

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

*To you, I lift up my soul, O my God.
In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame.
Nor let my enemies exult over me;
and let none who hope in you be put to shame.*

COLLECT

Grant your faithful, we pray, almighty God,
the resolve to run forth to meet your Christ
with righteous deeds at his coming,
so that, gathered at his right hand,
they may be worthy to possess the heavenly Kingdom.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

FIRST READING Isaiah 2:1-5

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah
and Jerusalem.

It shall come to pass in the latter days
that the mountain of the house of the LORD
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be lifted up above the hills;
and all the nations shall flow to it,
and many peoples shall come, and say:

‘Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
to the house of the God of Jacob,
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths.’

For out of Sion shall go forth the law,
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

He shall judge between the nations,
and shall decide disputes for many peoples;
and they shall beat their swords into ploughshares,
and their spears into pruning-hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.

O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the LORD.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 122(121):1-2. 4-5. 6-7. 8-9. R. cf. 1

R: *Let us go rejoicing to the house of the LORD.*

1. I rejoiced when they said to me,
‘Let us go to the house of the LORD.’
And now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem. **R.**
2. It is there that the tribes go up,
the tribes of the LORD
as it is decreed for Israel,
to give thanks to the name of the LORD.
There were set the thrones for judgement,
the thrones of the house of David. **R.**
3. For the peace of Jerusalem pray,
‘May they prosper, those who love you.’
May peace abide in your walls,
and security be in your towers. **R.**

4. For the sake of my family and friends,
let me say, ‘Peace upon you.’
For the sake of the house of the LORD, our God,
I will seek good things for you. **R.**

SECOND READING Romans 13:11-14a

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans.

Brothers and sisters: You know the time, that the hour has
come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us
now than when we first believed. The night is far gone; the day
is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put
on the armour of light. Let us walk properly as in the daytime,
not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and
sensuality, not in quarrelling and jealousy. But put on the Lord
Jesus Christ.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ACCLAMATION BEFORE THE GOSPEL Psalm 85(84):8

R: *Alleluia, alleluia.*

Show us, O LORD, your mercy,
and grant us your salvation.

R: *Alleluia.*

GOSPEL Matthew 24:37-44

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples: ‘For as were the days of
Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those
days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying
and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the
ark, and they were unaware until the flood came and swept
them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then
two men will be in the field; one will be taken and one left.
Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and
one left. Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what
day your Lord is coming. But know this, that if the master of
the house had known in what part of the night the thief was
coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let
his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for
the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Accept, we pray, O Lord, these offerings we make,
gathered from among your gifts to us,
and may what you grant us to celebrate devoutly here below,
gain for us the prize of eternal redemption.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

*The Lord will bestow his bounty,
and our earth shall yield its increase.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

May these mysteries, O Lord,
in which we have participated,
profit us, we pray,
for even now, as we walk amid passing things,
you teach us by them to love the things of heaven
and hold fast to what endures.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Parish of St Anselm, Hayes

November 30th, 2025

Advent Sunday

Once again we enter that period of penitence, reflection, and anticipation that we call Advent. We need constantly to be ready – “for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.” In the gospel reading today, Jesus emphasises first the simple unexpectedness of events. When the flood came in Noah’s time, everyone was living just as they always did. We will be doing exactly the same when Jesus



returns in glory. Jesus then emphasises a different point. Although everyone will be equally taken unawares, and everyone

might look the same from the outside, some will be ready whilst others will not be. How can we be ready for something when we do not know that it’s about to happen? The only way to be ready for Jesus’s second coming is to live **every** moment as if he is coming **immediately**. As if we have **only** the present moment left in our lives. That’s hard to do, but we should all try not to waste a single moment of our God-given time on earth.

In Advent we do not sing the Gloria and we have two collects – the first of the day, on the other side of this sheet, followed by the traditional Advent Collect:

Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day when he shall come again in his glorious majesty, to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

Entrance Hymn

636 Drop down, ye heavens, from above

Offertory Hymn

22 Wake, O wake! With tidings thrilling

Recessional

3 Come, thou long-expected Jesus

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THIS WEEK (Year A[2]; Psalm Week 1)

1st: Monday of 1st Week of Advent. No services in church; Offices said privately.

2nd: Tuesday of 1st Week of Advent. Morning Prayer 0945; Mass 1000; Boys’ Brigade and Girls’ Association 1700.

3rd: St Francis Xavier, Priest. Morning Prayer 0945; Mass 1000; Evening Prayer 1700.

4th: Thursday of 1st Week of Advent. Morning Prayer 0945; Mass 1000; Evening Prayer 1700.

5th: Friday of 1st Week of Advent. Offices said privately.

6th: St Nicholas, Bishop. No services in church; Offices said privately.

NEXT SUNDAY: 7th December: Second Sunday of Advent. Mass at 1000 (Requiem for Val Jones)

PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS

Kathyan Fenton; Desiree Loderick; Mr & Mrs DeGale, William, and Wioletta Dębska. (If you have a name for the list, please give the details to Fr Josiah, or Fr Stephen.)

ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH

30th November: Cherpine Howell, Peter Kalsi

1st December: Edmund Francis Day

2nd: Albert Rever, Joseph Piggott

4th: George Albert Simmonds, Charles Moore, Ada Bland

5th: Janet Wilson McKie, Frank Morrish, Ken Franklin

6th: Dorothy Gargini, Catherine Diane Bowler

YOUNG CHILDREN IN CHURCH: Don’t worry if they make a noise or move about! Young visitors to the sanctuary are always welcome, so no drama if they go for a walk! We’ll have a look at the children’s work at the end of mass...

FINANCIAL POSITION: During October 2025, our income, excluding a one-off donation for our reserve account, was £1,789.25, and our outgoings were £1,987.23. We are keeping our spending under much better control than in the past, even if we spent slightly more than we received. With winter upon us and increased bills for heating we can’t be complacent, so do please consider if you can increase your contributions to the church, or make a one-off donation. Flash this QR code to get started!



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PLEASE JOIN US IN THE HALL AFTER MASS FOR TEA, COFFEE, AND BISCUITS! NOW THAT SUSAN HAS MOVED, WE NEED VOLUNTEERS TO HELP WITH THIS. SO, DO PLEASE OFFER YOUR SERVICES IN MAKING TEA AND COFFEE AND HELPING TO PROVIDE A WARM WELCOME TO ALL.