

PARISH NEWS

Sunday: 11 am Sung Mass +

Holy Days: As Announced

**A Very Warm
WELCOME**

This Sunday is

Advent I

**27th November
2022**

The Propers of the Mass
are on page 319 of the
Book of Common Prayer

HYMNS

**14
3
17
466**

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



**Please
Turn off Your
Mobile Phones**

Dear Friends,

We now begin in earnest to prepare for the coming of the Lord.

God came to us because we could not come to Him. God came before we knew Him. God came before we were even willing to receive Him.

But why did God come to earth as a little baby born in a stable over 2000 years ago. Why did our all-powerful, almighty God choose to become incarnate, to take upon himself our frail human nature?

It was, very simply, so that we might learn to know Him better. That we might learn to receive Him more intimately.

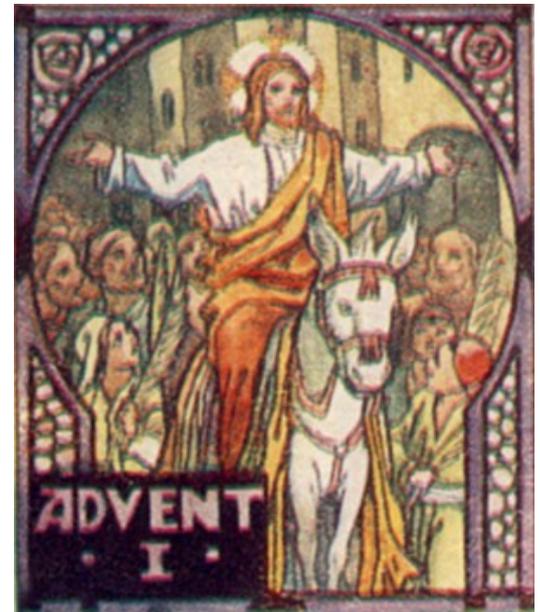
At the end of most of the Masses throughout the year, we have as our last Gospel the opening verses of the Gospel of St John. In this we hear "... to as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the Sons of God".

There were very few, who truly received Him at His first coming. But for those who did, when they had received Him, they were given power to become the "Sons of God".

First the coming, then the receiving, then the power.

Here is the history in three words of every conversion to the Christian faith. Conversions are delayed because, underneath anything else, we humans are too proud. The cleverness and intelligence that we mistake too often for wisdom can prevent our human minds making an dwelling place within itself for Him whom the heaven of heavens cannot contain.

Pride fools mankind into thinking that the *modern* world and *modern* man is somehow superior to the *primitive* world and *primitive* man of the Scriptures. Yet we human beings are the same as our forefathers. Our



technological advancements, as wonderful as they may seem, do not make us better human beings — we have the same goodness and the same sins as mankind has had from the very beginning.

This is all very modern. And it is all very old. And it is all very futile. But it explains why, when the first Advent happened, there was no room in the inn. The story we have to tell once more is not the story of man's approach to God. It is the story of God's approach to man. It is not a complacent story of a man who dared to be God. It is the awe-inspiring history of God who dared to become man.

God's advent is the astounding, shattering, blinding, reassuring, rebuilding, illuminating fact of the miraculous Incarnation, for which we are preparing ourselves in these weeks of preparation for the Feast of the Nativity. The preparation of Advent is the recognition of the need of humbleness of mind and meekness of spirit and hunger of heart.

They who CAN receive this, CAN receive HIM. Despite the fact that the

Please Note

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

December

✘

Sunday 4th

Second Sunday of Advent

11am Sung Mass

Followed by Healing Service

✘

Sunday 11th

*Third Sunday of Advent
(comm Octave of the
Conception of the BVM)*

11am Sung Mass

✘

Saturday 17th

*Ordination of Mark Morgan
to the Order of Deacon*

12 noon Sung Mass

✘

Sunday 18th

Fourth Sunday of Advent

11am Sung Mass

5pm Carol Service

✘

Saturday 24th

Christmas Eve

7pm First Mass of Christmas

Church celebrates Advent every year. The world is never prepared for the Advent. It is always a surprise.

The one hopeful thing about humankind today is that it we are, in fact, exactly the same as our 'primitive' forbearers.

It is the old, old story, all over again. Mankind needs God — but under our own steam we can't come to God. So this is the very time for the sudden coming of God.

The age of reason has had its dreary day and its devastating night. We are all sick of it. It is time for the return of the age of Faith. We are all longing for it. And all the signs are here. We can go no further. God must come. And He will. But - not all the world will know Him. Not all of His own will receive Him. But **"to as many as receive Him, to them will He give power to become the Sons of God"**.

+ Damien



1st CANDLE – (purple) **THE PROPHECY CANDLE or CANDLE OF HOPE** – We can have hope because God is faithful and will keep the promises made to us. Our hope comes from God. (Romans 15:12-13)

2nd CANDLE – (purple) **THE BETHLEHEM CANDLE or THE CANDLE OF PREPARATION** – God kept his promise of a Savior who would be born in Bethlehem. Preparation means to "get ready". Help us to be ready to welcome YOU, O GOD! (Luke 3:4-6)

3rd CANDLE – (pink) **THE SHEPHERD CANDLE or THE CANDLE OF JOY** – The angels sang a message of JOY! (Luke 2:7-15)

4th CANDLE – (purple) **THE ANGEL CANDLE or THE CANDLE OF LOVE** – The angels announced the good news of a Savior. God sent his only Son to earth to save us, because he loves us! (John 3:16-17)

5th CANDLE – (white) **"CHRIST CANDLE"** – The white candle reminds us that Jesus is the spotless lamb of God, sent to wash away our sins! His birth was for his death, his death was for our birth! (John 1:29)

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

- Diocese of the South, Bishop Ordinary - the Most Rev Dr Mark Haverland;
- Good Shepherd & St Tudwal, Conwy, N Wales, Fr Gareth Parry (priest in charge), Fr Ron Evans (Hon. Assistant)
- For a productive and happy liturgical year.
- For Mark Morgan to be ordained deacon on 17th December

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 (Diocese) www.anglican catholic.org.uk



CHURCH FLOWERS

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

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Bishop Damien Mead

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Organist: Mr Louis Collins

Cantor: Mr Barnabas Sharp

Caretaker: Mr Tibor Veres

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