

SAINT JOSEPH'S PARISH NEWSLETTER



Burton Road, Derby DE1 1TJ

Week beginning the 28th November 2021

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR C

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT: PSALTER WEEK 1

YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH (2020-21)

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FATHER KEVIN SAYS...

“Dear Friends, on this first Sunday of the new liturgical year we begin our preparations for Christmas at last. The liturgical preparation for Christmas allows us to slip into the shoes of the Jews of the time just before the birth of Christ. The prophecies of Daniel had centuries before predicted quite exactly the time of the advent of the Messiah and there was an excitement among the people, an electricity in the air, we might say. Already in many places, figures had appeared claiming to be Christ and beginning political movements - there are hints of such movements in the Gospels, particularly when Christ Himself is arrested and the Roman governor attempts to discern if He has been or was preparing to begin a new political insurrection like the others. But, contrary to the expectations of the people, Christ was not going to be a political leader with an army. Jeremiah tells us in the first reading that in the days of Christ Judah and Jerusalem will find a new security, for God would once more dwell in the midst of them in a Real Presence. After the crucifixion and Resurrection, the Presence of God has remained in the Church through the great blessing and providence of the Blessed Sacrament. To thus approach this God dwelling among us, the Church following Saint Paul in the second reading calls us to holiness and blamelessness and right conduct. In this, Paul is merely repeating the teaching of Christ, Who in the gospel reading warns us much more to be vigilant as we await His second coming. We shall be ready.”

Father Kevin presently blogs on the parish website, where you could find small articles on the Catholic Faith:

<http://www.stjosephderby.org.uk/>

Mass intentions

N.B. NO NEED TO BOOK FOR MASS

<i>Saturday the 27th</i> 18.00	FIRST SUNDAY OF ADEVNT YEAR C	Gerry McKenna RIP People of the Parish
<i>Sunday the 28th</i> 8.00 am 10.30 am		D'ced members of P & B famil
<i>Monday 29th</i> 10.30am	Advent Feria	NO PUBLIC MASS
<i>Tuesday the 30th</i> 10.30am	St Andrew, Patron of Scotland	Holy Souls
<i>Wednesday the 1st December</i> 10.30am	St Ralph Sherwin, Martyrs of Derbyshire	Peggy Bardon RIP
<i>Thursday the 2nd</i> 10.30 am	Advent Feria	Intentions of S & A C
<i>Friday the 3rd</i> 10.30 am	St Francis Xavier	For increase in number of vocations to priesthood
<i>Saturday the 4th</i> 10.30 am	St John Damascene	Annakulty Joseph RIP
6.00 pm		Intentions of M.W
<i>Sunday the 5th</i> 8.00 am 10.30 am	SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR C	People of the Parish Eduardo Umadhay RIP
Second Collection	Next weekend	Poor & Needy Parishes

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

As we are unable to attend daily Mass, you might like to use this prayer to express our faith in Christ and His Presence in the Eucharist, and we ask him to unite Himself with us.

ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,
 come at least into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there
 and unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

NEWS

On synodality. Following on from the Bishop's recent pastoral letter, telling us about the new project of the Holy Father in Rome (the letter may be downloaded from the parish website, using the download tree in the upper left-hand corner of the main page, steering towards 'papal documents'), the synod, which is ordinarily a meeting of bishops either locally or globally, is anticipated by the Holy Father with this new effort at listening to all of us in the churches around the world – a large-scale listening project intended to improve the effectiveness of our work as the Church of God. Let us pray together for a good result for this enterprise; the Diocese has endeavoured to provide us with related prayer-cards, that may be obtained from the back of the church, and from the house at request.

Over the coming months we will be asked to consider various questions, which will form a part of our local and national discernment ahead of the Synod. Here are the **third** questions for you to consider: **(1)** How do I hear and respond to the voice of God's Holy Spirit, in my life; what signs of the Spirit at work do I see in the life of my parish? **(2)** What steps may the Holy Spirit be calling us to take, as a parish, on our journey together into God's future? Please let us have your thoughts by email parish@stjoesphderby.org.uk

Coffee morning for Cancer Research. Thank you to all those who helped in any way to make this such an enjoyable and successful event, so lovely to meet up with so many and have a chat. We raised £750 on the day and it has now reached £807.20 Thank you again to everyone.

