



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



Parish Team  
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*A Warm Welcome to all Parishioners and Visitors*

## **Second Sunday of Advent**

Sundays: Cycle C    Weekdays: Year I    9th December



“A voice cries in the wilderness; prepare a way for the Lord.” The wilderness or desert is a disconcerting place, barren and unpromising. But it’s also a place where people find God. In the Old Testament the people of Israel wandered for forty years in the desert on their way to the Promised Land. And it was there, in the desert, that they were led by the pillar of cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night; there that they received the gift of manna from heaven; there that they received the ten commandments to guide them through life. It was also in the desert that Jesus won the victory over the temptations of the devil.

We could say that our secular world is a spiritual desert. Never was it so important to cry, “In the wilderness, prepare a way for the Lord.” And our souls can also become a desert by sin—by the catastrophe of mortal sin, or by the gradual drought of our venial sins. Here too we can hear the cry, “In the wilderness, prepare a way for the Lord.” Let’s use the Sacrament of Reconciliation this Advent to make the desert bloom. (Our parish Reconciliation service is on Sun 16 Dec. Others are available—see inside for details.)

May God bless you all

*Fr Stephen*

## THIS WEEK

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Shirley Morris RIP and Kit Adshead RIP who died recently.

**Christmas Decorations:** Here is your chance to buy these wonderful decorations made by the Do and Raise Group. This weekend 'Door Wreaths' will be on sale after each Mass and next weekend 'Table Decorations' are available to buy. All the donations made will be sent to The Passage in Westminster that provides support and help for the homeless.



**Horsley Choral Christmas Concert:** Mozart Vesperae solemnes de Confessore with Christmas music and carols. **Sunday 9 December at 7.30pm** at St Andrew's Church in Cobham, Downside KT11 3EJ. Tickets £13 or £6 under 18s. To book 07768 573987 or 01372 457987. In aid of Medical Detection Dogs.

**Parish Advent Talks:** Fr Stephen will be continuing with his talks about The Kingdom of God and New Evangelisation on **Monday 10 December**, St Alphege Hall, Effingham, 7.30-9.00pm with a mid-way break for refreshments. (Offers of snacks, mince pies, cheese scones, etc will be most welcome).

**Bambinelli Sunday:** As you may remember we started this age-old tradition in our Parish a couple of years ago. We invite you to bring your Baby Jesus figures from your Cribs to the Masses on the Third Sunday of Advent (15/16 December) for a prayer and a Blessing that was written by Emeritus Pope Benedict XVI.



**Poinsettias for Crib at Holy Spirit:** If you would like to donate a poinsettia in memory of a loved one to decorate the crib please leave it in the church by Saturday 22 December. Thank you.

**Wintershall Nativity Play: (12-16 December)** at Wintershall near Bramley in Surrey. A 50-volunteer cast in biblical costumes, assisted by sheep, donkeys, horses and a sheepdog take

the audience on foot from the chill open air into the atmospheric, candle-lit barn, as the story of how Jesus changed the world unfolds with songs and music and joyful carolling. See their website for details including opportunities to volunteer: [www.wintershall-estate.com](http://www.wintershall-estate.com).

**Chilworth Study Day:** You are warmly invited to a presentation of the fourth episode of 'Catholicism - a journey to the heart of the faith', by the acclaimed author and speaker Bishop Barron, **on Saturday 15 December**. This is a Chilworth Abbey Study Day given by Fr John Seddon OSB, who will contextualise the episode and then teach and lead discussion about its subject matter. The day begins with Mass at 9.00am, followed by coffee. The fourth film investigates 'Mary, the Mother of God' and will be shown, chapter by chapter followed by teaching and discussion. Midday prayer and lunch will divide the day and concludes at 4.00 pm. Come to part, or all of the day, as it suits you. Bring a packed lunch and a friend. Tea and coffee are provided.

## THIS MONTH

**Advent Reconciliation Service:** on **Sunday 16 December** at 3pm there is a Reconciliation Service at Our Lady of Sorrows, Effingham. There will be a number of visiting priests helping to hear confessions.

### Reconciliation Services around the Deanery this Advent

- St Ann's and St John's (joint service at St Ann's, **Banstead**) Wednesday 12th December 7:30pm
- St Clement's **Ewell** Thursday 13th December 7:30pm.
- Our Lady & St Peter's **Leatherhead** Thursday 13th December 7:00pm.
- Our Lady of Sorrows **Effingham** Sunday 16th December 3:00pm.
- St Michael's **Ashted** Monday 17th December 7:30pm.
- St Joseph's **Epsom** Thursday 20th December 7:30pm.
- St Joseph's **Dorking** Sunday 23rd December 3:00pm

**Christmas Charity Post (CCP):** The 30p stamps (half the price of the normal post) are now on sale at 14 locations around the villages of Effingham, Bookham and Fetcham. Details of the locations are given on the notice in the church porch. *Please support your local charity and save yourself some money at the same time.*

**Eucharistic Adoration:** Advent is an ideal time to make a commitment to attend Eucharistic Adoration. If you think the Lord might be calling you to commit to coming to Adoration for just one hour each week and join the rotas on either Tuesday morning or Thursday morning or afternoon, please have a word with Michael or Mary Agius, email [maryagius@gmail.com](mailto:maryagius@gmail.com), telephone 01372 456545. Of course, you can drop in any time the Blessed Sacrament is exposed without joining the rotas - but it would be wonderful if you could make that powerful commitment. It is also a service to other parishioners, enabling us to maintain our periods of Adoration, as we need to know that there will always be enough people present.



**Parish Circulation Email:** Our Parish has an email system for sharing information amongst us all. The emails only go to parishioners who have agreed for their email address to be held and only parish and Church information is sent. Email addresses are not shared without permission. The last email went out on 7 Nov 18 – if you did not get it you are not on the list. If you would like to join please contact [Michaelpbray@btinternet.com](mailto:Michaelpbray@btinternet.com)

**FORTHCOMING**

**Justice & Peace Assembly 2019:** ‘Slavery on our Doorstep’, **Saturday 26 January**, from 10am (coffee from 9.30am). Learn about the slave trade hidden under your nose and how you can help those affected. Speakers from the Santa Marta Group and Sussex Police. To book contact Rosie Read, Formation Secretary at [rosie.read@dabnet.org](mailto:rosie.read@dabnet.org) 01293 651161.

**Flame 2019 - Join 10,000 Catholic Young People at Wembley Arena next March:** Around five hundred people from Arundel & Brighton Diocese went to Wembley

Arena last March for Flame 2017. The arena was filled, and it was great to be a part of it. Flame 2019 will happen on **Saturday 2 March**, once again at Wembley Arena. Tickets are already on sale and unlike last time they can be booked online. Head to [cymfed.org.uk/flame2019](http://cymfed.org.uk/flame2019) for details. Flame 2019 boasts an impressive line-up of speakers. More names will follow nearer the time, but Cardinal Nichols, Robert Madu, Guvna B, and Emma B from ‘Girl Got Faith’ are already on board. Hurry though - there are only ten thousand seats and over 5,000 tickets have already gone!

<i>Please pray for those in our Parish who are sick:</i>	
Marie Bliss	Janet Morgan
Liz Boughton	Jim Morgan
Christopher Brown	Jack Oliver
Alan Bryant	Kit Oliver
Amy Chapman	Maureen Power
Maggi Cooke	Maureen Rennison
Marian Cross	Patrick Rennison
Anne Cuffe	Piers Ripley-Duggan
Maureen Donoghue	Allison Roberts
John Donovan	Jean Rowlandson
Joan Doran	Yolande Sharpe
Mary Doran	Mary Skilton
Philippa Gibbons	Andrew Smith
Ros Kennedy	Eileen Tennant
Derek Knott	Michael Tomkins
Tessa Knott	Andrea Vaughan
Filomena Lionetti	Rose Wedlake
Joanna Mills	Alf Wiggins



MASS TIMES

Saturday	08 Dec	06.00pm	(OLOS)	Michael Connors - RIP
Sunday	09 Dec	09.00am	(OLOS)	Gerry Payne - RIP
		11.00am	(HS)	People of the Parish
<b>Monday</b>	<b>10 Dec</b>	<b>09.15am</b>	<b>(HS)</b>	Holy Souls - RIP
Tuesday	11 Dec	09.15am	(OLOS)	Holy Souls - RIP
Wednesday	12 Dec	09.15am	(HS)	Fr David Goddard - RIP
Thursday	13 Dec	09.15pm	(OLOS)	Holy Souls - RIP
<b>Friday</b>	<b>14 Dec</b>	<b>06.00pm</b>	<b>(HS)</b>	Holy Souls - RIP
Saturday	15 Dec	06.00pm	(OLOS)	Agnes Dixon - RIP
Sunday	16 Dec	09.00am	(OLOS)	People of the Parish
		11.00am	(HS)	Ozzie Peck - RIP

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Tuesday	11 Dec	09.45am to Noon	(OLOS)
Thursday	13 Dec	09.45am to Noon	(OLOS)
		02.00pm to 05.00pm	(OLOS)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday	15 Dec	10.30am to 11.15am	(OLOS)	<b>NO MORNING CONFESSIONS</b> In the Confessional
		05.00pm to 05.30pm	(OLOS)	
<b>Sunday</b>		After 11.00am Mass	(HS)	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of every month
	<b>16 Dec</b>	<b>03.00pm</b>	<b>(OLOS)</b>	<b>Reconciliation Service</b>

MONTHLY ROSARY FOR VOCATIONS

Monday	09.45am	(HS)	1 <sup>st</sup> Monday of every month
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CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Monday	24 Dec	06.00pm	Vigil Mass	(OLOS)
<b>Christmas Eve</b>		08.30pm	<i>Carols before Mass</i>	(HS)
		09.00pm	Midnight Mass	(HS)
Tuesday	25 Dec	09.00am	Dawn Mass	(OLOS)
<b>Christmas Day</b>		10.30am	Family Mass	(HS)

HS = Church of the Holy Spirit, Fetcham

OLOS = Our Lady of Sorrows, Effingham

**Next Sunday: Third 'Gaudete' Sunday of Advent**  
**Special Collection next week: Altar and Church Flowers (Gift aid)**  
 Zephaniah 3:14-18 Psalm 12:2-6. R.v6 Philipians 4:4-7 Luke 3:10-18

**Newsletter items to the Parish Office by 10am Wednesday.**