



Fr Nicodemus Lobo Ratu SVD-Parish Priest
Fr Kieran A. Fitzharris SVD-Assistant Priest

Third Sunday of Advent
17th December 2017

1st Reading
Isaiah 61:1-2; 10-11

For a description of Isaiah and his disciples see 1st Sunday of Advent. These words of encouragement and promise which we hear in today's Reading were uttered by one of Isaiah's disciples to the exiles in Babylon. As they are similar in language and thought to the "songs of the Suffering Servant" found in the second-Isaiah (40-45), some authors hold that they form part of the same theme. This may not be correct, but if the consoler and liberator is not the Messiah himself, he is surely a type of messiah. His words of consolation and promise are addressed in the first place to the exiles, but they were fully and truly realised only when Christ the Messiah came. Christ applied the first two verses of this text to himself when he first preached in the synagogue of Nazareth.

2nd Reading
Thessalonians 5:16-24

This is St Paul's second letter. He wrote it during 51/52AD to the converts of Thessalonica. At that time he was evangelizing Corinth. On his second missionary journey (50-52AD), he preached the gospel for some time at Philippi and reached Thessalonica. He made many converts there among the Gentiles and proselytes, but the majority of the Jews stirred up a crowd against him with the result ...

...that he had to leave the city after a few weeks. But he had laid lasting foundations for the faith even in this short space of time the Thessalonica converts not only remained faithful to the Christian gospel they had so gladly received, but they helped very much to spread the Christian message to other parts of Macedonia and Achaia (1 Thess. 4:10). In the eight verses which we read from this epistle today, St Paul exhorts his converts to thank God always for the gift of faith which they have received. They much respect, while testing, the gifts of the Spirit.

Gospel John 1:6-8; 19-28

Last Sunday we had St Mark's account of the Baptist's activity at the Jordan as he prepared the people for the public mission of Jesus. Today, St John describes the same event for us. He begins by telling us that John the Baptist was "a man sent from God." He does not tell us how this came about, but he knows that his readers knew all about it. St Luke had described in his gospel how the childless couple, Zachary and Elisabeth, were given a son by God's special intervention. This son was destined by God to be the Precursor - the one who would prepare the way for the coming of Christ among the people (Lk. 1:8-24; 57-80). After referring briefly to these facts described in Luke's gospel, John gives some details concerning the Baptist's active role.

Entrance Antiphon Page 87
Readings Page 88
The Creed Page 11

NOTICES

Christmas Mass Times



Christmas Eve is a Sunday, which means that there will be the usual masses 8.00, 10.00 & 12 noon.

6.00pm: Children's Nativity Mass
9.30pm: Carols by Candlelight

10.00pm: Midnight Mass followed by Mulled Wine, Hot Chocolate and Mince Pies in the Parish Hall.

Christmas Day
8.00am Mass
10.00am Mass
12.00noon Mass

Feast Of St Stephen (Friday 26th)
12.00 noon Mass

Mass times from 27th December and other service times are as usual, except, **NEW YEARS DAY:** 12.00 noon.

The Feast of The Epiphany is celebrated on Sunday 7th January 2018

Eucharistic Ministers/Readers

Please put your names on the sign-up sheet if you wish to minister/read at Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Also if not there are not enough ministers at mass please go and minister even if it is not your turn."

For those parishioners who are expected to be admitted into hospital.

This leaflet in the porch explains the importance of asking ward staff to contact the Catholic chaplain, and introduces the Sacrament of the Sick and provides an "identity card" in the event of being admitted unconscious.

Advent

During Advent, it is customary to keep the Church as plain as possible to reflect the sombre mood of the season. Please remember, therefore that no flowers are to be kept in the Church.

Advent Reflection
Gumley House Convent
FCJ, 251 Twickenham Rd
Saturday 16th December
from 4.00 – 5.30pm

MASS ATTENDANCE CARD - STICKERS FOR ALL CHILDREN IN PRIMARY SCHOOL YEARS & SECONDARY UP TO CONFIRMATION AGE
The attendance cards are now **IN USE**

•**Due to new regulations (issued by the Diocese) stickers will be issued to a parent should their child not be able to attend Mass, especially if under 7years old.**

•Any issues or if you are new to the parish please speak to Fr. Nico, but please remember, as parents you have taken on a responsibility to "bring your child up in the practice of the faith" at baptism.

We are looking for volunteers to help give out the stickers at all Masses. Please give your details to Fr Nico or Fr Kieran.
•Stickers can be issued either at the start or the end of the Mass.

