

ADVENT 2021

Sunday's scripture encourages patience. The season of Advent is focused on waiting for Jesus to be with us. We are not just celebrating the birth of Jesus, but we are also waiting for a great peace to reside in everyone's heart and God's Kingdom here on earth.

The Gospel challenge is for us to stay awake up and not fall asleep. Often, we get distracted and do not take our connection with God that seriously Today's Gospel reminds us to focus always on the truth and on trying to live an authentic life. This means that we do not give endless hours to 'fake' identities, to the selfie culture or to the world of the social media. Look to a family member: 'how can I help?' and show love right here, right now. While presents and decorations are signs of joy, yet real joys are the moments of spiritual connection we have through prayer, fun times, chats with people we care about, and waiting to celebrate the incarnation of Jesus Christ.

Sun 1 Advent: Waiting with Isaiah: *In those days the mountain of the Temple of the Lord shall tower above the mountains.*

Sun 2 Advent: John the Baptist - *Prepare a way for the Lord.*

Sun 3 Advent: John the Baptist: *What did you go out into the wilderness to see*

Sun 4 Advent: Waiting with Mary

This celebrates the coming of eternal light into a world sitting in darkness and shadow of death. This brightly would wreath expresses our conviction that Christ will always come into the world as its true light.



Circular Shape : symbolises the coming into our world of God's everlasting Light: it symbolises God in Christ infusing past and future: God without beginning or end.

Evergreens: Symbolise hope for Christ's eternal love for us and through Jesus Christ, his continuous presence in the world.

Candles (Three purple and one rose-coloured) are the Light which 'shines in the darkness', coming progressively as each week another candle is lit.

Purple Candle: Symbolise repentance and conversion, clearing away the mountains and filling in the valleys.

Rose-coloured candle: is a sign of our joy that the Lord is always near.

NEWSLETTER ADVENT 2021

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At present we are happy that we can celebrate Mass in public. We encourage everyone to observe the recommendations: Hand washing; Mask wearing and sanitizing seats etc. Reasonable social distancing is also recommended.

FIRST COMMUNION 2022

On Sunday last we had the Mass of Enrolment for the 2022 First Communion children. The 'Do this in Memory' preparation programme will continue on selected Sundays. The next Mass will be on Sunday 12th December at 10.00am. Sat May 14th is the provisional First Communion date.

FIRST FRIDAY

Friday 3rd Dec is the First Friday. We plan to bring Holy Communion to the sick and housebound of the Parish. Let us know if you would welcome a visit.

BOOKING FOR CHRISTMAS MASS

We look forward to welcoming you to celebrate Christmas 2021 with us. However, due to the threat still posed by Covid-19 and the need to observe reasonable social distancing advice, we will operate a booking system for Christmas Mass. (*It would not be sensible at present to pack everyone in!*). Booking by phone or in person will open on Mon 13th Dec at Priory Office (Mon- Fri 10.30am to 5.00pm) 091-582884

CHRISTMAS DUES ENVELOPES

Envelopes will be available for distribution in the Parish from Sun 5th Dec. We appeal again for help to deliver them. Can you help in your own area, please ?

COLLECTIONS

Sun 17th Oct Offertory €1012;
Sun 24th Oct (Mission Sunday) Offertory -€1027; Missions €1254
Sun 31st Oct Offertory €997
Sun 7th Nov (Appeal East Africa) Offertory-€ 1200; Trocaire €4610
Sun 14th Nov Offertory - €940
Sun 21st Nov Offertory - €1224