

The Church of Saint Laurence, Upminster

PORCHTALK



8th December 2019 *Second Sunday of Advent*

Welcome to Saint Laurence.

Adventurers (groups for children and young people) meet during the 9.30 am Mass in term-time. Leaders will normally invite children to join in with these at the appropriate point in the service. Activity packs and children's service books are available from the back of church.

You are warmly invited to stay for refreshments in the Main Hall after the 9.30 Mass.

Today	Holy Communion	8.00 am
8th December	Sung Parish Mass	9.30 am
<i>Second Sunday of Advent</i>	Nativity Rehearsal in Church	11.00 am
	Christingle (Parade) Service	4.00 pm
	<i>No Evening Service today</i>	
Monday		
9th December		
Tuesday		
10th December		
Wednesday	Staff Meeting, Parish Office	9.10 am
11th December	Mass	11.00 am
	Advent Book Discussion, Parish Office	11.45 am
Thursday	Choir Practice	7.45 pm
12th December		
Friday	Coffee Morning, Main Hall	10.30 am
13th December		
Saturday		
14th December		
Next Sunday	Holy Communion	8.00 am
15th December	Sung Parish Mass with Nativity Play	9.30 am
<i>Third Sunday of Advent</i>	Churches Together Carol Singing, Thames Chase	3.30 pm
	Said Compline	6.30 pm

Mass readings next Sunday: Isaiah 35:1-10; Matthew 11:2-11

Compline readings next Sunday: Isaiah 5:8-end

Morning and Evening Prayer: 8.45 am Tuesday to Thursday, 4.30 pm Wednesday

Coffee: Doreen, Alison and Mark

Please let Revd Susannah or Fr Roy know of anyone who is ill or in need of a pastoral visit, or housebound and wanting to receive the sacrament at home – or if you would appreciate a conversation or visit for any reason.

Notices

Thank you to everyone involved in supporting the Table Top sale which raised £422.60 - to the ladies who served refreshments, Chris and Tony for setting up and clearing away, Joyce Winn for welcoming the public into the halls and to all the sellers... We hope that everyone enjoyed themselves.

Many thanks to Andrew Lillington and Clive Edwards for the time and effort they have given to the Church Building Improvements Committee. Due to work commitments both are standing down. If you would consider being a part of this committee please speak with Revd Susannah.

The Progressive Supper raised £193 for Crisis, very impressive for a non-profit making event! Many thanks to all who took part, especially the hosts/hostesses because without you it would not be possible.

Christmas Flyers: Thank you for volunteering to deliver these flyers. If you have not yet done so then please collect them from the tower area at the back of the church.

Christingle will take place this afternoon at 4pm. Children's Society gift aid envelopes are on the table in the tower area and donations can be given to Christine Foot or brought to the Service. The Children's Society are testing a new way of giving called 'Give Joy'. It is an online platform which allows people to buy items and experiences for young people. Visit www.givejoy.org.uk for further information.

Alison Cox invites you to join her for cake and wine the following the 9.30am Mass on Sunday 15th December to celebrate her birthday.

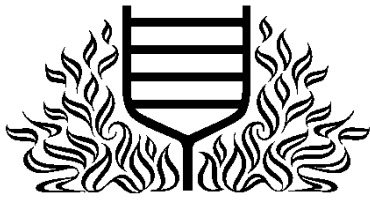
Follow the Star. The PCC has purchased lights which have been hung along the main church path as a means of welcoming visitors during the Christmas period. It has been suggested that people might like to sponsor a bulb perhaps in memory of a loved one or simply as a way of welcoming people to our church. If you would like to participate please complete the form on the table in the tower area, together with your dedication. We suggest a donation of £5 per bulb - please give your donations to a sidesperson. All monies raised will go towards the running costs for this Advent and Christmas period and our Church Building Improvements Project.

The old hymn books have been donated to Books2Africa where they will be a welcome addition to the Church's worship in that part of the World. There is a certificate on the notice board thanking us for the donation.