Children's Christmas Nativity Mass
Will take place as usual at 6.00pm on Christmas Eve. Rehearsals continue this Sunday after the 10.00am Mass.

Parish Office
Memorial Square,
112 Twickenham Road,
Isleworth, Middlesex,
TW7 6DL

Parish Office Tel
+44 (0)20 8560 1431

Parish Administrator
Marie Gleeson

Parish Office Hours
09.30am - 1.30pm
Monday to Friday

Parish Office Email
isleworth@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Website
www.stbridgets.org.uk

Normal Mass Times

Saturday
6.00pm Vigil Mass

Sunday
8.00am Mass
10.00am Family Mass
12.00pm Mass

Weekday Masses
See back of the newsletter
or church noticeboard

Holydays of Obligation
7.00pm Vigil Mass
9.00am Mass
7.00pm Mass

Confessions
Saturday 10.30 to 11.00am
and 5.00 to 5.30pm
or by appointment

Baptisms
Weddings (6 months notice)
Contact the Parish Priest

NOTICES

Reconciliation Service

Will be held on Wednesday 20th Dec at 7.00pm. Of all the ways of preparing for Christmas perhaps the most scriptural is to receive Christ's forgiveness in this sacrament as a response to John The Baptist's call to "Repent".

Children's Liturgy

We are looking for volunteers to run the Children's Liturgy at the 10.00am Mass. Please give your details to Fr Nico or Fr Kieran.

Bible Sharing Group & Youth Prayer Group

Fr Nico is considering starting a Young Adult prayer group. Ages from 14th –18th & a Bible Sharing Group (over 18's). If anyone is interested in joining please contact him via his email address nloboratu@rcdow.org.uk or drop a note through the presbytery door.

Mini Mary's Music Mayhem

On 20th December from 12.30pm-1.30pm, Mini Mary's Music will be holding their Christmas Party and Santa will be in attendance. Lunch comprising of sandwiches and fruit, plus tea/coffee will be provided.

Westminster Diocesan Year Book 2018

This is now on sale. It provides useful information on parishes, schools, the liturgical calendar and much more. They are available at £4.50 from the paper desk.

Repository Gift Shop - HUGE New Stock for Christmas Now Here

A wonderful range of both handmade Christmas cards and box sets, Advent calendars and jewellery, rosaries and lots of gift ideas for children and adults will be on sale. So come and take a look. Orders can be placed either at the counter or by email to shop@stbridgets.org.uk. Please also take advantage of our free gift wrapping service. The shop is open after all weekend Masses.

From The Womb To The Tomb Life Is Sacred

Holy Hour for the Protection of the Unborn Child.

First Friday of each month, 7.30-8.30pm. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, rosary, private prayer, Benediction...

Fasting (optional) for the remainder of the evening

Christmas Eve

Vinnie Packs

The SVP are distributing **12,000 Vinnie Packs** containing cold weather essentials to the homeless and those spending the principal part of their day on the streets. Each pack contains thermal gloves, two pairs of socks, gloves, toothbrush, toothpaste, information card and pen. Please could you consider sponsoring packs at a suggested donation of £3.50 per pack. Donations can be sent to **Vinnie Packs, PO Box 72264, London SW1P 9EZ** with cheques made out to SVP. Thank you so much for your support."

Job Vacancy

In this newly created role the Assistant Cathedral Manager will support the day-to-day management of the Cathedral, including events, operations, and retail management. This exciting role will require a confident individual with a background in operational, retail and events management as well as having excellent communication and organisational skills. Hours of work: 35 hours per week (4 weekdays and Saturday (or occasional Sunday) with flexibility on week day off) Salary: £25,000 per annum. Closing date: 12th January 2018 at 5pm

Regular Groups & Events

In the parish hall unless otherwise stated

MONDAY

Club for Older People

Next meeting 18th December
Legion of Mary
Every Monday at 7.30pm

TUESDAY

Tuesday Club for Youth/ Adults with Special Needs

7.00 – 9.00pm (Term time)

WEDNESDAY

Little Angels Toddler Group

9.00am – 11.00am term time. £2 per adult, 50p tea/coffee. Please bring a healthy snack to share
Contact details, Mary 07729 059729, Maria 07412 480084

Partially Sighted Meeting Place Every other Wednesday 1.30pm - 3pm

next meet 27th December
Mini Mary's Music Mayhem every other Weds next meet 20th Dec £2.00 child, £3.50 max(tea/coffee 50p) 2.00-3.00pm

THURSDAY

Church Cleaning after 9.00am
Mass (Approx 9.25am)

