

Weekly Newsletter

Sunday 22nd December 2019

4th Sunday of Advent (A) Psalter Week 4



The Parish of the Holy Trinity, Stroud Green

with Holy Innocents, Hornsey

WELCOME TO HOLY TRINITY - Seeking to know and serve God and our local community

Today's hymns are: 686, 522, 5 and 263 Please stay for refreshments after Mass.

Emmanuel - God with us

At Christmas we will think about the simplicity and poverty of Our Lord's birth: how human he was, born of a young woman, not in luxurious comfort, but in the discomfort of a stable. That shows him as one of us, the human side of "Emmanuel." Today's gospel, however, mentions the divine origin of Jesus. Although he has a human mother, he has not a human father, but was conceived in Mary by the power of God. This unique way of coming into life, with God as father, and the virgin Mary as mother, underlines who Jesus truly is: both God and man, one of us, and yet one with the eternal God.

If this seems mysterious to us, it must have been baffling for Joseph. Close to Mary as he was, and finding her pregnant without any involvement by him, Joseph could only accept in faith what God's messenger told him, that the child was in her womb by the power of the Holy Spirit. With great patience and humility, Joseph accepted the part for which God had chosen him, as guardian and foster-father to our Lord and Saviour. This kind of faithful acceptance is asked from each of us, when Christ comes into our lives, as "God-with-us."

Church Flowers, Cleaning and Decorating

Please spare a little time after Mass today to help clean and decorate the church for the Christmas Services. Thank you to those who have donated towards the cost of the Christmas flowers. Any further donations can be given to Joye or Fr. Patrick.

Carol Services

Our joint service of nine lessons and carols with Holy Innocents takes place at Holy Innocents at 6.00 pm tonight. Also a big 'thank you' to our adult and children's choir for leading us through the Holy Trinity carol service on Monday evening.

Lifts for Midnight Mass

Given the late hour of midnight Mass some people may find it impossible to attend without the help of a lift. If you either need or can offer a lift to and / or from the Midnight Mass, please let Fr. Patrick know.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

If you would like to ask about this sacrament, or make your confession before Christmas, please contact Fr. Patrick.

Stewardship of time, talents and treasure

Please take one of the letters from the PCC if you haven't already done so. Thank you to those who have responded.

Please Reclaim

There are a number of serving dishes etc that have been left in church by the kind people who have brought food for parish occasions over the past few months. Please check them and take them if they are yours. Many thanks.

Clear out Day - Saturday 4th January from 10.00 am

We are starting 2020 with a day of clearing of rubbish and surplus objects that have been left in the church loft and the hall. All help welcome.

Fulham Epiphany Festival Saturday 11th January

Bishop Jonathan will celebrate a Mass at Southwark Cathedral at 11.00 am that day, and there will be afternoon workshops on sacramental preparation and stewardship.

Pilgrimage to Lourdes 3rd to 7th August 2020

The Society of Mary are organizing this pilgrimage which includes return flights, full board accommodation, a full pilgrimage programme of devotions and some excursions. The cost is £720 per person (for a shared room) with a single room supplement of £160 if desired. There are also some subsidized places for people aged 18 and under. Please speak to Fr. Patrick for more information.

Fr. Patrick, Fr. Ben, David and Clemency wish you a VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS and thank you for your cards.

CHRISTMAS WEEK	
(Services are at Holy Trinity unless indicated otherwise)	
Monday 23rd 9.30 am	Advent FERIA Mass at Holy Innocents
Tuesday 24th 8.00 am 4.00 pm 11.30 pm	Christmas Eve Morning Prayer at Holy Innocents Children's Crib Service Midnight Mass
Wednesday 25th 10.00 am	CHRISTMAS DAY Sung Mass
Thursday 26th 10.00 am	St. Stephen Mass at Holy Innocents
Friday 27th 9.30 am	St. John Mass at Holy Trinity
Saturday 28th 12.00 noon	Holy Innocents Mass at Holy Innocents
SUNDAY 29th 11.30 am	The Holy Family Sung Mass and Baptism