

What's on this week...

Monday 24th CHRISTMAS DAY
8.30am Holy Communion
9.30am Morning Prayer
10.00am **Sung Mass for Christmas Day**

Church closed all week

Sunday 31st Christmas I
10.00am **Parish Mass**



PLEASE PRAY FOR

Kay Kemp, Catherine Bradshaw, Charles Crisp, Michelle George, Eileen Black, Mrs Robb, Dorothy deGale, Alicia deGale, Caroline Farodoye, Lorraine Mack, Audrey Marshall, Leslie Utting, Valerie Lomer-Panek, Peggy Bownes, Alice Wright, Rosemary Makhulu, Fiona McKenna, Dorothy Bradshaw, Colin Busby, Miriam Hartigan, Sue Fraser, Tina, Francesco, Josephine Leaton, Therese Lucas, Gillian Murtagh, Lucy Gillert, Libertine Quinn, Anna Ross, Richard, Joanne Lees, Nicky Ewen, Lesley Elkington, Patrick Goodacre, Janet Morgan, Nancy Coxall, Betram Hodge, Molly Addison, Nicky and Harry McElligott, Mary Pierce.

CHECK OUT THE UPDATED WEBSITE
www.stjohnsfulham.org

The Parish of St John, Fulham
www.stjohnsfulham.org

Parish Priest: **Father Mark Osborne** SCP
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St John's, Fulham

Walham Green, SW6

Over 175 Years at the heart of Fulham

Sunday 24 December
Fourth Sunday of Advent

Welcome to St John's today, especially if you are a visitor or newcomer. On the cusp of Christmas, we come together to complete our Advent watch. As we do so, let us clear our minds of all that separates us from God's love so that we may see him clearly when he comes.

There is a loop system for those with assisted hearing and the Lower Hall has everything piped through for anyone accompanying a child wishing to exercise lungs or limbs!

The Gathering

As the bell rings, we stand to sing

O come, O come, Emmanuel!
Redeem thy captive Israel,
that into exile drear is gone
far from the face of God's dear Son.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou branch of Jesse! Draw
the quarry from the lion's claw;
from the dread cavern of the grave,
from nether hell, thy people save.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel...

O come, O come, thou dayspring bright!
Pour on our souls thy healing light;
dispel the long night's lingering gloom,
and pierce the shadows of the tomb.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel...

O come, thou Lord of David's key!
The royal door fling wide and free;
safeguard for us the heavenward road,
and bar the way to death's abode.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel...

O come, O come, Adonai,
who in thy glorious majesty
from that high mountain clothed with awe
gavest thy folk the elder law.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel...

The Greeting

+ In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you
and also with you.

The appropriate candle on the Advent Wreath is lit and we respond to the prayer with **Amen.** The Mass is then introduced and we are invited to remember our sins and to confess them to God as the Advent Wreath is lit

Loving Father you sent your Son to share our lives:
Kyrie eleison. **Kyrie eleison.**

Lord Jesus you came with good news for all people:
Christe eleison. **Christe eleison.**

Holy Spirit come in love to suffering world
Kyrie eleison. **Kyrie eleison.**

The absolution is given and we respond with **Amen.** Then the Opening Prayer is sung. We respond with **Amen** and then sit to hear the Scriptures.

The Liturgy of the Word

Readings

We hear a reading from Scripture before and after the Psalm. The psalm follows the first reading. We sing the response to be found on the Readings sheet. (Micah 5.2-5a and Hebrews 10.5-10)

At the end the reader says

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

After the second reading, we stand to herald the Gospel

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

The Gospel (Luke 1.39-55) is announced, and all respond

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to N.
Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Homily

We sit for the Homily or Sermon.

The Creed

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is,
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down
from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy
Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under
Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge
the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is
worshipped and glorified,**

NOTICES

Crib Mass this evening for families who have young children so can't come to Midnight Mass. This short Mass will be at 6.00pm so come along as we bless the Christmas Crib!

Midnight Mass tonight is at 12.00am and will be preceded by Carols to get us into the Christmas spirit!

Christmas Day Services will be at 8.30am, 10.00am but there will be no evening service. The 10am Parish Mass will be followed by sherry with Father Mark.

Would you like to explore Confirmation and are aged between 11-16 years old? We have a course beginning in the new years as part of our **Encoun+ter** group. Please pick up a leaflet or talk to James Bradley.

Home Groups are starting in January. If you want to be part of St John's during the week — to pray, read the Bible and support each other in living out and exploring the implications of your faith in every day life — pick up a leaflet today.

Want to get more involved? At the back we have a selection of the opportunities available for volunteers here at St John's. How can you offer your time or your talents to your church community? How are you going to make our vision a reality here at the heart of Fulham?

The Sick List for this month is on the back table or you can ring and leave a message for David in the Parish Office. Father Mark would like to hear about people who are ill so that we can arrange visiting, Anointing and Communion.

The Parish Office is open as usual this week. David will be in the office on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday between 10am and 1pm. The Parish Surgery hour is between 6.30pm and 7.30pm on Monday evenings and this is the time for enquiries about Banns of Marriage, Baptism (christening), Confirmation and First Holy Communion classes.

