

4th Sunday of Advent

Christingle

21st December 2025



Advent Prayer

Blessed are you, Sovereign Lord, merciful and gentle; to you be praise and glory for ever! Your light has shone in our darkened world through the child-bearing of blessed Mary; grant that we who have seen your glory may daily be renewed in your image and prepared like her for the coming of your Son, who is the Lord and Saviour of all.

Blessed be God for ever.

Collect

God our redeemer, who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son: grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour, so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our judge; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

First Reading (Isaiah 60:1-3)

A reading from the Prophecy of Isaiah.

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

Gospel Reading (Matthew 1:18-25)

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

Post Communion Prayer

Heavenly Father, who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of the promised saviour: fill us your servants with your grace, that in all things we may embrace your holy will and with her rejoice in your salvation; 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, Jacqueline Ives,

Joan Rivellini, Tommy Naylor, Albert Kwasi

Kkwateng, Lenny Shaw, baby Maison

Among the departed: Celia Silk

Anniversaries of Death:

Anna Jane Phillips, Helen Sugarman, James Ives, Francis William Durand, Ellen Dawson, Jesse Brett (Pr), Langley Fenning, Christopher Fenning, Frank Percival Downman (Pr), Dora Bessie Cackett, Frank Whithead, Cholmondeley Webb, Alice Mary Cackett, Mary Sams, Sarah Cheal, Amelia Fox, Daisy Longmore, George William Baxter, Herbert Spring Shirley Bryant

In our parish:

We pray for Lizard Street, Bartholomew Square and Cope 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, 24th December 11pm

Midnight Mass

The First Communion of Christmas Day with the Blessing of the Crib and everyone's favourite Christmas Carols.

Thursday, 25th December 10.30am

Christmas Morning Mass

With carols at the Crib and presents for the children.

Next Sunday Holy Family

10.30am Sung Mass

King Square Coffee

Community Room, Blackwell House

(between President House and Rahere House)

Tuesday afternoons 1.30-3.30pm

Friday afternoons 12.30-2pm

A chance to chat with your neighbour and catch up over coffee, tea, soup and sweet treats. Everyone welcome!

St Clement's Shopping Basket

The basket provides the chance week by week to donate to a collection of dried and tinned food and toiletries which can be passed directly to the Dunloe Centre at St Saviour's Priory which works with the homeless and the very poor in our part of London. Please give what you can.

THE DUNLOE CENTRE always needs the following:

TINNED FOODS (ring pull for preference)

Corned beef and meats of all kinds.

Fish

Soups (all flavours), baked beans, spaghetti in tomato sauce.

Fruit, rice pudding and custard.

Vegetables (chick peas and pulses are the least useful)

DRIED GOODS

Cup-a-soups, potnoodles and instant noodles.

TOILETRIES (mostly for men)

Shower gel, shampoo, soap, deodorant, face flannels

Disposable razors, shaving cream, pocket-size packs of tissues

Parish Giving

The Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) is an established service for managing One-Off donations and Direct Debit giving to St Clement's. It is free and reduces the burden of work on church volunteers and provides a simple and secure service to givers. For more information speak to Emke or Father David or go to

www.parishgiving.org.uk/home/

Can you help?

Please speak to Sherry in you'd like to help set up for the service and with the refreshments or clear away on Sundays. We're looking for volunteers to help share out these jobs.