



The Order for Mass on  
**the SECOND SUNDAY**  
**of ADVENT**

7<sup>th</sup> December 2025 at 10.30am

Parish Priest  
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*Welcome to St George's! This booklet contains all the material you will need for today's celebration of Mass. We hope that you will find this service easy to follow, but please do not be afraid to ask if you are unsure what to do at any point. The building is fitted with an induction loop and you will find the best results away from the pillars.*

*Families with small children are very welcome to make use of the carpeted play area at the back of church, where you will find books, crayons and soft toys.*

*There are two further play stations in the side aisles. Older children should join Children's Church, who will go out to the Hall after the first hymn, and return in time for Communion.*

*A toilet is at the back of church, behind the screen. After Mass, please join us in the hall for refreshments. Before Mass, please try to maintain an atmosphere of quiet prayer.*

*Mass setting: Dean and Fry.*

*Please stand when the bell rings, for the procession of the clergy and servers, and to sing hymn REH 15:*

**On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry  
Announces that the Lord is nigh;  
Come then and hearken, for he brings  
Glad tidings of the King of kings.**

**Then cleansed be every Christian breast,  
And furnished for so great a guest!  
Yea, let us each our hearts prepare  
For Christ to come and enter there.**

**For thou art our salvation, Lord,  
Our refuge and our great reward;  
Without thy grace our souls must fade,  
And wither like a flower decayed.**

**Stretch forth thine hand to heal our sore,  
And make us rise, to fall no more;  
Once more upon thy people shine,  
And fill the world with love divine.**

**All praise, eternal Son, to thee  
Whose advent sets thy people free,  
Whom, with the Father, we adore,  
And Spirit blest, for evermore. Amen.**

*Charles Coffin (1676-1749)*

*The priest sings:*

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

*Priest*      The Lord be with you.

*People*      **And also with you.**

*The priest introduces the Mass, and, standing by the Advent Wreath, invites a child to light the second candle on the wreath. We all join in singing:*

*People*      **We sing of the prophets who listened to God,  
As we follow their steps in the way they once trod.  
The last of the prophets was a fierce man named John,  
Whose call to repentance still goes on and on.**

*Priest*      God our Father, you spoke to the prophets of old of a Saviour who would bring peace, and in the fulness of time sent John as the last of the prophets to point the way to him. May we listen to your call and be ready to meet your Christ among us. Through the same Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The priest sends Children's Church to their activities, and invites the people to recall and confess their sins:*

*Priest*      The Lord is coming; his salvation will not tarry: he will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart. As we come to celebrate the mystery of Christ let us acknowledge that we have chosen darkness rather than light.

*Cantor*      You raise the dead to life in the Spirit, speak to our hearts and bring us to life.

*People*      **Lord, have mercy, have mercy, have mercy, Lord, have mercy, have mercy.**

*Cantor*      Pardon and peace you bring to the sinner, make us repentant and wash us clean.

*People*      **Christ, have mercy, Christ, have mercy, Christ, have mercy, have mercy.**

*Cantor*      You bring your light to those in the darkness, shine on us now, and wake us from sleep.

*People*      **Lord, have mercy, have mercy, have mercy, Lord, have mercy, have mercy.**

*Priest*      May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life,

*People*      **Amen.**

*Then the priest prays the collect:*

*Priest*      Almighty and merciful God, may no earthly undertaking hinder those who set out in haste to meet your Son, but may our learning of heavenly wisdom gain us admittance to his company. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*Now sit to listen to the first reading:*

*Reader*      A reading from the prophet Isaiah. (*Isaiah 11; 1-10*)

On that day:

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. And his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath

of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins. The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den. They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples — of him shall the nations enquire, and his resting-place shall be glorious.

This is the word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

*Psalm 72 follows the reading. Remain seated to sing*



- 1**      Give the King thy | judgements, ' O | God :  
and thy righteousness | unto ' the | King's\_ | son.



- 2\***      Then shall he judge thy people ac- | cording | unto | right :  
and de- | fend the | poor.
- 7**      In his time shall the | righteous | flourish :  
yea, and abundance of peace, so | long ' as the | moon en- | dureth.

- 8 His dominion shall be also from the one | sea ' to the | other :  
and from the flood | unto ' the | world's\_ | end.
- 12 For he shall deliver the | poor ' when he | crieth :  
the needy also, and | him that | hath no | helper.
- 13 He shall be favourable to the | simple ' and | needy :  
and shall pre- | serve the | souls ' of the | poor.
- 17† His Name shall endure for ever; his Name shall remain under the sun a- |  
mong ' the pos- | terities:  
which shall be blessed through him; and | all the | heathen ' shall |  
praise him.

