

This week at St Lawrence's



30th November/1st December 2013

First Sunday of Advent
(Missal Page 82 – YEAR A)

Isaiah 2:1-5; Psalm 121; Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:37-44
Second Sunday of Advent, (Missal Page 85): Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalm 71; Romans 15:4-9; Matthew 3:1-12



Dear Friends,

So we begin again. This Advent Sunday we enter a new Christian Year, a new cycle of re-telling and re-living the Christian story, the story of our salvation. We begin at the beginning, sharing the hopes and expectations of God's people for a Saviour, a Messiah, the one who would set his people free. Advent hope is a beautiful time, touching the deepest desires and longings of our hearts, and is the canvas on which Christ's story is written. The Advent candles we light in the Church, at home and at school, the doors we open on our Advent Calendars, are each little reminders of the wonder to come. In our commercially-driven society the risk is that it is all over before it has really started, with Christmas jingles and tinsel and turkey in the shops from mid-October. TV Companies film their Christmas specials and Christmas adverts in mid-summer. But it's not Christmas yet! I would like to think of our Advent journey as the journey to Bethlehem. We know where we are headed and we long to be there but we need to make the journey first, we need to travel the distance, all the while our hearts aching with anticipation and mounting excitement. It makes the getting there, kneeling at the Crib, worshipping the Christmas Child, all the more wonderful.

So I wish each of you a happy, blessed and beautiful Advent and when, in time, I come to wish you a Happy Christmas it will mean all the more.

Fr Chris

Contact us:

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

020 8890 2367

feltham@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Priest: Fr Chris Vipers

Assistant Priest: Fr Fortunato Pantisano

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

Catechetical Co-ordinator: Bridget Brinkley

Parish Secretary: Florie Fernandes (Office Opening Hours: Monday-Friday 9am-1pm)

ADVENT

BOOKS FOR ADVENT

The Season of Advent is a time of preparation for the coming of God's Son at Christmas – a time of grace, prayer and expectation. As we journey through Advent we offer two pocket sized booklets – **Walk with Me** which has prayerful reflections for each of the days leading up to Christmas and **Day by Day** which has readings for Mass. These are available at the back of Church at £1.00 each.

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISM CONGRATULATIONS

We extend a warm welcome to Oskar Ryszard Przeniczkowski, Ivan Osei Acquah, Jade Rosaria Gomes and Inaya Marie Gomes who will be baptised this weekend and offer our warmest congratulations to their families.

CONFIRMATION

The next meeting will be on **Thursday 5th December** at 7pm in the School Hall.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

The Parents Meeting is on **Tuesday 3rd December** in the Parish Centre at 2pm or 7pm.

FIRST CONFESSION

First Confession for First Holy Communion children will take place on **Saturday 7th December** from 9.30am to 11.45am.

PARISH NOTICES

MASS ON MONDAY 2nd DECEMBER

In addition to the intention for the day, the 9.30am Mass on **Monday 2nd December** will also be celebrated in Thanksgiving to all parishioners and well wishers for the support given to the Filipino Appeal and hold in our prayers all those affected by this tragedy.

UCM

The UCM will meet on **Monday 2nd December** at 7.30pm for a talk by Fr Fortunato on "Thoughts for Advent". Yearly subscriptions are now due. Also the party fees can now be paid.

FIRST FRIDAY

Our early bird Mass will take place at 6.45am on **Friday 6th December**.

COFFEE MORNING

CAFOD's First Friday Coffee Morning will take place on **Friday 6th December** after the 9.30am Mass.

MISSIO COLLECTORS

Please attend a meeting at 97 Hounslow Road on **Wednesday 4th December** at 7.30pm.

9AM CHOIR

Calling all instrumentalists and singers. We would love to welcome some new members to the 9am Music Group. All you need to do is come up to the Choir loft after 9am Mass on any Sunday, or ring Theresa for more information.

LIFE COFFEE MORNING AND MINCE PIE SALE

There will be a Coffee Morning on **Sunday 8th December** after the morning Masses in the Parish Centre. Mince pies, cakes, Christmas Fayre to include toys and bric-a-brac will be on sale. Do come in for a cuppa and cake and great bargain too. All proceeds to the local Life Pregnancy Care Centre. Donations of cakes will be much appreciated. For information ring Annie Burke.

POLISH COMMUNITY

Our Polish Community will be having their Advent Retreat on **Saturday 7th December** from 7.30pm-9.30pm in Church. The Retreat will continue after the 1pm Mass on **Sunday 8th December** until 4.30pm.

CALLING ALL READERS

Sunday 8th December is "Bible Sunday" and there will be the annual renewal of Commitment to the Ministry of Readers at all weekend Masses.

RAFA BAND CONCERT

The RAFA (Royal Air Force Association) are performing a Family Christmas concert here in St Lawrence's Church on **Friday 6th December** at 7.30pm. Tickets available from the Repository or Parish Office. Adults £10.00, children free (accompanied by an adult) but will require a ticket. This promises to be an evening to remember!!



