

## St. Erconwald's Parish Newsletter

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Parish Priest: Fr. Anthony Psaila

Safeguarding Services Designated Persons: Fr. Anthony Psaila [Interim]

PARISH HALL LETS: Suspended until further notice.

### FIRST OF ADVENT, C

28TH NOVEMBER, 2021

#### **THEME: Watchful, but not afraid**

Much of the world is sitting in the dark of hunger and suffering and violence, and yet if we are God's people we keep up the indestructible hope that truth and goodness and justice will prevail. For we believe that Christ our Lord has come and is alive among us. We struggle, we know the road is rough, but the Lord goes with us and he tells us: Come with me, serve with me, love with me, give and share yourself with me and you will be better, and the Church and the world will be better.



**MEDITATE:** As we begin the liturgical year, we seek to recommit ourselves to be a people who watch as we wait.

**ACT:** Commit to spending time each day in quiet prayer as a preparation for Jesus' coming.

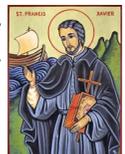
#### **NOVEMBER 30<sup>th</sup>: ST. ANDREW**



Andrew, one of the twelve apostles, was a fisherman on the Sea of Galilee along with his brother Peter. He is known for the immediacy and simplicity of his response to Our Lord: "They left their nets at once and followed him." No questions, no conditions, no hesitations, no "ifs" or "buts". He is listed among the four disciples who were closest to Jesus. The name Andrew means "the brave one". May his prayers help us to gain a deeper understanding and obtain a greater share in the mystery of the Lord's Cross.

#### **DECEMBER 3<sup>rd</sup>: ST. FRANCIS XAVIER**

Francis, the pioneer missionary to the East Indies and Japan, was born in Northern Spain in 1506. While studying at the University of Paris, he came under the influence of Ignatius of Loyola and together they founded the Society of Jesus. He was ordained priest in 1537. In 1541 he was sent with two companions to Portuguese India. After a voyage of thirteen months they landing at Goa. For the next ten years he laboured to bring the faith. He spent countless hours ministering to the sick and poor, particularly to lepers. In 1552 he set out for China, a country at that time closed to foreigners, but was taken ill and in a fortnight he died. His body was taken back to Goa, where it is still enshrined. He was canonized in 1662. Francis is also the patron saint of missionaries for he wanted all to hear the hopeful and love-filled message of Jesus.



## **COMING TO MASS: COVID-19 SAFE ENVIRONMENT**

**[Please do NOT attend Mass if you are unwell or have any Covid symptoms]**

It is important that we continue to ensure that the Church remains a safe place where people gather to worship.

Full details can be found on the Church's website.

### **BOOKING TO COME TO MASS**

<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/wembleyprestonroad/events/>

**Booking by phone if no internet available:** you can call the parish office on 020 8904 6031 [press option 2 when prompted]

You can also use the QR Code at the Church's entrance or exit.

## **DONATIONS AND COLLECTION OF MONEY** **IMPORTANT NEWS ABOUT GIVING ON-LINE**

### **GIVING BY STANDING ORDER [Preferred Method]**

Regular giving is the financial bedrock of our parish. It also costs the parish less to manage than online giving so your money goes further. If you would like to support the parish we would ask you to consider setting up a regular donation in this way.

**Offertory Envelopes and other donations** can be placed in the Collection Box at the entrance of the Church or at the exit. Please no coinage at this time. There are a number of cashless methods now available:

**Make a donation via our website:**

<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/wembleyprestonroad/donate/>

**Via Dona [the company who supply our card readers].**

<https://portal.mydona.com/assets/webPay/index.php?cid=268>

Donations, Mass Intentions and Repository payments can also be made via the card readers in Church

**[If you are a tax payer, please Gift Aid your donation]**

### **THANK YOU**

*A huge thank you to everyone who has continued supporting the Parish during the pandemic. We pray that you keep well and that your faith remains strong.*

## **THE PASSAGE**

a Catholic charity working with homeless people is raising funds through the **Big Give** a matched giving scheme. Every £1 donated online between **12.00 noon**

**on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> November and 12.00 noon on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> December** makes £2 £2.25 - if you are a taxpayer through Gift Aid. At a time when The Passage's finances are stretched and they are helping more homeless people please consider supporting this charity through the link <https://bit.ly/PassageBG2021>



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

*Universal Intention - People of suffer from depression*

We pray that people who suffer from depression or burn-out will find support and a light that opens them up to life.

## **ADVENT 2021 – JOURNEYING TO THE CRIB**

*The season of Advent is a time of preparation for the birth of Our Saviour. Listed below are activities and devotions to help us prepare for the coming feast of Christmas and its true meaning.*



### **THE ADVENT WREATH**

The Advent Wreath [this can be a simple drawing to colour in, or something more elaborate], consisting of a circle of evergreens, symbolising the eternal nature of God and the continuing and everlasting life that comes from God through Christ. The four candles [3 purple – symbolising repentance - and 1 pink – 3<sup>rd</sup> week, reminds us that we are drawing nearer to Christmas Day], mark the four weeks of Advent, and attest to the truth of Jesus as the Light of the World [John 3. 17-21]. Please visit [www.erconwald.org.uk](http://www.erconwald.org.uk) to download the “Prayer of Blessing”.



