 3:14-18; Isaiah 12;

Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:10-18



Christmas Bazaar – Sunday 6th December - 10am-3pm

Dear Friends

As we prepare to celebrate the beautiful feast on Tuesday of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, some words from Pope-Emeritus Benedict XVI:

'On the path of advent shines the star of Mary Immaculate, "a sign of certain hope and comfort". To reach Jesus, the true light, the sun that dispels all the darkness of history, we need light near us. , human people who reflect Christ's light and illuminate the path to take. And what person is more luminous than Mary? Who can be a better star of hope for us than she, the dawn that announced the day of salvation? For this reason, the liturgy has us celebrate, as Christmas approaches, the solemn feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary: the mystery of God's grace that enfolded her from the first instance of her existence as the creature destined to be Mother of the Redeemer, preserving her from the stain of original sin. Looking at her we recognise the loftiness and beauty of God's plan for everyone: to become holy and immaculate in love, in the image of our Creator.'

What a calling we have – to become holy and immaculate in love. What a gift we are to each other!

With my love and prayers this Advent.

Fr Chris

We extend a warm welcome to The Worshipful The Mayor of the London Borough of Hounslow, Councillor Nisar Malik, who joins us for the 9am Mass this Sunday and then officially open the Bazaar.

PARISH NOTICES

FIRST CONFESSION

Please keep in your prayers our children as they make their First Confession on **Saturday 5th and 12th December.**

CALLING ALL READERS

Sunday 6th December is "Bible Sunday" and there will be the annual renewal of Commitment to the Ministry of Readers at all weekend Masses.

UCM

The UCM will meet on **Monday 7th December** at the Salvation Army Hall at 7.30pm. We will think about Advent. Please could members bring, if possible, a reading, poem or a story relating to the idea of Advent.

KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA

The Knights of St Columba meet with Fr Chris on **Tuesday 8th December** at 8pm in the Presbytery.

CONFIRMATION

A reminder to the Confirmation Group that there is **no session** on **Wednesday 9th December.**

ADVENT DAY OF RECONCILIATION

On **Saturday 19th December** between 11.00am and 1.00pm there will be a visiting priest for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, a wonderful opportunity to go to Confession before Christmas and at the start of the Year of Mercy.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

A reminder for Eucharistic Ministers that unless you have bought your own Cross then please hang the Crosses up after use in the usual place in the sacristy. They should be available for all ministers to use. Thank you.

RECEPTION CLASS ADMISSIONS 2016

The dates and times that Fr Chris will be available to see families are on the notice board in the Church porch. To make an appointment to see him please put your name on one of the lists. Make sure you bring your child with you for the appointment, along with their Baptism Certificate and your Certificate of Catholic Practice.

COME AND SEE – A ONE DAY MEDITATION PROGRAMME FOR YOUNG ADULTS

Meditation has been identified as a practice that makes you stronger, better and more efficient at work. It helps you become more focused and less confused. It disciplines your mind and encourages a culture of mindfulness or living in the present. The programme is aimed at 17-35 year olds and will take place in Church on **Saturday 19th December** from 9.30am-3.30pm. Please see poster on the notice board for the programme. There are a maximum of 35 spaces therefore it is important to reserve a place as soon as possible. Please contact Fr John on 020 8890 2367 or email feltham@rcdow.org.uk to reserve a place.

SCHOOL GOVERNORS

St Lawrence's School Governing Body are looking to recruit two new Foundation Governors. These Governors represent the Diocese of Westminster and are appointed by the Cardinal. Foundation Governors should be practising Catholics who do not currently have children here at the School. If these Governors have a legal or financial training or experience, all the better. Please speak to Fr Chris to find out more.

CAROL SINGING IN THE HIGH STREET

Calling all singers and musicians to join us for Carol Singing in Feltham High Street at 4.00pm on **Saturday 19th December.** The meeting point will be in front of Subway. We are looking for donations of mince pies or sliced cake to distribute to people. Sign up list in porch for those who would like to join in the carol singing.

CAROL SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

This beautiful service organised by Lodge Brothers Funeral Service will be held in Church on **Sunday 13th December** at 3pm. All are invited along to remember our departed loved ones at this special time of year and to light a candle for them, as well as joining in our favourite carols. Seasonal refreshments will be served afterwards.

VOTIVE CANDLE STANDS

You will notice that we have new votive candle stands in line with Health and Safety requirements. Please note that candles are never to be stacked on top of one another. The suggested donation for candles is £0.50p.

The stands cost £300.00 each. If anyone would like to give one in remembrance of a loved one or in thanksgiving please see Florie in the Parish Office.

THANK YOU

Thank you to Kate Taylor and all who helped at the **Advent Children's Workshop** last Sunday. **Race Night** – A big Thank You from the Social Group to all who supported the Race Night, a sum of £430.00 was raised.

Iris Eldridge would like to thank everyone for their support on her tandem skydive, money received to date is £1,924.20. If anyone hasn't yet paid please do so as soon as possible.

