



# PARISH NEWS

Sunday: 11 am Sung Mass +

Holy Days: As Announced

**A Very Warm  
WELCOME**  
This Sunday is  
**Last Sunday  
After Trinity**  
(Next before Advent)  
(Comm: St Edmund)  
**20th November  
2022**

The Propers of the Mass  
are on page 642 of the  
Book of Common Prayer

## HYMNS

**417**

**453**

**492**

**498**

*Following the last hymn  
we will hold a brief Act of  
remembrance (with a 2  
minute silence) to honour  
the War Dead - because of  
the cancellation of our  
service last Sunday.*

**489**

(2 verses)

*At the end of the  
National Anthem, we  
will conclude with  
The Angelus  
turning to face Our  
Lady's Statue.*

*Dear Friends,* Today we reach the end of the season of Trinity-tide. Next Sunday we will enter Advent the time of preparation for the celebration of the Feast of the Nativity.

Now I do not want to appear to be a 'party pooper' but Christmas has not yet started! Ignore the television advertisements, the shops and over enthusiastic folk who started putting their Christmas decorations up weeks ago.

Advent is a time of expectation and preparation and it is very important, vitally important, that we do not arrive at Christmas unprepared. What do I mean by this?

Well, I am not talking about the vast amount of preparation which for so many people becomes almost all consuming in the run up to Christmas — the food planning, gift buying, and Christmas Card writing.

We all know that all good stories start at the very beginning — it is, after all, a very good place to start!

Christmas begins with Jesus. Our preparation during the four weeks of Advent must include making time for Jesus. In terms of modern advertising slogans used by some Churches at this time of the year— **Jesus REALLY is the reason for the season.**

Don't get side-tracked by arguments put forward by often ill-informed people who readily proclaim that Christmas is simply a hijacked Pagan festival or, indeed, those people who say "Christmas is for the Children really!" No, the feast of the Nativity of Jesus — the celebration of His Birthday, is for all of us.

As Christian's the Incarnation of God, the Word made flesh and coming to dwell among us, is what Christmas is all about.



This is awesome isn't it? If you don't think so, or have never given it any thought, you are in an even greater need of the preparation period we call Advent than I thought.

Some years ago, on Facebook, I made a comment that elicited a rather flattering response from one of my FB friends when he commented that what I had written was his "new favourite quote"!

What had I written? "I am, in all Christian humility, often wrong about almost everything, except those things that my opponents think they are almost always completely right about!"

I had to think for a moment whether this was something I had written 'anew' or whether it was a regurgitation of something I had once read, because it sounded too clever for me. But it seemed to be 100% Damien Mead!

The problem with quotations is that over time one cannot be always sure where it originated. Take for example Sir Winston Churchill's famous comment that "Great Britain and the United States, two great nations divided by a common language!" Mark

## Please Note

We regret there will be no  
weekday (including  
Wednesdays) services until  
the New Year.

## November

✕

### Sunday 20th

*Sunday Next before Advent*

11am Sung Mass

✕

### Sunday 27th

*First Sunday of Advent*

11am Sung Mass

✕

## December

✕

### Sunday 4th

*Second Sunday of Advent*

11am Sung Mass

*Followed by Healing Service*

✕

### Sunday 11th

*Third Sunday of Advent*

11am Sung Mass

✕

### Saturday 17th

*Ordination of Mark Morgan  
to the Order of Deacon*

12 noon Sung Mass

Twain is also credited with this, as are a large number of others.

Archbishop William Temple and C.S. Lewis are also, it seems, in competition for saying something that I wish to share today. *"The Church is the only society on earth that exists for the benefit of non-members."*

Where do we find the roots of the truth of THIS statement and what IS the truth it contains? In the Great Commission (Matthew 28) Jesus tells us to *"Go make disciples of all nations,"* thereby putting this concept at the centre of the calling and mission of the Church. It is NOT however a command to go out and do good works to spread good cheer and harmony. BUT to make disciples, because it is reasonable to think that Jesus is assuming that his disciples WILL, in fact, do good works, be of good cheer and live in harmony — although sadly this still is an aim rather than an achievement for many in the Christian Church.