Finding God in the Word. We are resuming these sessions starting on Monday the 6th of December, from 7pm to 8pm. If we have enough participants, they will then be held on the first Monday of every month. Everyone is welcome and there is no obligation to share, if you do not want to. The sessions will be held in the church, where there is plenty of room. We share our reflections on Scripture in a prayerful atmosphere, focusing particularly on the Gospel for the following Sunday's Mass.

The Holy Father on Immaculate Conception day declared the beginning of a 'Year of Saint Joseph,' which should last until the 8th of December, 2021. In ordinary circumstances, we could have arranged ways to celebrate our Holy Patron before the year has gone, but we are still far from returning to normal. I am open to suggestions, however, for the restrictions are gradually falling away.

University of Derby Mass: Every Tuesday at 12.30pm. Beginning 28 September there will be Mass every Tuesday in term time celebrated in the Library of the Multi-Faith Centre on the University Campus followed by tea & coffee. All students and staff are warmly invited to attend. A great opportunity to make a little time for God during the week and to meet other Catholics who are part of the university community. We look forward to seeing you there

Live Stream Mass for the Sick, their Families and Care-Givers offered by Bishop Patrick every Thursday at 7pm.

Grapevine. The latest issue is now available here: <https://www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/whats-on/grapevine-e-bulletin>.

YOU CAN NOW DONATE to your parish via the Diocesan website go to <https://www.dioceseofnottingham.uk> and you will see a yellow button at the top of the page 'On line giving'.

'Faith In Families' Christmas Appeal 2021 Over the Christmas and New Year period, 'Faith in Families' receives many nominations of families needing help because they are struggling with putting food on the table, paying bills, illness, children caring for sick parents etc. We want to remind these families that there are people out there who care - and that is us and you! if you can, please help us to raise as much as possible to buy families a few supermarket vouchers to purchase food over the Christmas break and a few gifts for the children. you can help brighten a family's Christmas and remind them that there is hope and people out there who will help. Please donate through our website faithinfamilies.org/support-us/ways-to-support/donate-online or at www.justgiving.com/campaign/FIFXmas2021 or send a cheque to our offices: 7 Colwick Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 5FR. (Please add a note 'P34 Appeal'). Thank you in advance for your support and an early Merry Christmas from all at 'Faith In Families'.

THE COMMUNITY THIS WEEK

Please keep in your prayers all those who are sick in whatever way around the world especially those in our parish, all those in hospital, nursing homes and being looked after at home. Also remember those who have died recently and those whose anniversaries occur around this time. Most importantly all those who work in the NHS striving heroically to keep us all safe, the emergency services, the drivers & supermarket staff, postmen, refuse collectors and all those helping to keep the country going. We have been asked to pray also and in particular for the Nigerians, especially in the south of Nigeria, who are experiencing a great deal of social strife, with young people being slaughtered on almost a daily basis.

Our school on the hill has kindly provided us with a regular newsletter, which I have now made available from the parish website (PDF format). You may find it on the download tree at the top left-hand corner of the website; steer through 'school newsletters.' It is always good to see what the school community is up to, especially in these challenging times.

Masses in November: November is a time of Remembrance; The list of the names will be displayed during November with the envelopes being placed in a basket on the altar, again during November. Masses will be celebrated during November and throughout the year.

Cleaning teams Now that more people are becoming more comfortable in returning to Mass we need to reinstate our cleaning teams. Some of those who previously carried out this important ministry for our parish have indicated their willingness to continue, thank you. However, we need more volunteers please. As you will be aware the more people/teams we have the fewer times you will be needed. If you are able to offer your support in this please either email the parish parish@stjosephderby.org.uk or let Fr Kevin know, please provide your contact details.

From Monday 19th July 2021, many of the restrictions imposed by the Government over the past year and a half were removed last month. The Bishops have confirmed that there will be **no need to book for Mass, stewards will no longer be required** but hand sanitising and the wearing of masks remains. **You will no longer be required to sign in but you may scan the QR code**, if you use the NHS telephone applications and if you wish to do so. Please remember that not everyone will be comfortable with close proximity with others, so please keep this in mind as you take your seats.

Confirmations 2022. we would like to invite applications from parents of young people who feel they are ready to work towards confirmation. We now have a date for confirmations in the spring, and we shall soon be beginning a weekly programme, working up to that date. Some of your children have already participated in part of the course before the pandemic hit and closed us down and have already confirmed you wish your child to continue; I would like to ask them to attend with everybody else, although it may seem repetitive to a degree. If you haven't already applied or wish to apply for the first time, please contact us at parish@stjosephderby.org.uk so we can begin the process.