Our Lady's Lamp this week is burning for the Parish. If you would like to sponsor a lamp please sign the list and give your money (£10) into the Parish Office.



Lands of the East, awake,
soon shall your sons be free;
the sleep of ages break, and rise to liberty.
On your far hills, long cold and gray,
has dawned the everlasting day.

Shores of the utmost West,
ye that have waited long, unvisited, unblessed,
break forth to swelling song;
high raise the note, that Jesus died,
yet lives and reigns, the Crucified.

Shout, while ye journey home;
songs be in every mouth;
lo, from the North we come,
from East, and West, and South.
city of God, the bond are free,
we come to live and reign in thee!

*There is no organ voluntary in Advent so please leave church
SILENTLY after the final hymn so that those who wish to, can
remain in prayer.*

Please join us for coffee in the Lower Hall after Mass

Christmas Services

Today

6.00pm Crib Mass for families *with a special visitor*
11.30pm 'Come and Sing' Carols before Christmas
12.00pm Midnight Mass of Christmas

Christmas Day

8.30am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00am Solemn Mass of Christmas Day
followed by sherry with the Vicar



Please take this leaflet away with you

Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England,
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who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

We remain standing to prayer together. At the end of each petition this response is used

Let it be to me: **according to your will.**

At the end, we ask Mary to pray for us as we say

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou among women,
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now, and at the hour of our death.

After a pause for silent prayer, we conclude

Merciful Father, **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you
and also with you.

We are invited to give one another a sign of peace. After this, the gifts of bread & wine and money are brought to the Altar as we sing the Offertory hymn

For Mary, mother of the Lord God's holy name be praised, who first the Son of God adored as on her child she gazed.

The angel Gabriel brought the word she should Christ's mother be; Our Lady, handmaid of the Lord, made answer willingly.

The heavenly call she thus obeyed, and so God's will was done; the second Eve love's answer made which our redemption won.

She gave her body for God's shrine, her heart to piercing pain, and knew the cost of love divine when Jesus Christ was slain.

Dear Mary, from your lowliness and home in Galilee, there comes a joy and holiness to every family.

Hail, Mary, you are full of grace, above all women blest; blest in your Son, whom you embrace in birth and death confessed.

O, Mary, crowned with holiness, we beg you for your prayer that we, your call to lowliness, may follow everywhere.

After the hymn, this prayer is used

Pray, my brothers and sisters ...

May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his Church.

*The celebrant sings a prayer over the gifts and we reply **Amen**.*

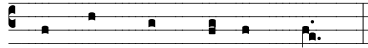
The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you



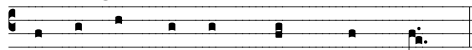
and al-so with you.

Lift up your hearts.



We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is right to give thanks and praise.

The celebrant praises God for his mighty acts in the Preface and then all sing

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and God of might.
Heaven and earth, heaven and earth
are full of your glory, your power and might.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest heav'n
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest heav'n.**

**Blesséd, blesséd is he who comes,
blesséd, blesséd is he who comes,
blesséd is he, blesséd is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Hosanna...**

The prayer continues until

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:
**Dying you destroyed our death,
rising you restored our life:
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

*At the end of the prayer we all respond **Amen**.*

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the
glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

*We remain standing to sing **Lamb of God***

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us, have mercy on us. (x2)**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
grant us peace, grant us peace.**

The celebrant invites the people to Communion

This is the Lamb of God...

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion if you do so in your own church. If you would prefer, please come forward and bow your head for a blessing. Please follow the directions of the Sidespeople. After all have received Communion, we sing

**Lo, he comes with clouds descending,
once for favoured sinners slain;
thousand thousand saints attending
swell the triumph of his train:
alleluia! Christ appears on earth to reign.**

**Every eye shall now behold him
robed in dreadful majesty;
those who set at naught and sold him,
pierced and nailed him to the tree,
deeply wailing, shall the true Messiah see.**

**Those dear tokens of his Passion
still his dazzling body bears,
cause of endless exultation
to his ransomed worshippers:
with what rapture
gaze we on those glorious scars!**

**Yea, amen, let all adore thee,
high on thine eternal throne;
Saviour, take the power and glory,
claim the kingdom for thine own:
alleluia! thou shalt reign, and thou alone.**

*We remain silent in prayer after the hymn and then stand with the celebrant for the **Prayers after Communion***

**We thank you, Lord,
that you have fed us in this sacrament,
united us with Christ and given us a foretaste
of the heavenly banquet prepared
for all peoples. Amen.**

We sit to hear the notices, most of which can be found on the back of this sheet. After this we stand for the Blessing.

The Dismissal

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

May God the... **Amen.**

As we await our coming Saviour,
go in the peace of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

We all sing the final hymn

**Hills of the north, rejoice;
river and mountain spring,
hark to the advent voice;
valley and lowland, sing;
though absent long, your Lord is nigh;
he judgment brings and victory.**

**Isles of the southern seas,
deep in your coral caves
pent be each warring breeze,
lulled be your restless waves:
he comes to reign with boundless sway,
and makes your wastes his great highway.**