

Psalm Response: In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon falls.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

SUN 15th Dec: 3rd Advent
 1st R. Isaiah 35:1-6.10
 2nd R. James 5:7-10
 Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11


Please read these readings at home and listen to them at next Sunday's Mass.

Offertory Collection £1,381.93
 (£345.48 Gift Aid)
 Gift aid envelopes £ 158.00
 Non gift aid loose £ 951.26

Thank you for your generous contributions. Your donations make the life and work of the parish possible.

Parish Liturgies for the week commencing 8th Dec	
Saturday	2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
SJ (Vigil Mass)	6.00pm Amirtharajah Christian RIP
Sunday	2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
SW	9.00am P J Togher RIP
SJ	11.00am Maria Antionette Collaco RIP
Monday	IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
SJ	12.15pm Joan Smith RIP
Tuesday	NO MASS
Wednesday	2nd Week of Advent
SJ	12.15pm Anna Sabolova RIP
Thursday	2nd Week of Advent
SJ	12.15pm Saint Marys Leela RIP
Friday	2nd Week of Advent
SJ	12.15pm Thanksgiving to Sacred Heart of Jesus
Saturday	3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
SJ (Vigil Mass)	6.00pm Deceased parishioners of St James
Next Sunday	3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
SW	9.00am Holy souls (BDFS)
	11.00am Anne McGuire - good health
Confessions	SJ - Saturday 5pm - 5.45pm
Rosary	SJ - after 12.15pm Mass
Exposition	SJ - Friday 11am to 12pm

PARISH PRIEST: Canon John O'Shea
Parish Secretary: Catherine Ledgard
Parish Safeguarding: Ginika Okoye (St.J)
Ministers: Françoise Le Saux (StW)

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 St James Presbytery,
 Abbey Ruins, Forbury Road, Reading, RG1 3FD
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St James & St William of York Reading
 Website: www.jameswilliam-reading.org.uk



This parish is a part of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth Registered Charity No: 246871

A PRAYER FOR THE Second Sunday of Advent



Jesus, you came among us with the irresistible power of a baby, requiring both our hands and captivating our whole hearts. Help us to cast aside the sin and brokenness that we cling to, so we might be ready to hold you when you come again. Amen



Royal Berkshire Hospital
 Chaplain:
 Mobile: 07391 896559
 RBH: 0118 322 7105
Sunday Mass 4.00pm
 Patients, staff & visitors welcome

The Roman Catholic Parish of
St James and St William of York
Reading
8th DECEMBER 2019
SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Fr John writes:-

CHANGE YOUR MIND-SET, THINK DIFFERENTLY!

Today, we meet John the Baptist, the Prophet. He calls for a radical change of life—no half measurers but rather turning our lives completely around. What is it that we need to change in our attitudes and behaviour? What area of our lives need to be healed? Today we pray that the Spirit of God will help us to make those changes in our lives and that we will serve God and not ourselves and that we will attend to the poor and needy. Change your mind-set.

“To live is to change and to be perfect is to have changed often” by Cardinal Newman



ADVENT - A TIME OF SILENCE AND REFLECTION

SILENT PRAYER - 5 minutes before Mass begins during Advent. Let us cut back on talking and then kneel or sit for silent prayer before Mass.

WITHOUT SILENCE WE CANNOT HEAR THE GOD WHO SPEAKS.

Advent is the great time to reflect and be attentive to the mystery of our God entering our world as Saviour and Redeemer.



APPEAL FOR VOLUNTEERS FOR CHRISTMAS MASSES

We are planning to offer a special welcome to all those at our Christmas Masses, especially those who don't go to mass regularly and are 'Coming Home for Christmas'. Please take a poster today to display in your window or local community board inviting people to 'Come Home for Christmas'.

WELCOMING, READING, MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION and REFRESHMENTS please let us know if you can help us at our Christmas Masses. Even if you haven't welcomed before, could you or your family help with welcoming or hospitality this Christmas? Email or phone the parish office.



CELEBRATING GOD'S FORGIVENESS

This week we begin the Advent Reconciliation Services at the different parishes in Reading. **Our parish Advent Reconciliation Service is on Monday 16th December at 7.30pm at St James.** I have arranged for 7 priests to be with us. Come and join us, be healed, be freed and be reconciled with God.



Next Sunday 8th Dec
Second Sunday of Advent.



We light the second candle in the Advent Wreath.

SANTA RUN 9.00am till 11.30am. Note access to St James' car park may be difficult. Parking at the Forbury Retail park is not affected.

FOLK GROUP at 9am & 11am Masses

PLANNING FOR CHRISTMAS meeting for St Williams 9am Christmas Day Mass, after 9am Mass today in the annex. Please come and offer to help.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION Child & parent session at 3pm at St Williams.



TAMIL MASS Cancelled

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY on Mon 9th Dec. We encourage you to attend our 12.15pm Mass.

ADVENT PENITENTIAL SERVICES

Date	Time	Venue
Mon 9th	7.30pm	St John Bosco
Tue 10th	7.30pm	St Joseph's
Wed 11th	7.30pm	Christ the King
Thu 12th	7.30pm	St Anne's
Fri 13th	7.30pm	Our Lady of Peace
Sat 14th	11.00am	English Martyrs
Mon 16th	7.30pm	St James

RECENTLY DIED Arthur Robertson husband of Helen, well known at St William of York. Funeral Service on Tue 10th December at 10am at St Williams. Burial afterwards at Mayes Lane. Our sympathy to Helen and family. May he rest in peace.