Parish Office: If you have a matter for the Parish Administrator please refrain from raising it while attending worship, but rather leave a note in the 'Porchtalk' box on the wall at the back of church, send an email or leave a telephone message. Please extend the same courtesy to other members of staff as well. Contact details are on the back page of this pewsheet.

Please make sure to notify the Parish Office of events happening in and around Church so they can be entered into the diary.

Please consult notice boards under the tower and in the porch for other notices and further information



AT THE MASS
8th December 2019
Second Sunday of Advent

Introit 75

Setting *A New People's Mass - Dom Gregory Murray*

Collect of the Day

**O Lord Jesus Christ,
who at your first coming sent your messenger
to prepare your way before you:
grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries
may likewise so prepare and make ready your way
by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just,
that at your second coming to judge the world
we may be found an acceptable people in your sight;
for you are alive and reign with the Father
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

Isaiah 11:1-10

**A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.
His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.
He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide by what his ears hear;
but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
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 around his waist,
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.
The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,**

the calf and the lion and the fatling 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 asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.
They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain;
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD
as the waters cover the sea.
On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the
nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Gradual hymn 30

Romans 15:4-13

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might 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 confess you among the Gentiles,
and sing praises to your name';

and again he says,

'Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people';

and again,

'Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,

and let all the peoples praise him';

and again Isaiah says,

'The root of Jesse shall come,

**the one who rises to rule the Gentiles;
in him the Gentiles shall hope.'**

**May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that
you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.**

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

Advent Prose

Cantor ~ 1st time



Drop down ___ ye hea - vens from ___ a - bove, ___

Full



and let the skies pour ___ down right - eous - ness.

**We have sinned, and are as an unclean thing, and we all do fade as a
leaf: and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away; thou hast hid
thy face from us: and hast consumed us, because of our iniquities.**

**The Lord be with you
All and also with you.**

**Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
All Glory to you, O Lord.**

Matthew 3:1-12

**In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea,
proclaiming, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' This is
the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,**

**'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
"Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight." '**

**Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his
waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of
Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along
the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing
their sins.**

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

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

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

Offertory hymn 42

Anthem Advent Antiphons (verse 2) – *James Macmillan*

Communion 44
hymns 712

Final hymn 38

Organ voluntary Fugue in c minor BWV 537ii – *J.S. Bach*

Advent at St Laurence

Sunday 8th December

4pm Christingle

A family-friendly service, raising awareness of the work done by The Children's Society

Sunday 15th December

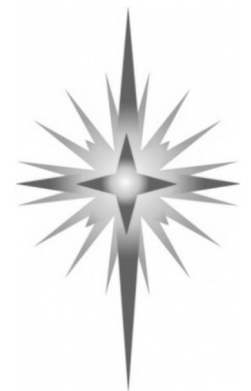
9.30am Parish Mass with Nativity Play

6.30pm Said Compline

Sunday 22nd December

6.30pm Service of Lessons and Carols

A traditional service telling the story of Christmas in words and music, followed by mulled wine and mince pies.



Charity of the Month: Crisis. In 21st century Britain, everybody should have a place to live. There are 160,000 homeless families in Britain. Rough sleeping is forecast to rise by 76% in the next decade.

Crisis work directly with thousands of homeless people every year. They provide vital help so that people can rebuild their lives and are supported out of homelessness for good. They offer one-to-one support, advice and courses for homeless people in 12 areas across England, Scotland and Wales. How they help someone depends on their individual needs and situation. It could be with finding a home and settling in, getting new skills and finding a job, or help with their health and wellbeing. They use research to find out how best to improve their services, but also to find wider solutions to homelessness. Together with homeless people and Crisis supporters, they campaign for the changes needed to end homelessness for good.

Foodbank: If you were thinking of giving in December please see the list of items needed on the collection basket. Although a kind thought, Christmas food is not suitable as it cannot all be given out prior to Christmas Day. The distribution centre will not open between Christmas and New Year therefore December's delivery will be taken in the morning on Thursday 12th December.

