

THE PARISH OF ST ALPHEGE, EDMONTON
Sunday 21st December 2025

The 4th Sunday in Advent.

Like Mary, Joseph is a model of faith for us. He is a faithful witness and servant of God's unfolding plan of redemption whom God had indeed called Joseph to be the husband of Mary and to assume a mission that would require the utmost faith, confidence, and trust in Almighty God. Joseph believed in the divine message to take Mary as his wife and to accept the child in her womb as the promised Messiah.



Entrance Hymn

305: In the Bleak Mid-Winter.

Offertory Hymn

314: It came upon the Midnight clear.

Procession

540: O Little Town of Bethlehem.

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THIS WEEK: DAILY OFFICES: Morning and Evening Prayer: Tues – Fri: 9am & 5pm in the Lady Chapel.

Monday 22nd: Weekday of Advent IV: O Rex Gentium.

Tuesday 23rd: Weekday of Advent IV: O Emmanuel.

Wednesday 24th: Weekday of Advent IV.

6pm – Children's and families Mass with Nativity play.

11pm: Midnight Mass – traditional service.

Thursday: 25th: The Nativity of the Lord.

10am Christmas Day Mass.

Friday 26th: St Stephen, Feast, First Martyr.

12 noon Mass for St Stephen's Day.

Saturday 27th: St John the Apostle and Evangelist.

NEXT WEEK:

Sunday 28th: 1st Sunday Mass after Christmas, Mass at 10am with Fr Angus.

6pm: 9 Lessons and Carols by candlelight.

Thursday 1st January 2026, Mass for Mary Mother of God: 10am.

Sunday 4th January, 10am Parish Mass for the feast of the Epiphany with commissioning of the lay pastoral team members.

CONFESSION: (by appointment). Advent is an ideal-time to come and unburden yourself of any worries and seek God's peace. Speak to Fr Angus to arrange time for this.

Would you like to join our Social & Fundraising group? Speak to Maxcine; Mary F or Carol Saul to find out more.

SPECIAL BLESSINGS: Please let one of the sidespeople know before mass begins if you would like a special blessing.

Please see Sue if you would like to sponsor the EUCHARISTIC GIFTS, CANDLE FOR OUR LADY or SACRAMENT CANDLE

PARISH SICK LISTS

Long term: Abigail; Gillian; Margaret; Lloyd; Brian; Ann; Erica; Pearline; Deborah; David; Pearl; Suzanne; Aniyah; Evelyn; Samantha; Sharon; Albert; Jean & Family; Rodney Hines; Astley.
Short term: Lauren; Patsy; Gloria; Leslie; Louise; Mike; Yolanda; Patsy; Correll; Andrew; Charles; Angela Biggs. (Please let Fr Angus know of any names for the sick lists.)

RECENTLY DEPARTED: Michael Biggs; Barbara Utting; Olive McKenzie.

ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH: Phoebe Crane; John Schroder; Kathleen Brown; Herbert James Heath; Leroy Irish; Rohan D'Aguilar.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK: Theron David; Cereta Mundle; Karima Saunders, Judy Sukhdeo.

FINANCIAL POSITION: The Church and Hall Gas Bill for 2024 was £18,667.69 and the Electric Bill was £1,476.07. Please consider joining the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS).

PARISH GIVING SCHEME: A great way to make your regular donation to support St Alphege! Scan the QR code to sign up!



NORTH ENFIELD FOODBANK: The foodbank is in urgent need of many items. There is a list of items at the back of church and a box to place items in.

JOIN US AFTER MASS FOR REFRESHMENTS!

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

*Drop down dew from above, you heavens,
and let the clouds rain down the Just One;
let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.*

COLLECT

Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord,
your grace into our hearts,
that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ your Son
was made known by the message of an Angel,
may by his Passion and Cross
be brought to the glory of his Resurrection.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

FIRST READING Isaiah 7:10-14

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

In those days: The LORD spoke to Ahaz:
'Ask a sign of the LORD your God;
let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.'
But Ahaz said,
'I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test.'
And Isaiah said,
'Hear then, O house of David!
Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also?
Therefore the LORD himself will give you a sign.
Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and shall call his name Emmanuel.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Psalm 24(23):1-2,3-4b,5-6.R.cf. 7c,10b

R: Let the LORD enter; he is the king of glory.

1. The LORD's is the earth and its fullness,
the world, and those who dwell in it.
It is he who set it on the seas;
on the rivers he made it firm. **R.**
2. Who shall climb the mountain of the LORD?
Who shall stand in his holy place?
The clean of hands and pure of heart,
whose soul is not set on vain things. **R.**
3. Blessings from the LORD shall he receive,
and right reward from the God who saves him.
Such are the people who seek him,
who seek the face of the God of Jacob. **R.**

SECOND READING Romans 1:1-7

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

Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an Apostle, set apart
for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through
his prophets in the holy Scriptures, concerning his Son, who was
descended from David according to the flesh and was declared
to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness
by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord, through

whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the
obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations,
including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ.

To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be
saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord
Jesus Christ.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ACCLAMATION BEFORE THE GOSPEL Matthew 1:23

R: Alleluia, Alleluia.

Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall call his name Emmanuel –
which means, God with us.

R: Alleluia.

GOSPEL Matthew 1:18-24

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his
mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came
together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. And
her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to
shame, resolved to send her away quietly. But as he considered
these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a
dream, saying, 'Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as
your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.
She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will
save his people from their sins.'

All this took place to fulfil what the Lord had spoken by the
prophet:

'Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall
call his name Emmanuel' – which means, God with us.

When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord
commanded him: he took his wife.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

May the Holy Spirit, O Lord,
sanctify these gifts laid upon your altar,
just as he filled with his power
the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

*Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son;
and his name will be called Emmanuel.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Having received this pledge of eternal redemption,
we pray, almighty God,
that, as the feast day of our salvation draws ever nearer,
so we may press forward all the more eagerly
to the worthy celebration of the mystery of your Son's Nativity.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Amen.