Let's put this in context. Our Lord speaks these words as He is taking leave of the disciples he doesn't engage in a 'group hug'; he tells them

to go out and recruit others! And that's critical for all of those who call themselves Christians to understand concerning the mission of the Church in the world.

The fundamental foundation upon which our Faith rests is that Jesus said He *"was the way, the truth and the life"* (John 14:6). In these words, Jesus was declaring Himself the great *"I Am,"* the only path to righteousness, the only true measure of righteousness, and the source of both physical and spiritual life. He was staking His claim as the very God of Creation, the Lord who blessed Abraham, and the Holy One who inhabits eternity. He did this so the disciples would be able to face the dark days ahead and carry on the mission of declaring the gospel to the world. Of course, we know from Scripture that they still didn't understand, and it took several visits from their risen Lord to shake them out of their disbelief. But once they understood the truth of His words, they became changed people.

Let us use this Advent to prepare ourselves to truly receive this truth.



## YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR ...

Canon Don and Di Walker; Chris Bosworth; Margaret and Laurence Mead; Diane Smith, Sue Fletcher; Barbara Henderson; Todd, David and Sheila; Colin Rumens; Ann Chapman; Pauline Allison; Harrison and Edward Eckert; Margaret and Peter Martin; Dorothy Hipkiss; Fr Miles Maylor; Vickie Wall; Pat Johnson; Fr Ed & Liz Bakker; Deb Stuck; Angela, Barrie and Sylvia; Kathleen Dunford; Sarah, David, Nicole and Corrina Winterburn; Deacon Jong; Malcolm Munn; Barbara Bowers; Isabella Ighodaro, Fr Howard Marsh, David Miller, Graham Owen, John Sullivan, Jaine Meredith Kite, Roy Hipkiss, The McPartlin Family, Deacon David Jewess. For Peace in Ukraine and Russia and throughout the World.

*For those who read these Parish Notes on our Notice Board outside Church and all who receive email or paper copies.*

- For our neighbours and the people of **Painters Forstal** and the surrounding countryside and villages, the **growth** of our **Church Family**.
- For **persecuted Christians** especially in Africa, Pakistan, Afghanistan, the Middle East and China.

*For those in our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer*

- Missionary Dioceses of the Northeast and Vaal, Rt Rev Dominic Mdunyelwa,
- Good Shepherd & St Tudwal, Conwy, N Wales, Fr Gareth Parry;
- Farmers, fishermen and all involved in food production and distribution.
- For the Diocesan Council which met on Saturday 19th November.
- For Mark Morgan, to be ordained deacon, Dv, here on Saturday 17th December 2022

*And we remember the recently departed: especially John McPartlin, Paul Fletcher and those whose anniversaries fall at this time: Judith Anderson*

✕ Rest Eternal Grant unto them, O Lord **R/s:** And let light perpetual shine upon them

**(Parish) [www.staugustineacc.uk](http://www.staugustineacc.uk) (Diocese) [www.anglican catholic.org.uk](http://www.anglican catholic.org.uk)**



### CHURCH FLOWERS

*To make a donation for  
Flowers in  
Church—Please  
see Mrs Margaret Mead*

#### Rector

Bishop Damien Mead

Tel: 01797 321704 & Ansaphone

Email: [dmead@anglican catholic.org](mailto:dmead@anglican catholic.org)

#### Honorary Assistant Priest

Father Raymond Thompson

Tel: 07443 438465

Email: [frraythompson@gmail.com](mailto:frraythompson@gmail.com)

Parish Secretary: Mr Roy Hipkiss

Parish Treasurer: Mrs Kerry Scott

Organist: Mr Louis Collins

Cantor: Mr Barnabas Sharp

Caretaker: Mr Tibor Veres

Tel: 07591 149352