† = second half of chant.

*Remain seated for the second reading:*

**Reader** A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans. (*Romans 15; 4-9*)

Brothers and sisters: Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, 'Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles, and sing to your name.'

This is the word of the Lord.

**People** **Thanks be to God.**

*After a pause for reflection, stand for the gospel acclamation.*

**Choir** Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**People** **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*Choir* Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight;  
all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

*People* **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*Priest* The Lord be with you,

*People* **And also with you.**

*Priest* A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.  
(Matthew 3; 1-12)

*People* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Priest* In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.' For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said, 'The voice of one crying in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight." '

Now John wore a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, and they were baptised by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not presume to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our father", for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

'I baptise you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

*People* This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**  
**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*Please sit for the Homily from Fr Henry.*

*All stand to say the Nicene Creed:*

*People* **I believe in one God, the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and  
invisible.**  
**I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son  
of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from  
God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten,  
not made, consubstantial with the Father, through him  
all things were made. For us men and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was  
incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our  
sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered  
death and was buried, and rose again on the third day 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.**  
**I 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 adored and glorified, who has  
spoken through the prophets. I believe in one holy,  
catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for  
the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the  
resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to  
come. Amen.**

*Please remain standing for the Prayers of Intercession.*  
*The Priest introduces and concludes the prayers.*



*Priest* As we await the appearing of our great Lord and Saviour,  
let us hasten the coming of his kingdom, praying for the  
Church and for the world.

*Reader* Lord, in your mercy, / Lord, hear us.

*People* **Hear our prayer. / Lord, graciously hear us.**

*At the prayer for the departed,*

*Reader* Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord.

*People* **and let light perpetual shine upon them.**

*When the prayers of the saints are asked,*

**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. Amen.**

*In conclusion to the prayers:*

*Priest* We commend ourselves and one another and all for  
whom we pray to Christ our God: that God's mercy and  
compassion may descend upon us all to save and defend  
us. Merciful Father,

*People* **Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our  
Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

*Please sit, as the Choir sing "King Jesus Hath a Garden", a Dutch carol arranged  
by Charles Wood, and bread and wine are brought to the altar.*

*Stand to sing hymn REH 23, as the altar is prepared and the collection is taken.  
If you want to give by card, there is a card reader at the back of church.*

**When came in flesh the incarnate Word,  
The heedless world slept on,  
And only simple shepherds heard  
That God had sent his Son.**

**When comes the Saviour at the last,  
From east to west shall shine  
The judgement light, and earth aghast  
Shall tremble at the sign.**

Then shall the pure of heart be blest,  
As mild he comes to them,  
As when upon the Virgin's breast  
He lay at Bethlehem:

As mild to meek-eyed love and faith,  
Only more strong to save;  
Strengthened by having bowed to death,  
By having burst the grave.

Lord, who could dare see thee descend  
In state, unless he knew  
Thou art the sorrowing sinner's friend,  
The gracious and the true?

Dwell in our hearts, O Saviour blest;  
So shall thine advent's dawn  
'Twixt us and thee, our bosom-guest,  
Be but the veil withdrawn. *Joseph Anstice (1808-36) altd.*

*The Priest says*

*Priest* Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may  
be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

*People* **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 holy Church.**

*Priest* Be pleased, O Lord, with our humble prayers and  
offerings, and, since we have no merits to plead our  
cause, come, we pray, to our rescue with the protection  
of your mercy. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The Priest sings the opening of the Eucharistic Prayer:*

*Priest* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Priest* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them up to the Lord.**

*Priest* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*The Priest prays the Preface to the Eucharistic Prayer, and then all sing the Sanctus and Benedictus:*

*Choir* Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power, God of might.

*People* **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power, God of might.**

*Choir* Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

*People* **Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

*Choir* Hosanna in the highest.

*People* **Hosanna in the highest.**

*Choir* Blessed is he who comes, he who comes in the name of the Lord.

*People* **Blessed is he who comes, he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

*Choir* Hosanna in the highest.

*People* **Hosanna in the highest.**

*Choir* Hosanna in the highest.

*People* **Hosanna in the highest.**

*Please kneel. The Eucharistic Prayer continues, until the Words of Institution. Then all make the Memorial Acclamation:*

*Priest* The mystery of faith.

*Choir* Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life.

*People* **Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life.**

*Choir* Lord Jesus, come in glory.