Gentle Seated Exercises for Older People

Run by an AGE CONCERN physiotherapist. Every Thursday from 2.00 – 4.00pm

FRIDAY

Mental Health Drop-In

next meets 19th January 2018
12noon to 4.00pm

SUNDAY

Refreshments

Sunday Breakfast 7th January



REPOSITORY GIFT SHOP

CATHOLIC CHURCH ISLEWORTH
Open after all weekend Masses
(t) 020 8560 1431

(e) shop@stbridgets.org.uk

FEAST DAYS, MASS INTENTIONS & TIMES OF MASSES

Date	Feast Day	Mass	Intention
Saturday 16 th December	Vigil Mass	6.00pm	PJ Heavin R.I.P (1 st Anniv)
Sunday 17 th December	Third Sunday Of Advent	8.00am	Roy Phillips R.I.P & Eva Carpenter R.I.P (Anniv)
		10.00am	Antonio Lopez & Maria De Gloria R.I.P, Mary & John Hughes R.I.P
		12.00 noon	Elizabeth Mc Kenzie R.D
Monday 18 th December	Advent Feria	7.00pm	Fr Joe Mc Cluskey R.D
Tuesday 19 th December	Advent Feria	9.00am	Denzil Woody R.I.P
Wednesday 20 th December	Advent Feria	9.00am	Annette Hall & Her Family (Intentions)
Thursday 21 st December	Advent Feria	9.00am	Agnes Perera R.I.P (11 th Anniv)
Friday 22 nd December	Advent Feria	7.00pm	Stanislawa Skora R.I.P (6 th Anniv)
Saturday 23 rd December	Advent Feria	10.00am	Frank Henry Stroud R.I.P (18 th Anniv), Peggy Bright R.I.P
Fourth Sunday Of Advent	Vigil Mass	6.00pm	Teresa Jennings R.I.P (10 th Anniv)

Sick Fr Stewart, Fr David, Abel Rebello, Adebisi Mafe, Adrian Hope, Agnes Chong, Agnes Molloy, Agnes Westwood, Alistair Love, Amaro Rebello, Angela Convery, Angie Wilson, Archie Douglas, Arthur Almeida, Bela Dias, Bella Peacock, Bertie Duguid, Bob Stainton, Bob Young, Bradán Peacock, Camilo Souza, Catherine Regan, Chick Colquhoun, Christinana Ziregbe, Christopher O'Regan, Conchita Gregg, Debra Cabral, Debbie Brinkley, Diana Renton, Dinah Cabral, Dickie Bell, Edith Leckey Elizabeth Russell, Ellis Addison (Baby), Ellise Gould, Else Hansen, Flora Ziregbe, Frank Boyle, Gary Hales, Georgia Clark, Gerald Howard, Gerald Kausar, Helen Nation, Irene Fischer, Izzy Peacock, Jack Brady, Jaqui Saschy, Jean Mc Cann, Jim Convery, Jim Mc Cusker, João Ramizio, John Amooty, Julie Smith, Kiana Gooding, Kathy Hanson, Lea Almeida, Lee Brinkley, Loretta De'Silva, Lynn Casey, Manney Rowthorn, Margaret Howard, Margaret McCarthy, Maria Zehetner, Marie Aiyadorai, Marie Seymour, Maeve Magee, Martin Russell, Martyn Lee, Mary Chong, Mary Nathan, Mary Sweeny, Mary Sullivan, Mary Walsh, May Connolly, Maureen Pierce, Mena Higgings, Michael Gavin, Mishael Nathan, Miriam Gutteridge, Mr Boyle, Mona Mc Donald, Nathan Williams, Mr Naresh T Paryani, Naval Mair, Niamh Murphy Leighton (Baby), Nora Higgins, Odette Barnes, Olga Fernandes, Paddy O'Sullivan, Paddy Williams, Pamela Fernando, Pat & Roy Edwards, Patients at Lakeside, Patsy Saukur, Pawla Dennison, Peggy Convery, Peter Smith, Philip Casey, Phillip Goodwin, Rev Sr Agathina SSps, Richard Atterwill, Ron Peacock, Ronnie Lillywhite, Ronnie Snell, Rosemary McEachrard, Rupert Phillips, Seamus Mc Cusker, Shao Xian, Sheila Dodd, Shirley Jackson, Simon Allad, Soirse and Maj Cunningham, Theresa Gilbert,

Recently Deceased:

Anniversaries : Desmond Joseph, Sylvester Howard

May their souls and the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace