



**Parish of Effingham and Fetcham**  
Our Lady of Sorrows and Church of the Holy Spirit

Parish Team:

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Live-stream on YouTube "Effingham and Fetcham Catholic Parish":

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFLGeHumF6yae4QGCSVg0UA>

*A Very Warm Welcome to all Parishioners and Visitors*

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent**

Sundays: Cycle B    Weekdays: Year I    29 November 2020

**STAY  
AWAKE**

Advent is a time of watchfulness. For the first part, we pray for the final coming of Christ at the end of time. And we are also waiting for his coming to us at the time of our death. Since both are hidden from us, we should maintain a state of watchfulness so that we are ready to meet the Lord at any moment. The last two weeks of Advent focus on the forthcoming birth of our Saviour. I am sure we all dream about a beautiful world without worries or pain, particularly in this extraordinary year of the pandemic. Sadly, we know that our world will never be such a paradise with or

without the pandemic. Imperfection is the mark of our world and every human being. But Advent reminds us of this: let God come into our world and let him enter our lives; then everything will be better. And God came: he is here with us in Jesus. With him we can make this world not yet a paradise, but at least much better if with him we learn to bear the pain of the evil in this world and fight it with all our might. Then it may become a sign of the paradise of heaven. Three times in today's Gospel passage Jesus calls us to stay awake. It is a very appropriate call for the beginning of the new liturgical year. It's an ideal opportunity to wake up to the grandeur of our divine dignity and try to live accordingly. Finally, as a suggestion why not connect with as many of your family as possible through technology each Sunday of Advent and pray together. Get each household to light a candle. There are many wonderful online resources for prayer that you can use. Let Jesus fill us with hope and strength.

May God bless you all,

*Deacon Ian*

## ***This Week***

### **Churches Reopening for Public Mass**

As the current lockdown is lifted from this Wednesday 2 December, we will recommence public Masses from that date. We will have Mass at all our usual times and places (see the back page of the newsletter for details).

As a result, **Saturday morning Confessions** will return to the Church of the Holy Spirit, to allow the stewards to sanitise OLOS after Mass.

Please continue to remember **social distancing, hand sanitising** and **face coverings** (which are legally required in church unless you have an exemption).

I very much look forward to celebrating Mass with you in church again soon. (However, the obligation is still suspended, so it is acceptable to stay at home for good reasons.)

### **Christmas Masses – Booking**

We will be having five Christmas Masses to celebrate our Saviour's birth this year, to allow as many people to attend as possible given the limitations of social distancing.

#### **Christmas Eve**

6.00 pm OLOS; 9.00 pm HS; Midnight OLOS

#### **Christmas Day**

9.00 am OLOS; 10.30 am HS

We will operate a booking system to prevent, as far as possible, people having to be turned away because the church is full to its limited capacity.

To book a place, please contact the parish office—by email if possible, otherwise by phone. You need to state:

- (a) How many people are in your group.
- (b) Which Mass times you would consider attending, ***in order of preference***.

A parish email will be sent out shortly with details of how to book. The easiest way to book will be by replying to that email.

\*\*\* FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED \*\*\*

### **ADVENT TALKS – STARTING MONDAY 7 DEC**



Fr Stephen will be giving a series of Advent talks this year at 7.30 on Monday evenings. Since we cannot meet in the hall this year, the talks will be given via zoom. After each talk there will be some time to chat and discuss in small “breakout rooms”, followed by an opportunity for questions and answers. **Everybody is welcome.**

The link to the meetings is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83246342420?pwd=T1psVmoySIZiR2FSRVhuS1NscEF0QT09>

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|--------|---|
| 7 Dec  | <b>Who is Jesus?</b> – How does Jesus reveal His personal identity?           |
| 14 Dec | <b>What is Jesus?</b> – Can Jesus really be divine and human?                 |
| 21 Dec | <b>Why is Jesus?</b> – Why did Jesus come, and what does it mean to be saved? |

### ***First Holy Communion and First Reconciliation***

Now is the time to apply for preparation for First Holy Communion and First Reconciliation. Children aged seven or over on 1 September 2020 (school year 3 or above) are welcome to apply. The application form is available on our website under the “Younger Members” tab. Please return the completed forms along with your child's baptismal certificate to Fr Stephen or Deacon Ian.

**Bishop Richard** has begun his series of **Advent Talks** at the Cathedral on Fridays, beginning at 7 pm. It will be possible for people to attend from 4 December. Contact the Cathedral office to book: [arundel@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:arundel@abdiocese.org.uk) or 01903 882297. The talks will also be streamed via the diocesan website.

04 December: John the Baptist – Witness  
 11 December: Gaudete – Rejoice  
 18 December: Mary - Openness

**Advent Guide for Families.** The Celebrate conference has just launched a new Advent resource. Go to the website link below to download the Advent guide and then click through to find the links to the resources and activities suggested in the pack. Includes a link to 'The Donkey's Journey' written by one of our parishioners, Madeleine Carroll. Enjoy!  
<https://www.celebrateconference.org/family>

### General

**The Passage Charity.** Their Big Give fundraiser starts from 12 noon Tuesday 1st–8th December to support their work Helping Homeless People this winter. **Double your Donation, Double your impact.** This is a matched giving scheme for online donations. For more information ring Andrew Hollingsworth 020 75921886  
[andrew.h@passage.org.uk](mailto:andrew.h@passage.org.uk)  
 Please generously give online at  
<https://tinyurl.com/PassageBigGive>

**CHURCHES TOGETHER in Effingham and Little Bookham** will be placing the usual Christmas tree with lights at the Effingham village shops. You are invited to place a Christmas star on the tree containing your personal prayer or reflective thought. Stars are available to collect and return to **Barry at Parker's** and at **Loolabelle's**. The stars will then be laminated and hung on the tree.

**Food donations** for those needing support can be left at the back of the churches, or delivered to **Mary Agius at 98, Woodlands Road,**

**Bookham, KT23 4HH** for onward distribution. Many thanks.

### Wintershall's Nativity Winter Walk

From the 18<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> December, experience the Christmas story at Wintershall. The mile-long walk should take about 1½ hours. With pre-booked timeslots, and following Covid 19 guidelines, immerse yourselves in the Nativity, while staying safe. **Tickets are £35 per family group of up to six people.** To book: <https://www.wintershall.org.uk/nativity-winter-walk>

### Statement on Safeguarding from the Bishops.

Following the recent publication of the IICSA report on the Catholic Church, the bishops of England and Wales have issued a statement on safeguarding in the Church. It is downloadable from the diocesan website at: <https://abdiocese.org.uk/news/statement-safeguarding>

*Please pray for all those in our Parish who are sick:*

Marie Bliss	Janet Morgan
Michael Boulvard	Jim Morgan
Pauline Boulvard	Maureen Rennison
Christopher Browne	Patrick Rennison
Jeff Care	Piers Ripley-Duggan
Amy Chapman	Allison Roberts
Maggi Cooke	Jean Rowlandson
Dorothy Dinan	Yolande Sharpe
Maureen Donoghue	Karen Silver
John Donovan	Mary Skilton
Mary Doran	Jenny Smith
Mary Hefford	Margaret Summers
Derek Knott	Pat Turton
Tessa Knott	Simon Turton
Noreen Landers	Andrea Vaughan
Daphne McLeod	Rose Wedlake
Joanna Mills	Alf Wiggins

## Mass Intentions for the Coming Week

Saturday	28 Nov	10.00 am	OLOS	Bertha Wetherall - RIP
Sunday	29 Nov	10.30 am	OLOS	People of the Parish
Monday	30 Nov	9.15 am	OLOS	Hassard Family - Wellbeing
Tuesday	01 Dec	9.15 am	OLOS	Kathleen & Victor Adshead - RIP
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>02 Dec</b>	<b>9.15 am</b>	<b>HS</b>	Silvestra Kelly - RIP
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>03 Dec</b>	<b>9.15 am</b>	<b>OLOS</b>	Fr Richard Lear - RIP
<b>Friday</b>	<b>04 Dec</b>	<b>6.00 pm</b>	<b>HS</b>	Geraldine McKeown - RIP
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>05 Dec</b>	<b>10.00 am</b>	<b>OLOS</b>	Fr Timothy Garratt - RIP
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>05 Dec</b>	<b>6.00 pm</b>	<b>OLOS</b>	Celebrant's Intention
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>06 Dec</b>	<b>9.00 am</b>	<b>OLOS</b>	People of the Parish
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>06 Dec</b>	<b>11.00 am</b>	<b>HS</b>	Holy Souls - RIP

Our churches will be reopening for Mass from **Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December**. All our OLOS Masses are live-streamed on YouTube at "Effingham and Fetcham Catholic Parish" <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFLGeHumF6yae4QGCSVg0UA>

### Confessions

Sat 11.00 – 11.45 am – **HS, Fetcham**  
Sat 5.00 - 5.30 pm – OLOS, Effingham

### Next Sunday: 2nd Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 40:1-5.9-11 | Psalm 84:9-14. R. v8 | 2Peter 3:8-14 | Mark 1:1-8



*Please get Newsletter items to the Parish office by 10.00am Wednesday*