GOOD SHEPHERD PRAYER GROUP to meet on Wed 11th Dec at 7.30pm in the Barberi Room. Please contact Arlene 07713 892407 for further details

CHRISTMAS CHOIR PRACTICES Come and join the singing rehearsals:

Thursday 12th Dec
Tuesday 17th Dec

All at 7.30pm @ St James

Open to all - not just choirs!

An most enjoyable evening assured. You must attend at least two practices to sing at Christmas Masses.



RECENTLY DIED Maria Ratto of Coley Park, Funeral Mass on Fri 13th Dec at 1.30pm at St Williams. Maria was much loved, a parishioner at St Williams. Our sympathy to Alphonso, her family Rosetta & her brother. May she rest in peace.



FESTIVE CAROLS & MUSIC, LED BY HAYDEN CHOIR at St Williams Friday 13 Dec 7pm. Some parishioners will be singing and would welcome your support. £8. Voluntary collection for Launchpad, supporting homeless in Reading. Come along & support us!

'CAROLS BY CANDLE LIGHT' at English Martyrs on Fri 13th Dec at 7pm. Donations to 'Bed for the night'.

Next Sunday 15th Dec
Third Sunday of Advent.



We light the third candle in the Advent Wreath.

SECOND COLLECTION
Christmas Flowers

GOAN MASS - 5pm (tbc)

MANCHESTER CAROLS by Parenthesis Choir at The Abbey School, RG1 5DZ on Sun 15th Dec at 4.30pm. Tickets £10 from tickets@parenthesis.co.uk raising funds for Christian Community Action.

MUSIC & REFLECTIONS at Douai Abbey on Sun 15th Dec at 3.30pm. All welcome.

RECENTLY DIED Michael Scanlon of Melrose Ave, a parishioner at St Williams. Mick passed away in the Duchess of Kent hospice on Friday morning. He will join Sara his wife with the Lord. Our sympathy to Jane & Lucy, his mother and family at this sad time. Funeral details to follow. May he rest in peace.



"SIMBANG GABI" MASS, Traditional Filipino Christmas Mass on Tue 17th Dec led by Fr Jimmy Lindero at St Joseph's Tilehurst at 6.30pm. Hog Roast in the hall after Mass.

AV SCREENS work is progressing with this project. The projectors and screens are due to be delivered. Volunteers required for cabling, to set up & run AV for 6pm & 11am Masses, etc

THE YEAR OF GOD'S WORD Over the next 12 months, we are encouraged to deepen our understanding, knowledge and love of the Bible, especially of the Gospels. Before Christmas the diocese is providing a pocket-sized copy of the Gospel of St. Luke (or of St. Matthew) for you to carry with you.

RECENTLY DIED Barbara Shilton of Melrose Avenue, y Mews. She often came to Mass at St James and was a pupil at St James' School. Requiem Mass at English Martyrs, at 11am on Mon Dec 16th. Our sympathy to her family. May she rest in peace.



COMING SOON - ALPHA 2020

The next **ALPHA** course will begin soon on **Fri 10th Jan**, 8 sessions 7-9pm ending Fri 13th March. I would like to ask you today to consider joining us for these **ALPHA** sessions. Each evening will begin with a hot meal, followed by a thought provoking video exploring the life and message of Jesus Christ, and ending with a discussion in small groups.

Would you like the chance to grow in your love of Jesus Christ?

WHY NOT TRY ALPHA?

Registration forms at the back of the church

PARKING IN FORBURY RETAIL PARK Is now ANPR. for a max 3 hour stay. Over this you will get a ticket which we cannot appeal & you will have to pay. You no longer need the parking permit. Please respect this new arrangement.

ALTAR SERVERS please collect the letter for your parents to volunteer for the Christmas Masses from the Sacristy.

'**MEAT: A THREAT TO OUR PLANET**' on BBC iPlayer. This programme tackles the cruelties of intensive farming & questions the meat industry & suggests it produces more green house gases than the entire transportation system.

FOUNDATION GOVERNOR wanted at Blessed Hugh Faringdon school. Email s.cook@hughfaringdon.org for details.

BED FOR THE NIGHT (B4N) Jan-Mar to give homeless people a bed for the night at 1 of 7 Reading churches. Volunteers needed to help. Training on Wed 11th Dec at 7pm English Martyrs or LifeSpring church, RG1 7UY Sat 14th Dec at 9.30am-12 noon. Volunteer forms at the back of church.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES LEAFLET is available from the back of the church now - please take a copy.

GENERAL ELECTION this is profoundly important to the United Kingdom. Catholics cannot simply "watch from the balcony." Conscious of the common good of every person and our society as a whole, we ask everyone to engage with the election and vote. As Pope Francis reminds us, "good politics is at the service of peace."



LAUDATO SI ACTION GROUP

Here is our tip for the week:

Say no to cards and wrapping paper with glitter and beads and plastic bows and string as they cannot be recycled. Try to use Eco wrapping etc from sustainable sources.