*People* **Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

*Choir* Lord Jesus, come!

*People* **Lord Jesus, come!**

*The Priest concludes the Eucharistic Prayer, and all sing:*

*People* **Amen!**

*Please stand for the Lord's Prayer.*

*Priest* At the Saviour's command, and formed by divine teaching, we dare to sing,

*People* **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.**

*Priest* Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our day, that by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

*People* **For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever.**

*Priest* Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your apostles: Peace I leave you, my peace I give you; look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will. Who live and reign for ever and ever.

*People* **Amen.**

*Priest* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Priest* Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*Now sing the Agnus Dei*

*People* **Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have  
mercy on us. (repeated)**

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

*Then kneel.*

*Priest* Behold the Lamb of God. Behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

*People* **Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**

*Priest* Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights,  
and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

*The people come forward to receive Communion. If you have not been baptized and confirmed, please come forward for a blessing instead of Communion, carrying this order of service.*

*During Communion hymn REH 2 is sung, all remaining seated or kneeling.*

**O heavenly Word of God on high,  
Whose love has brought salvation nigh,  
And from the Father's heart didst come  
To save a race by sin undone.**

**Our minds enlighten from above,  
And kindle with the fire of love,  
That as we hear thy gospel read,  
All sinful thoughts may flee in dread.**

**So when thou comest at the last,  
And earth's long history is past,  
May we be set at thy right hand,  
And with thine own in glory stand.**

**Grant thou thy gifts of below,  
In heaven an endless joy bestow,  
Who art our sole and sovereign Lord,  
The saving judge, and saints' reward.**

**All praise, eternal Son, to thee,  
Whose advent sets thy people free,  
Whom with the Father we adore,  
And Spirit blest, for evermore.** *Editors of NEH 1986, based on 10<sup>th</sup> century Latin.*

*All stand for the Post-Communion Prayer:*

*Priest* Replenished by the food of spiritual nourishment, we  
humbly beseech you, O Lord, that, through our partaking  
in this mystery, you may teach us to judge wisely the  
things of earth and hold firm to the things of heaven.  
Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Please sit for the notices.*

*Then stand for the blessing and dismissal*

*Priest* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Priest* May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, and  
the Holy Spirit.

*People* **Amen.**

*Priest* Go forth, the Mass is ended.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*The clergy and servers go to the shrine of Our Lady for the Angelus. As they go  
we sing the Advent anthem to Our Lady:*

**Mother of Christ, hear thou thy people's cry,  
Star of the deep, and portal of the sky;  
Mother of him, who thee from nothing made,  
Sinking, we strive and call to thee for aid:  
O by that joy which Gabriel brought to thee,  
Thou Virgin first and last, pray mercy.** *(J Byrom)*

*Priest* The angel of the Lord brought tidings to Mary,

*People* **And she conceived by the Holy Spirit.**

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. Amen.**

*Priest* Behold the handmaid of the Lord,

*People* **Be it unto me according to thy word. Hail Mary...**

*Priest* And the word was made flesh,

*People* **And dwelt among us. Hail Mary...**

*Priest* Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

*People* **That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.**

*Priest* Let us pray. We beseech you, O Lord, pour your grace into our hearts, so that as we have known the incarnation of your Son Jesus Christ through the message of an angel, so, by his cross and passion, we may be brought to the glory of his resurrection. Through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Remain standing to sing hymn REH 6 as clergy and servers depart:*

**Hark the glad sound! The Saviour comes,**

**The Saviour promised long!**

**Let every heart prepare a throne,**

**And every voice a song.**

**He comes the prisoners to release**

**In Satan's bondage held;**

**The gates of brass before him burst,**

**The iron fetters yield.**

**He comes the broken heart to bind,**

**The bleeding soul to cure,**

**And with the treasures of his grace**

**Enrich the humble poor.**

**Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,  
Thy welcome shall proclaim,  
And heaven's eternal arches ring  
With thy belovèd name.** *Philip Doddridge (1702-51)*

*The organist plays "Variations i-v on 'Nun Komm', der Heiden Heiland", by Anton Heiller (1923-79).*

Scripture readings are taken from the English Standard Version, Catholic Edition.

**Collection: we take a collection during the second hymn, towards the cost of providing services and the upkeep of this church. If you are a UK taxpayer please place your offering in one of the envelopes in the pews (completed with your name and address) and place it in the collection plate when it is circulated during the hymn. Pens are in the pews. A card reader to give by contactless payment is available at the back of church. Special thanks if you give by standing order, as this helps us to budget.**

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