Confessions at the church. I have been hearing confessions, either on the driveway outside the church or in the seclusion of the parish centre, since I arrived in March 2020. I do understand the argument for anonymity during confession. Having observed the practice of other parishes in the deanery, I have restored the confessional in church. There is now at least half an hour for confessions before every Sunday Mass, as well as an hour for confessions after the 10.30 Mass on Saturdays. You may still call at the house, of course, if you wish (preferably calling ahead to make certain I am available).

The Old Mass (TLM) will continue to be offered at 8.00 am on Sundays, through the generosity of the Bishop. This is the Mass as it was until roughly 1970 and is offered in the Latin language. There are some aids for following the Mass in Latin and a simple online aid is this website: <https://divinumofficium.com/cgi-bin/missa/missa.pl>.

Planned giving boxes As the restrictions have been lifted, we are now able to put the boxes out for you to pick up. **Please take yours from the table near the entrance.** Please note that your number has changed and only your name will be on the box. This will enable us to leave them available under GDPR. There are still a number of boxes unclaimed so please check if you are expecting a box. Thank you to all those who have continued to make your offerings and have contributed to keep the parish going through these difficult times.

Tea and Coffee after Mass This has been going on for the last few Sundays and we would like to restore what we had before the lockdowns. And we would like to have more volunteers, if possible. If you would like to support this, please let us know via an email (parish@stjosephderby.org.uk). There will be a rota sign-up sheet in the parish centre if anybody wishes to commit. Please note that we also meet for tea and coffee after some weekday Masses, and especially on Wednesdays.

Mass Intentions. If you would like to have a Mass Intention please email us (parish@stjosephderby.org.uk) with the details, we will endeavour to meet any requests for specific dates where possible. You can send your offering either by cheque or by using the bank details below. Request envelopes are available in the entrance porch. I am attempting to restore the office of Reader/Lector at Mass and I would like to invite parishioners who would like to read as in the past to come up and see me, or to contact us by e-mail: parish@stjosephderby.org.uk.

Bible study. Some of our parishioners had expressed an interest in a regular bible study session last year, and the only way this could be done seemed to be with video-conferencing. **This now takes place regularly on a Thursday evening at 19.00, live, in the parish centre.** We have arrived at the plains of Moab, preparing for the invasion of the Holy Land. If you would like to join in (with the study, not the invasion), feel free to come up or call the house for more information.

Weekly rosary via Zoom. Call at the house or send e-mail if you would like to join in. This takes place on Zoom every Wednesday at 19.00.

Do you know of anyone who does not have a computer and therefore no access to our website and newsletter? If so, please let us know or ask them to contact us by phone (343777) so we can take their details and communicate with them in an alternative way. We're prepared to mail newsletters around, so let us know if you would like that. All precautions will be taken with the handling of papers that are mailed out.

OUR PARISH SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL (SVP) CONFERENCE

The SVP exists as a particular Catholic response to the prevalent forms of poverty and indigence in our society at large. The work of members of the society extends beyond the provision of financial support to individuals and families, focusing very much on visiting people who are sick, lonely, in prison or suffering from addictions. Person-to-person contact is essential, and spending time with those who wish it, very much in the spirit of the great French priest, Saint Vincent de Paul.

The work of the Society has been affected, like so much else, by the present public health crisis, and our rather young conference at S. Joseph's had to end their meetings early last year. Our members would like to re-establish old contacts and find new ones, as we return to work. At the moment, the best approach seems to be using telephones, while keeping to data-protection regulations. **We would like to know therefore of anybody who would benefit from friendly telephone conversations at this rather difficult time, and if they would be pleased to provide their contact details to that end.** Please contact the presbytery in the usual ways, by telephone, e-mail or post, and relevant information will be communicated to the SVP group.

If you would like to join the parish SVP group, please contact us in the usual ways and you will be redirected. If you would like to give towards the costs of the work of the SVP, please use these details: SVP St Joseph – Derby, acct 51256029, sort 60-60-04. **There is now a bin near the entrance of the church, to receive dried foods or tinned food for distribution to those who may need them.**

Stay safe, everyone!