### **THE JESSE TREE**

The name Jesse Tree comes from a Bible passage describing the descent of the Messiah from Jesse in Isaiah 11:1: "A shoot will come out of the stock Jesse, and a branch out of his roots will bear fruit." The Gospels in Luke 3:23-38 and in Matthew 1:1-17 have genealogies of Jesus Christ.



The symbols show some important figures and events from Creation to the birth of Jesus Christ. This year it would be nice if we could make our own version of a Jesse Tree. Please visit [www.erconwald.org.uk](http://www.erconwald.org.uk) to download the ornaments and colour in. Each week a description of the ornament will be given. [Adapted from: “Jesse Tree Ornaments” by Kathryn Marcellino. Abundant Life Publishing]

### **ADVENT GIVING CALENDAR**

This Advent Giving Calendar gives suggestions for items to collect each day, reaching out to those going hungry, making a food parcel. Like previous years we will be supporting “The Larder”. *Details of when to bring the “food parcels” will be given later.* Please visit: [www.erconwald.org.uk](http://www.erconwald.org.uk) to download the Advent Giving Calendar.



### **ADVENT GIVING TREE**

This weekend we welcome Andrew Hollingsworth will make an appeal on behalf of “The Passage”. He will collect the *Gifts* on the Fourth Sunday of Advent [19<sup>th</sup> December] after the 10.00am Mass.



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

**Memorial Cards** - available on-line or as you leave the Church. Please complete with the name of deceased loved one and return them – via email: [wem-bley3@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:wem-bley3@rcdow.org.uk) or when you visit the Church, not later than Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December. These Cards will then be hung on the Christmas tree. Mass will be offered on the feast of the Holy Family, on the weekend of 25/26<sup>th</sup> December.

### **MINI CHRISTMAS DRAW**

On Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December after the 10.00am Mass. 1<sup>st</sup> Prize: Crib, 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: Sleeping St. Joseph, 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: Children’s Sack, and various other prizes. Proceeds will go towards the Church Restoration Fund. Tickets [£1 per strip] on sale from next weekend.

## LITURGY FOR THE FIRST WEEK OF ADVENT

*[Copies of the Statement from the Bishops' Conference, entitled **Honouring Sunday** which covers the latest information about the obligation to attend Mass on Sunday and Holydays of obligation are available on the website, microsite and as you leave the Church.]*

All services can be followed online: <https://www.churchservices.tv/wembley3>  
[Saturday 5.30pm and Sunday 10.00am Masses are recorded]

**Sunday 28th November: First of Advent, C [10.00am] Readings:** 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Jeremiah 33.14-16; Psalm: 24; 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 1Thessalonians 3.12-4.2; Gospel: Luke 21.25-28,34-36. **Intention:** Margaret & Helen Cornish [RIP]

**Monday 29th November: Advent Feria [9.30am] Readings:** 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Isaiah 2.1-5; Psalm: 121; Gospel: Matthew 8.5-11. **Intention:** Bernard Wilson [RIP]

**Tuesday 30th November: St. Andrew [9.30am] 1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** Romans 10.9-18; Psalm: 18; Gospel: Matthew 4.18-22. **Intention:** Brian Foley [RIP, A]

**Wednesday 1st December: Advent Feria [9.30am] Readings:** 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Isaiah 25.6-10; Psalm: 22; Gospel: Matthew 15.29-37. **Intention:** Sheila Wheaton [RIP]

**Thursday 2nd December: NO SERVICE**

**Friday 3rd December: St. Francis Xavier [9.30am] Readings:** 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: 1Corinthians 9.16-19, 22-23; Psalm: 116; Gospel: Mark 16.15-20. **Intention:** Fr. Fagin and Val Matthews RIP

**Saturday 4th December: 10.30am: Baptism: Ciaran Christopher Duffy.**

**Saturday 4th December: Second of Advent, C [5.30pm] Readings:** 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Baruch; Psalm: 125; 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Philippians 1.3-6,8-11; Gospel: Luke 3.1-6. **Intention:** Breda Moriarty [RIP].

**Sunday 5th December: Second of Advent, C [10.00am] Readings:** 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Baruch; Psalm: 125; 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Philippians 1.3-6,8-11; Gospel: Luke 3.1-6. **Intention:** People of the Parish.

## CHILDREN'S LITURGY

*If you are looking for a way to engage your children in the gospel from home, join **CAFOD** for our virtual children's liturgy of the word at 10am GMT this Sunday. Register now to take part here.*

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5095942131288155403>

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]*