

## St. Erconwald's Parish Newsletter

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PARISH HALL LETS: Contact Elizabeth Patten on [wembley3@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:wembley3@rcdow.org.uk).

OFFICE: By appointment.



**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR C**

**15TH DECEMBER, 2024**

### **THEME: Called to Joy**

On this third Sunday of Advent the liturgy speaks to us, people who are too often so sad, of God as the Lord of the dance: the Lord is happy to come among us: he will dance with shouts of joy for you as on a day of festival. It is a feast for the Lord to be with us. Is it a feast for us too? Let us open ourselves to the joy of the coming and lasting presence among us of the Lord himself. He comes to us with his peace, his love, and his forgiveness, not only on the great feast of Christmas but in every day when we are willing to make God's love and peace grow in us and in our world.



**MEDITATE:** John the Baptist is trying to get his followers to pay attention: to their lives and to the coming of the Holy One.

**ACT:** This week, focus on one role in your life and pray about how you can serve others better within that role.

### **DEMENTIA CARERS SUPPORT GROUP**

Do you care for someone who is living with Dementia (incl. Alzheimer's)? We next meet in the Parish Hall on **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December between 12.00noon - 2.00pm**. COME AND BE SUPPORTED. For further information please contact Frank Arrojo on 07867 903917 (email [frankj.arrojo@gmail.com](mailto:frankj.arrojo@gmail.com)).

Online meeting: Friday 27<sup>th</sup> December between 4.00 – 6.00pm

### **RECEPTION OF SACRAMENTS 2025** **CONFIRMATION**

*Registration Forms are available at the back of the Church.*

### **FUNERAL**

With sadness we announce the death of Gerald Earls [ex parishioner]. His funeral will take place on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 11.00am at Sacred Heart Church, Park Street, Berkhamstead HP4 1HX. Burial at 1.30pm at Carpenters Park Lawn Cemetery, Oxhey Lane, Watford WD19 5RL. We offer our sympathy to his family and friends. May he rest in peace.

## **LIGHT OF LIFE - REMEMBERING OUR LOVED ONES**



Please collect **Memorial Cards** from the back of the Church, complete them with the name of deceased loved one and return them not later than **Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> December**. These Cards will then be hung on the Christmas tree. Mass will be offered on the feast of the Holy Family, the weekend of 28<sup>th</sup>/29<sup>th</sup> December. Please place Memorial Cards and donations in the box available.

*Donations go towards the decorating of the Church at Christmas.*

## **PARISH CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION**

Takes place in the Parish Hall on **SATURDAY 21<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER, after the 5.30pm Mass**. This is a Free Ticketed event. Tickets will be available after Mass, limited places - first come first served. If you wish, there will be a donation box at the entrance to the Hall on the day. This a chance to get together as a Parish over mulled wine/soft drink and mince pies. During the Celebration we will have the Christmas Raffle – in aid of the Refurbishment Fund. Children **MUST** be accompanied by a parent/guardian for the duration of the event.

## **CHRISTMAS INTENTIONS**

Those requesting **Christmas Mass Bouquets** please note that due to demand there will be no individual Masses. The Christmas Masses celebrated on Tuesday at 9.30pm and Wednesday at 10.30am will be offered for all intentions. Cards are available from the Repository. A donation would be appreciated.

## **CHRISTMAS CRIB APPEAL 2024**

*The Catholic Children's Society Crib Appeal helps support children and families in need throughout the diocese. There will be a donation box by the crib for you to contribute. Thank you for your support.*

## **POINSETTIA**

*As in previous years we intend to decorate the Cribs with Poinsettia, if you like to contribute one, please bring it to the Church no later than the morning of Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> December*

## **CHURCH DECORATION FOR CHRISTMAS**

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> at 10.30am**. Please come along and help decorate the Church and the Hall and setting up the Cribs and the Christmas Tree.

*More hands make light work!*

## **PARISH CALENDARS 2025**

Are now available at the back of the Church. Suggested Donation £1.

## **SERVICE CARDS**

with details of all our Masses etc. are available to take for your family, friends or neighbours who might appreciate an invitation to celebrate Christmas with us.

## **POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR DECEMBER**

For people with disabilities

We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of society's attention, and that institutions may offer inclusive programmes which value their active participation.



## **ADVENT 2024 – JOURNEYING TO THE CRIB** **ADVENT GIVING CALENDAR**



Like previous years we will be supporting “The Larder”.  
*Please leave your donations in the box provided by the Lady Chapel. Thank you for your kind donations.*  
For more Advent resources for all ages please visit: [cafod.org.uk/advent](http://cafod.org.uk/advent)

## **SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION WITH ABSOLUTION** **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December at 7.00pm.**

### **REPOSITORY**

A limited number [4] of Westminster Year Books are available for £5.50  
The Repository will close on **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December after Mass.**  
Wishing all our customers a very Happy, Holy and Joyous Christmas  
and every best wish for 2025.

