



CATHOLIC PARISH OF
ST. ELIZABETH OF PORTUGAL
Newsletter

Second Sunday of Advent
Readings: Year B

Sunday 10th
December 2017

Mass Book: Page 85

Second Sunday of Advent

The Second Sunday of Advent has become known in some parts of the Church as “Bible Sunday”. The idea is that it be a day when we reflect on the importance of the Bible in our Christian lives.

Many people think of the Bible as a book, often associating it in their minds with tiny type and flimsy pages. It is, of course, not a book but rather a collection of individual books from both the Old and the New Testaments.

It might benefit us more if we were to think of the Sacred Scriptures as the Word of God and that they contain, among other things, the great history of salvation culminating in the Word who became flesh and whose birth we will commemorate at Christmas. Catholics traditionally have not been good at reading

the Bible or allowing themselves to be challenged by it. That is a shame and we should remember that the great St Jerome himself once observed that “*ignorance of the Scriptures is ignorance of Christ*”.

Next year we will be offering all our parishioners the chance to join us for a “**Bible Weekend**” facilitated by the Catholic Bible School. The weekend will help us become more familiar with the Scriptures and also to see how we can use them for our daily prayer. I have a meeting this week to finalise the details of the weekend and will let you have more information in the new year.

Anyone coming to St Elizabeth’s will have been struck by how often we speak of two fundamental aspects of Christian life: evangelis-

ation and discipleship. Evangelisation is the process by which we encounter the Good News of Jesus Christ and come to faith. Discipleship is our response to that encounter and is a word used to denote the various stages in our journey of faith. Next term we are going to have the opportunity to explore these concepts in greater detail and to apply them to our own journey of faith. “**The Discipleship Project**” will consist of a series of six evening sessions looking at why we evangelise, the characteristics and specific needs of beginning, growing and missionary disciples, and how we might effectively reach out to others. It is, if you like, a chance to put all the jigsaw pieces together and see the big picture.

Advent & Christmas Events

Tuesday 12th December

8.00pm Fauré's

Requiem

*Performed by the Strawberry
Hill House Choir.*

Sunday 17th December

**7.00pm A Feast of
Carols**

*Our annual festival of Carols
for all our families and
friends.*

Friday 22nd December

**7.30pm Nine Lessons &
Carols**

*A traditional and solemn
preparation in the last days
before Christmas.*

Sunday 24th December

Christmas Eve

5.30pm Christmas Vigil
Mass

11.30pm Carols before
Midnight Mass

Monday 25th December

Christmas Day

9.30am Dawn Mass
11.00am Christmas Day
Mass

***No evening Mass on
Christmas Day***

ConneXions

~ Advent Update ~

Our group of volunteers, here to respond to the needs of fellow parishioners, is growing. We also now have a dedicated telephone number!

If you, or someone you know, would like to attend one of the wonderful Advent celebrations in the church, and would appreciate one of our volunteers to accompany you, then ring the number below, and we will respond as quickly as possible.

If you would like to become a volunteer with ConneXions, this is the number for you as well:

0 7 9 2 5 2 8 8 6 5 1

Christmas Offering

The collection on Christmas Day and Easter Sunday are your gift to the clergy of your parish. In this diocese parish clergy do not receive a wage and these two collections form the bulk of their annual income.

Lots of our parishioners are away at Christmas and so we make the dedicated Christmas and Easter envelopes available early.

This year the envelopes offer those who pay U.K. income or capital gains tax to Gift Aid their offering which would allow the parish (not the priest) to claim a further 20% on top of your donation. If you wish to take advantage of that please note that any cheques must be made payable to the parish (not the priest), and we would also need the details to be filled out on the envelope.

Parish Life & News

Parish Surgery

Parish Surgery this week is Monday evening from 6.30pm until 8.00pm. Please wait in the Church. This will be the **last** parish surgery before Christmas.

Publicity Cards

We have has some small cards printed for you to take and give out to your friends as you invite them to any of our Christmas services here at St Elizabeth's. Please feel free to take as many as you need and let's be generous in inviting as many people as possible.

Recently Deceased

The Requiem Mass for Joseph Lynch will take place in this parish on Monday 11th December at 11.00am. Jules DeLanghe's Requiem Mass will be on Friday 15th at 10.00am.

Please also pray for the repose of the soul of **Laura Pescarmona**, a young mother at St Elizabeth's school who died last week.

Homeless Winter Shelter

Can you help us welcome and cater for our homeless guests who will sleep in the crypt on a Monday night from next month. Please contact the office if you would be willing to help join a rota with a commitment of just two hours.

Faure's Requiem

St Elizabeth's will be hosting a concert performance of Faure's Requiem at **8:00pm** (please note revised time) on Tuesday 12th December. The Strawberry Hill House Choir will be joined by professional baritone and

soprano soloists and conducted by Michael McLaughlin, with Jon Booth at the organ. Tickets are free, with a retiring collection. Doors open at 7:45. This is an ideal event to invite people to come to our Church.

Homeless Lunch

Our next lunch for the homeless will be on Sunday 17th December. Offers of savoury or sweet and help on the day are very welcome. Contact Angela Smith: 07583212406 or angosmith@hotmail.co.uk

Natural Fertility Matters

Finding it hard to conceive naturally? Natural Fertility Matters uses the Creighton Model, a university-developed scientific framework for managing a couple's fertility, diagnosing and treating infertility. For more information please visit www.naturalfertilitymatters.com

or call Freda McMahon on 07887 676 923 for a free and confidential consultation.

Hospitality at Our Christmas Events

Many of our regular parishioners are away at Christmas which in some ways gives us a great opportunity to ask for more volunteers to help with hospitality at our Christmas events. We try to welcome people at the door of the Church, make sure they have any necessary books, and show them to available seats. Can you help this year? We need you! Please contact office@stelizabethschurch.org.uk to let us know. There will also be a briefing session for volunteers next Saturday at 10.00am.

Thank You

Thank you for your offering last week which came to:

Gift Aid	£181.50
Not Gift Aid	£750.96
Total	£932.46

TODAY

There will be a Second Collection to help us decorate the Church for Christmas.

Mass Attendance Last Week:

Sat. 5.30pm	92
Sun. 9.30am	142
Sun. 11.00am	104
Sun. 5.30pm	132
Total:	470

Social Media



stelizabethschurch.org.uk



StLizRichmond/



@StLizRichmond

Mass Intentions this Week

This Week

Saturday

5.30pm

Second Sunday of Advent

Joseph Lynch RIP

Sunday

9.30am

Pro Populo

11.00am

Kathleen Woplin RIP

5.30pm

Monday

11.00am

Feria

Requiem Mass: Joe Lynch RIP

Tuesday

9.00am

Feria

Donor's Intention

Wednesday

9.00am

St Lucy

Edith Cooper RIP

Thursday

7.00pm

St John of the Cross

Gina Angel Dagdag

Friday

10.00am

Feria

Requiem Mass: Jules DeLanghe RIP

Saturday

5.30pm

Our Lady

Jules DeLanghe RIP

Sunday

9.30am

Third Sunday of Advent

Genevieve Naicker

11.00am

Kathleen Woplin RIP

5.30pm

Pro Populo

Please Pray For:

Christopher Browne, Philomena Dunne, Gaye Delanghe, Raymond and Marie Toal, Ben Horgan, Ella Dale, Stella Richards, Anne Wilkinson.

Parish Contact Details:

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Planned Giving

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