Christmas Bazaar Raffle tickets - £640.60, Programmes - £68.68 collected to date
Please hand in completed raffle ticket stubs and money to the Parish Office, Fr Chris or Bridget Brinkley as soon as possible.

YEAR OF MERCY

The Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy begins with Pope Francis opening the Holy Door in the Vatican on **8th December**. The Cardinal will open the **Holy Door in Westminster Cathedral** in the context of Vespers and Benediction **at 3.30pm on Sunday 13th December**. You are very welcome to attend. Those making a brief pilgrimage during the Year to the Cathedral Holy Door or the others through the Diocese may gain the Jubilee Indulgence for themselves or the Holy Souls. Our closest Holy Door is at St Michael and St Martin, Bath Road, Hounslow TW3 3EH. The Cardinal has prepared *A Pilgrimage Companion for the Year of Mercy* by way of explanation and to help us experience God's mercy to the full. Copies of the booklet will be available next weekend.

OTHER

COME AND SING

Sing a new song Group will meet in St Dunstan's Church on **Monday 7th December at 7.30pm** to learn and practice some items to sing at the Ecumenical Carol Service on Sunday 13th December. If you would like to sing do come along. Everyone welcome.

- **Christmas Carol Singalong** at The Three Horseshoes, Feltham on **Friday 11th December 8-9pm** in aid of the CHASE Shooting Star Hospice.
- **Carol Singing with Churches Together** – as per item in newsletter
- **Carol Singing for CRISIS at ASDA**, Feltham on **Monday 21st December at 7-8.30pm**. Come and join singers from other Churches and make a difference for the homeless.

REST IN PEACE

HARRY HALDANE RIP

We pray for the repose of the soul of Harry Haldane RIP who died earlier recently. His funeral will take place here on **Monday 14th December at 9.30am**. Please also keep in your prayers his wife Margaret, his children Gordon, Andrew, Fiona, Graham and all the family and friends that mourn him.

TIMOTHY CAHALANE RIP

We pray for the repose of the soul of Timothy Cahalane RIP who died during the week. Please also keep in your prayers his daughter Fran Ballantyne, son Kevin and all the family and friends who mourn him. Funeral arrangements to be announced shortly.

Mass intentions and other services this week:

Saturday 5th Advent Feria	9.30-11.45 12.00 17.00 18.00	<i>First Confessions for First Holy Communion Children</i> Virginia Pires and Joao Fernandes RIP <i>Sacrament of Reconciliation</i> Bridget Ward RIP (Anniversary)
+ Sunday 6th Second Sunday of Advent	09.00 11.00 13.00 18.00	People of the Parish Hazel Costello RIP (Anniversary) Mass in Polish (Msza sw.) Eileen O'Connor RIP
Monday 7th St Ambrose	09.15 09.30	<i>Morning Prayer</i> John Rea RIP
Tuesday 8th THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	09.15 09.30 10.00	<i>Morning Prayer</i> Ted Chapple RIP (First Anniversary) <i>Novena to Our Lady</i>
Wednesday 9th Advent Feria	09.15 09.30	<i>Morning Prayer</i> Michael Hurley RIP
Thursday 10th Advent Feria	09.15 09.30	<i>Morning Prayer</i> Ivy Adams (Birthday Intention)
Friday 11th Advent Feria	09.15 09.30	<i>Morning Prayer</i> Helen Hurley (Intention)
Saturday 12th Advent Feria	9.30-11.45 12.00 17.00 18.00	<i>First Confessions for First Holy Communion Children</i> John Rea RIP <i>Sacrament of Reconciliation</i> Bill Dethridge RIP
+ Sunday 13th Third Sunday of Advent	09.00 11.00 13.00 18.00	Michael & Nora Ussher RIP People of the Parish Mass in Polish (Msza sw.) Jacqueline Restel RIP

Sanctuary Lamp: Emmanuela Danladi (Intentions)

Thank you for your generosity in last week's Offertory Collections:

28th/29th: Envelopes: £970.02 Loose: £728.59 Standing Orders: £451.00 **Total: £2,149.61**

PARISH CENTRE UPDATE: MONEY BANKED AS AT 30/11/2015 - £47,095.85

Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees: Registered Charity No. 233699

Sunday Mass Times: Saturday 6 pm (Vigil Mass), Sunday 9 am, 11 am, 1pm (Polish) & 6 pm
Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) - Saturday 11am & 5pm

Contact us:

9 The Green, Feltham, TW13 4AF
www.saintlawrences.org.uk

Parish Priest: Fr Chris Vipars

Parish Sisters: Sr. Katherine O'Reilly, Sr. Nora Gorman

Parish Secretary: Florie Fernandes

020 8890 2367

feltham@rcdow.org.uk

Assistant Priest: Fr Biju John

Pastoral Assistant: Bridget Brinkley

CHRISTMAS CARDS AND 2016 CALENDARS

The Repository (Church Shop) has a good selection of Christmas Cards and calendars for 2016. Cards are sold by the box at £3.50 and calendars are £1.10 each. Do have a look after Mass.

