

First Sunday of Advent

30th November 2025



Advent Prayer

Blessed are you, Sovereign Lord, God of our ancestors:

To you be praise and glory for ever!

You called the patriarchs to live by the light of faith

And to journey in the hope of your promised fulfilment.

May we be obedient to your call and be ready and watchful to receive your Christ,

A lamp to our feet and a light to our path;

For you are our light and our salvation.

Blessed be God for ever.

Collect

Almighty God,
give us the grace to cast away the works of darkness
and to put on the armour of light,
now in the time of this mortal life,
in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility:

so that on the last day, when he shall come again
in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead,
we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who is alive
and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

First Reading (Isaiah 2:1-5)

A reading from the prophecy of Isaiah.

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

In days to come the mountain of the LORD's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be raised above the hills;
all the nations shall stream to it.

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 Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

He shall judge between the nations,
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into plowshares,
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!

Psalm (Psalm 122)



Response: Let us go to God's House.

I rejoiced when I heard them say:

"Let us go to God's house."

And now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem. **R**

For the peace of Jerusalem pray:

'Peace be to your homes!

may peace reign in your walls,

in your palaces, peace!' **R**

For love of my brethren and friends

I say: "Peace upon you."

For love of the house of the Lord

I will ask for your good. **R**

Second Reading (Romans 13:11-14)

A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

Owe no one anything, except to love one another;
for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law.

The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You

shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself."

Love does no wrong to a neighbour; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law. Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness,

not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Gospel Reading (Matthew 24:36-44)

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

"But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, 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 Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner 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 unexpected hour.

Post Communion Prayer

O Lord our God,
make us watchful and keep us faithful
as we await the coming of your Son our Lord;
that, when he shall appear,
he may not find us sleeping in sin
but active in his service
and joyful in his praise;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

For your prayers

In our Prayers: Tommy Lacken, Martin Fletcher, Terry Folan, Sheila Hoppenbrouwers, Eamon Irvine, Fr Michael Shier, Carol Martin, Philomena Sorrenti, Maggie Stevenson, Hope Oram, Sherry Lacken, Doug Williams, Neville Thomas, Lynn Williamson, Juan Carlos Mandich, Nancy Mandich, Eliane Ferreira Batista, Joanne Dack, Jaqueline Ives, Joan Rivellini, Tommy Naylor, Albert Kwasi Kkwateng, Lenny Shaw

Among the departed:

Anniversaries of Death: Mark Slade, Allan Trafford, Henry Hardy, Mick McCarthy, Caroline Carr, Eliza Bayley

In our parish: We pray for Goswell Road and Turnpike House

In the wider world: We pray for the Middle East and a peaceful resolution of the conflict in Gaza and between Israel and Iran. We pray for all those suffering in those conflicts.

Notices

This week in church...

Wednesday Open Church: 10am-1pm
11-12am Study Group
12.30pm Mass

Next Sunday Second Sunday in Advent
Sung Mass 10.30am

Coming up..

Beer and Carols at the Corner Bar

Wednesday 10th December 7pm

Get into the Christmas Spirit with our neighbours.
With mince pies!

Christmas Carol Service

Sunday 14th December 6pm

A service of readings and carols for all the family.
Followed by mulled wine, juice and mince pies.

Christingle and Family Mass

Sunday 21st December 10.30am

Co-led by our younger members.
Come and make a Christingle!

Christmas Flowers

Donations would be greatly appreciated.
Hand your donations to Elaine Sutherland or Ginny Johnson

Parish Christmas Cards will soon be available!

Please take them for yourselves and for your families and neighbours. If you're able to deliver cards around the parish on St Clement's behalf please speak to Father David, so we can invite as many as we can reach to our Christmas celebrations.