Christmas Raffle: Joan Prudden is organising a raffle which will be drawn on 23rd December. All proceeds will be given to the Church Building Improvements Fund. Please speak with Joan if you would like to buy a ticket.

Christmas Card Tree: If you would like to send a greeting to the whole Church Community instead of individual cards you are invited to do so using our tree. Please write a card, attach it to the tree and leave your donation in the wall slot by the main door. All donations will be given to the homelessness charity Crisis. The tree is located in the window display of the ante-chapel.

We will be decorating the Church in preparation for Christmas on Saturday 21st December. It would be really helpful if we could have donations of green foliage. Please leave them in the tower area in church Thursday 19th or Friday 20th. If anyone would like to sponsor flowers during the year for a special occasion or anniversary in memory of a loved one please see Cheryl Hale or call her on 07958 592 415.

Thank you for your sponsorship....An organ pipe has been sponsored for December by Melvyn Gallagher "In memory of my father Terry." The Altar Candles have been sponsored by Joan and Lance Jackson "For our 59th Wedding Anniversary."

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

The prayer lists are updated on the first day of each month. If you would like to renew or add a name to the list, please fill in a form at the back of church and leave it in the Prayer Box. *Those on the list for Special Concern will be held in our prayers every Sunday and will be mentioned by name either at 8.00 am or 9.30 am. Please remember all in your prayers throughout the week.*

Special concern: (8.00 am) Jim Turner, Edgar Iffland, Michael McSweeney, Lorna Wells, Albert and Jean Clements, Poppy, Thomas, Katie Louise Tape, Ellen Stone, Maurice Purver, Alan, John Beeton, Pat and Family, Terry Bryan.

(9.30 am) Yvonne Rattley, Pat Silverlock, Agnes Trievner, Pam, Hayden Keeling, Steve Roome, Stewart Ranson, Alan Evens, Justine Milner, Cherry, Clive Brook, Patricia Gillman, Jackie, David Lewin.

Those receiving Home Communion this week: Margaret Roome, Jean Cant, Dorothy Sykes, Vera Richards, Brenda Taylor, Denise Comer.

The departed: Audrey Kelly, Sheila Whitaker, Frederick Krippin, Graham Coates.

Anniversaries: John Johnston, Harold Cator, Stewart Cavey, Gordon Clarke, Jessica Shaw, Lily Fowler, Martin Smith, Clive Davis, George Brown, Bill Sneary, Lilian Izzard. Please remember those who mourn. *If you would like a name added to the Anniversary list please speak to the Parish Office.*

Please pray for: Cecily, Elizabeth, Freya, Iliana and Inesa who received Holy Communion for the first time last Sunday.

CONTACTS

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Associate Priest Fr Roy Murray

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Pastoral Assistant Deborah Masterson

01708 760485 deborah.masterson@upminsterparish.co.uk

Churchwarden

Christine Foot via Parish Office 01708 220696 parish.office@upminsterparish.co.uk

Director of Music Richard Brasier brasier_96@hotmail.com

Parish Office Joanne Chapman 01708 220696 parish.office@upminsterparish.co.uk

Tuesdays 10.30am-12.30pm, Wednesdays 9.10-11am, Thursdays 9.10am-12noon

Hall Bookings Carole Billings 01708 749670 carole.billings1@btinternet.com

Planned Giving Steve Roome (01708 220696 Parish Office)

Website www.upminsterparish.co.uk

Postal Address St Laurence Church, Corbets Tey Road, Upminster, Essex, RM14 2BB

Daily Prayers, Psalms and Readings are included in the *Time for God* Prayer Diary which you can receive on request. You may also wish to use the *Time for God* Daily Office. If you would like to receive the Prayer Diary, or would like further information, please contact the Parish Office with your contact details (email address or postal address). If you would like to update any of the 'People' information on the Prayer Diary, please speak to Nick Butler on nickbutlerupm@gmail.com or 07792123630.