

Welcome to St John's Church

The Bulletin - Sunday 24 November 2024



Feast of Christ the King

Welcome to St John's

especially to any visiting today - we are an inclusive church with people of many ages, nations and differing identities. Do join us for refreshments after the mass. Please don't worry if something is new to you, or you are not sure what to do; your presence is what matters, not your technique! Fr Chris will be happy to answer any questions afterward.

What do you need? Everything is projected so you do not have to worry about finding your place. Hymn books and service orders are available for those who prefer them.

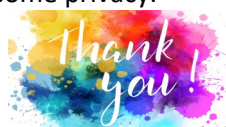
Toilets and kitchen: Toilets on the right of the hall as you go out of the church, the kitchen on the left.

Children: Children are very welcome. Under sixes need to move around, please feel free to take them for a wander. Encouraging children to notice what's going on, and to join in ways appropriate to their age, also helps them to engage with the occasion – they may quickly want to return to what they were doing, don't worry, participation begins small with little ones. We are very happy for children to stand on the seats in order to be able to see.

Sometimes babies can get upset, there is a microwave in the kitchen to warm milk, a changing table in the toilets, and the meeting room next to the kitchen has soft seating if you would like some privacy.

School Governors

Thank you to all those who responded, it was really encouraging. I'm pleased to say that the two places are filled as we needed. Later next year, I am aiming to increase our involvement with school, so there will be more opportunities. Thank you.



Preacher Today

Welcome and thank you to Emmanuel Olajojo who is our preacher today. Emmanuel is a third year ordinand at Saint Mellitus and has been doing a placement with us for the last couple of weeks.



Looking Towards Advent

Reflections for November from Malcolm Guite

'The people that walked in darkness have seen a marvellous light, upon them that dwell in the shadow of death, the light hath shined'.

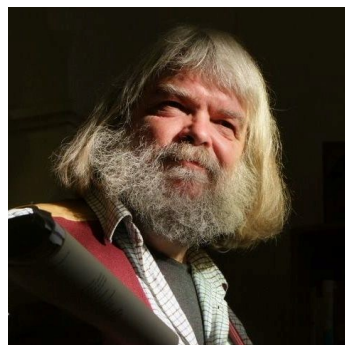
This luminous verse in Isaiah 9:2 is traditionally read at Advent as we look forward to the coming light of Christ. For those of us who live in the northern hemisphere, this passage is especially apt, and indeed the celebration of Christmas in midwinter has an extra layer of meaning, a kind of parable from nature to underline and emphasise the prophecy of Isaiah.

Isaiah is speaking of the darkness of exile, the darkness of our fall, and at the root of it all the thick clotted darkness of sin. This is the darkness that Christ comes to dispel, and John, remembering this verse in Isaiah, tells us that the light shines in darkness and the darkness has never overcome it, a verse we have already remembered in these reflections, and which we will hear when we come at last to the midnight service on Christmas Eve.

To hear these readings in the dark time of the year, when the nights draw in, when darkness itself helps us see the light shining more brightly, is to know the final triumph of the inextinguishable light of Christ not just in our heads, but in our hearts, not just by reason, but by a kindled imagination.

When a child comes up in church to light an Advent candle, then the gospel is known not only with the mind but with the body as well. And that is especially important as we celebrate the incarnation, the astonishing truth that God became one of us, that He who is the light of the world was once as young and vulnerable as the child who lights the candle and meets us in our vulnerability wherever we are.

Malcolm Guite is a poet, priest and singer-songwriter who writes a weekly column in the *Church Times*. For more of his poetry and other writing, go to Malcolm's website and to the Canterbury Press website.



The Church of St JOHN with St James and St Oswald **Fulham**

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News and Information

This week's diary

For Daily Prayer and Mass, see the box on the right.

Wednesday

9.30 am	Pilgrim Course	Meeting Room
7.30 pm	Community Meal	Lower Hall

Thursday

7.30 pm	Pilgrim Course	The Vicarage
7.30 pm	Glassdoor Nightshelter	Church



GLASSDOOR

GOOD NEWS

A route out of homelessness

Matthew Falk, Director of Services mailed us to say thank you. "Just so you know, 33 women were safe in your church last night. We've housed 4 guests so far, one of which who had stayed at St John's earlier in the season."

Wednesday Community Meal

is off the ground, the start is small but growing.

Volunteers—more good news

Thank you to our four volunteers for the Wednesday teams. Do we have any more women volunteers for Thursdays; it's a women only shelter, hence the need for female helpers.

Advent begins next week

What is Advent?

A season of **hope**, **preparation**, **EXPECTATION** & **celebration**



The **ADVENT WREATH** is a popular symbol used as the focus of prayer throughout the season

Advent is made up of **four weeks**, divided into **two periods**:
1 First Sunday of Advent until December 16
Focus: Christ's second coming at the end of time
2 December 17 to 24
Focus: Preparation for celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ

The **first Sunday of Advent** marks the beginning of the liturgical year



"Advent" (Latin)
MEANS
"a coming or arrival"

Advent is **more** than the preparation for Christ's birth. It also celebrates the **three-fold coming of the Lord**:

- **Remembering** the events that surrounded the Lord's coming long ago
- **Celebrating** his coming among us today
- **Looking forward** to his final coming in glory

Our prayer at Advent is one of hope and love:

*Come,
Lord
Jesus!*

CANDLES mark the steps in our Advent journey



Archdiocese of Toronto
www.archtoronto.org
archtoronto

#AdventTO

Worship this week

Most services are available in church and online.

Go to: www.stjohnsfulham.org/worship

Today

CHRIST THE KING

10.30 am Community Mass

Monday 25 November

Catherine of Alexandria

8.00 am Morning Prayer

8.30 am Mass

Tuesday 26

8.00 am Morning Prayer

8.30 am Mass

Wednesday 27

8.00 am Morning Prayer

8.30 am Mass

Thursday 28

8.00 am Morning Prayer

8.30 am Mass

Friday 29

7.10 am Morning Prayer

7.30 am Mass

Saturday 30

ST ANDREW THE APOSTLE

11.00 am The Rosary

11.30 am Mass

Sunday 1 December

ADVENT SUNDAY

10.30 am Community Mass

6.00 pm Christingle

Sunday 8 December

10.30 am Community Mass

Sunday 15 December

10.30 am Community Mass

6.00 pm Carols by Candlelight



Christingle

Parish Office

Margaret Kardacz is our Parish Administrator. You can contact her by email admin@stjohnsfulham.org or call 020 7385 7634. The Office opening hours: Monday to Friday, 11.30am-12.30pm.

Prayers

Please pray for: Colin, Connor, Sue, Francis, Sandra, Aripasad, Jeremy, Kevin, David

Those who have died:

Jill Pinnock, Luceine Rouse, Rosetta Phipps

New Year—New Prayer List

We restart the prayer list with the new year, please add the names of any people you would like remembered.

PLEASE NOTE