ADVENT CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP

**SUNDAY 1st DECEMBER - 2-30pm – 4.30pm PARISH CENTRE
AND 4.30pm -5.00pm IN THE CHURCH**



The workshop takes place this Sunday and is aimed at Children from 2-12 years.

SENIOR CITIZENS PARTY

The Parish's annual Senior Citizen's "Christmas" Party will take place on **Sunday 12th January** from 12noon to 4pm. Please put your name down on the lists in the porch if you would like to come or if you can help. Details from Philomena Franklin.

PARISH MASS BOOKS – CYCLE A VOLUME 1

The Parish Mass Book for Cycle A commences this weekend. If you would like to purchase your own copy, these are available in the repository at £2.50 each or Large Print at £5.95.

HELP WANTED

If you are able to spare a few hours each week to help with housekeeping near the Feltham/Ashford borders please speak to Fr. Chris.

WESTMINSTER YEAR BOOK

The 2014 edition is now available in the repository at £4.50 for a bound copy or £5.00 for ring bound.

RECEPTION SIGNING

THURSDAYS: December 5th, 12th - **3.30pm to 4.30pm**. Please come with your child and wait in the Church.

PILGRIMAGES 2014

PARISH PILGRIMAGE - MALTA

There are only 50 seats available on this pilgrimage. If you have not already done so, please return your booking forms as soon as possible as places on the pilgrimage are being filled very quickly. The cost of the pilgrimage is £667. A deposit of £200 is required with the booking form plus £29 if you require travel insurance. If you have any queries please speak to Fr Chris or Florie in the Parish Office.

LOURDES 2014

We will be travelling by coach next year to join the Westminster Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes, **20th-26th July**. Full details will be available after Christmas.

ECUMENICAL PILGRIMAGE TO SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELLA AND FATIMA

If you have taken a brochure and booking form for this Ecumenical Pilgrimage in September and would like to come please return your booking form and deposit to Fr Chris at the presbytery, or if you have sent your form direct to Pax Travel please let Fr Chris know.

OTHER

CONGRATULATIONS

Well done to the Friends of St Lawrence's School for organising such an amazing Christmas Fayre last Sunday. It is a huge job which takes a lot of planning and a lot of hard work – but it benefits everyone in our school community, pupils, parents and staff. Thanks as well to our Filipino Community who kept us well fed on the day with their "Food for a Cause" stall, all proceeds going to the Typhoon Relief Fund.

CAROL SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

This beautiful service organised by Lodge Brothers Funeral Service will be held in Church on **Sunday 15th 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.

Mass intentions and other services this week:

Saturday 30th ST ANDREW	10.30	DAY OF PRAYER 10.30am-2.30pm <i>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Sacrament of Reconciliation</i>
	12.00	Philip & Ann Sheridan RIP
	12.30	<i>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Sacrament of Reconciliation</i>
	14.30	<i>Benediction</i>
	15.30	<i>Baptisms of Oskar Ryszard Przeniczowski, Ivan Osei Acquah, Jade Rosaria Gomes and Inaya Marie Gomes</i>
+ First Mass of Sunday	17.00	<i>Sacrament of Reconciliation</i>
+ Sunday 1st 1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR A	09.00 11.00 13.00 18.00	Moore-Saxton Family in Thanksgiving Michael & Nora Ussher RIP Maria Alves de Jesus RIP Mass in Polish (Msza sw.) People of the Parish
Monday 2nd Advent Feria	09.15 09.30	<i>Morning Prayer</i> Nigel Owen RIP
Tuesday 3rd St Francis Xavier	09.15 09.30 10.00	<i>Morning Prayer</i> Janet Walker RIP <i>Novena to Our Lady</i>
Wednesday 4th Advent Feria	09.15 09.30	<i>Morning Prayer</i> Cecilia Costa in Thanksgiving
Thursday 5th Advent Feria	09.15 09.30	<i>Morning Prayer</i> Holy Souls – Murray Family
Friday 6th Advent Feria	06.45 09.15 09.30	Janet Walker RIP <i>Morning Prayer</i> Nigel Owen RIP
Saturday 7th ST ANDREW	9.30 – 11.45 12.00	<i>First Confession` for First Holy Communion Children</i> Deceased members of the Clarke and Francis Families RIP
+ First Mass of Sunday	17.00 18.00	<i>Sacrament of Reconciliation</i> For the intentions of Vitoria & Francis Colaco
+ Sunday 8th 2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT	09.00 11.00 13.00 18.00	Juliet Silveira RIP Matilda Rodrigues RIP Mass in Polish (Msza sw.) People of the Parish

Sanctuary Lamp: Deceased members of the Fernandes Family RIP

Sunday Mass Times

**Saturday 6 pm (Vigil Mass), Sunday 9 am, 11 am & 6 pm
Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) - Saturday 11am & 5pm**

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

23/24 Nov: Envelopes £918.05, Loose £626.53, Standing Orders £420.00 Total: £1964.58

Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees: Registered Charity No. 233699