### **LIVE STREAMING 24/7 - FOR YOUR AWARENESS**

The sanctuary area is continuously monitored via a 24/7 livestream, serving as a focal point for prayer and contemplation for congregants who are at home. Please be aware that if you are present in this area, your image and actions may be captured on the livestream.

### **IMPORTANT SCAM NOTIFICATION**

Emails pretending to be from the Parish Priest are being sent requesting the purchase of gift cards for the Parish Priest.  
Please **BE VIGILANT**, we do **NOT** send such emails.

### **BRENT DEANERY PILGRIMAGE TO ROME:** **24<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2025**

A pilgrimage to Rome is being organised in Brent deanery to enable us to go to Rome during the Holy Year of 2025. The cost (at the time of writing) will be £1,130 for a twin/double room on a half board basis. There are very few single rooms at £100 supplement. This price does not include lunch or baggage in the hold. For further details and payment of deposit, please visit the website at [www.pilgrimagepeople.org](http://www.pilgrimagepeople.org). Then click on the tab marked “Book”. There is a drop down menu asking where you would like to go, select “Italy” and then select the Brent Deanery pilgrimage. Complete the booking form. When arriving at the payment page, **be sure to tick “deposit”** at the top of the page otherwise it will ask for the whole amount. Alternatively, you can ‘phone Pilgrimage People on 0800 612 3423.

Please contact Pilgrimage People directly. Bookings will **not** be made through the parish office.

### **CHURCH CLEANING**

Can we please ask if you have any spare time to please come along and join us after the 9.30am Mass on Tuesday mornings to help clean God's House. This is also a good way of meeting others in our parish.

## **LITURGY FOR THE THIRD WEEK OF ADVENT - Psalter Week 3**

All services can be followed online: <https://www.churchservices.tv/wembley3>

Saturday 5.30pm and Sunday 10.00am/11.30am Masses are recorded

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### **Sunday 15th December: Third in Advent, Year C** [10.00am/11.30am] **Read-**

**ings:** 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Zephaniah 3.14-18; Psalm: Isaiah 12; 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Philippians 4.4-7; Gospel: Luke 3.10-18. **Intention:** 10.00am: People of the Parish

11.30am: Bartley McDonagh [RIP]

**Monday 16th December: Advent Feria** [9.30am] **Readings:** 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Numbers 24.2-7,15-17; Psalm: 24; Gospel: Matthew 21.23-27. **Intention:** Helen Wallace [RIP]

**Tuesday 17th December: Advent Feria** [9.30am] **Readings:** 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Genesis 49.2,8-10; Psalm: 71; Gospel: Matthew 1.1-17. **Intention:** Julia and Lawrence Hayes [RIP, A]

**Wednesday 18th December: Advent Feria** [9.30am] **Readings:** 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Jeremiah 23.5-8; Psalm: 71; Gospel: Matthew 1.18-24. **Intention:** Theresa Cummins [Intentions]

**Thursday 19th December NO SERVICE**

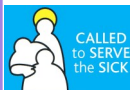
**Friday 20th December: Advent Feria** [9.30am] **Readings:** 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Isaiah 7.10-14; Psalm: 23; Gospel: Luke 1.26-38. **Intention:** Fr. Bernard Crowe [RIP]

**Friday 20th December: 7.00pm: Service of Reconciliation with Absolution**

**Saturday 21st December: Fourth in Advent, Year C** [5.30pm] **Readings:** 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Micah 5.1-4; Psalm: 79; 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Hebrews 10.5-10; Gospel: Luke 1.39-44. **Intention:** Caroline Murphy [Intention].

**Sunday 22nd December: Fourth in Advent, Year C** [10.00am/11.30am] **Readings:** 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Micah 5.1-4; Psalm: 79; 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Hebrews 10.5-10; Gospel: Luke 1.39-44. **Intention:** 10.00am: People of the Parish  
11.30am: Annette Rixon [RIP]

## **PRAYERS FOR THE SICK - [for those who have asked to be remembered]**



We keep in our thoughts and prayers: Sue McGovern, Cathy Singer, Martin Geary, Susan Bradley, Radwan Naffa, and Yves Remedios.

We remember also those in Kenbrook, Birchwood Grange and Brook House.

***In case you are admitted to hospital.....***

Please indicate **on entering hospital** that your details are to be passed to the RC Chaplain, and that you would like a visit from the RC Chaplain.

## **SPIRITUAL COMMUNION**

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in this Holy Sacrament of the altar. I love you above all things and I passionately desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my soul so that I may unite myself wholly to you now and forever. Amen.

*[based on a prayer of St Alphonsus Liguori]*