

**PARISH OF ST MARY IMMACULATE & THE HOLY ARCHANGELS
KELVEDON, ST. BERNARD COGGESHALL, ST JOHN HOUGHTON TIPTREE,
(Twinned with St Joseph's Mission, Besters, KwaZulu-Natal)**

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2ND SUNDAY OF *Advent*

PARISH NEWSLETTER

4th December 2016

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

*Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is
close at hand.*

First Reading	Is 11:1-10
Responsorial Psalm	Ps 71:2.7-8.12-13.17
Second Reading	Rm 15:4-9
Gospel	Mt 3:1-13



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT: “A shoot springs from the stock of Jesse.” This became a popular image in art. The most typical form which the *Jesse Tree* takes is to show the figure of Jesse, often larger than all the rest, reclining or sleeping (perhaps by analogy to Adam when his rib was taken) at the foot of the pictorial space. From his side or his navel springs the trunk of a tree or vine which ascends, branching to either side. On the branches, usually surrounded by formally scrolling tendrils of foliage, are figures representing the ancestors of Christ. The trunk generally ascends vertically to Mary and then Christ at the top. The number of figures depicted varies greatly, depending on the amount of room available for the design. As a maximum, if the longer ancestry from Luke is used, there are 43 generations between Jesse and Jesus. The identity of the figures also varies, and may not be specified, but Solomon and David are usually included, and often all shown wear crowns. Most Jesse Trees include Mary immediately beneath the figure of Jesus (or, in the Gothic period, show a Virgin and Child), emphasizing that she was the means by which the *shoot of Jesse* was born. Saint Joseph is rarely shown, although unlike Mary he is a link in the Gospel genealogies. It was believed in the Middle Ages that the House of David could only marry within itself, and that she was independently descended from Jesse. Sometimes Jesus and other figures are shown in the cups of flowers, as the fruit or blossom of the Tree.

PRAYER NEEDS: Please continue to pray for those parishioners who are sick especially *Samantha Upton, Margaret Britain, Paul Britain, Vanessa Dann, Angelina Barber, June Jezierski, Mrs Van Stolk Senior, Denis Wood, Hayley Hetzel, Julie Trueman, Deborah Lee, Bill Sullivan, Pam Loath, Karen Kelly, Sheila Faulkner, Mike Gibson, Donovan Bushing, Rebecca Dillon, Brian Harper, Anne Entwistle, Audrey Hopwood* & any unknown to us.

ANNIVERSARIES: Please remember *Lucy Challis, Enid Whitaker, Neville Parkin, Beatrix Joyce, Lorna Dowell, Richard Farley* and *John Need* whose anniversaries occur at this time.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR: Many thanks to all who put so much effort and thought into organizing an enjoyable occasion and to all who supported it. The final total was £1524.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION: Thursday is the patronal feast day of our Kelvedon church. Mass is at the usual time 10.00 a.m.

WE REGRET: To announce the death of Mrs. Madeleine Martin. Although not a parishioner, husband Bill often attends our 11.00 a.m. Mass on his way to visit their daughter. Her Requiem Mass is this Wednesday 12.00 noon followed by cremation at Three Counties Crematorium. RIP.

PRAYER FOR THE NATION AND COMMUNITY: From time to time the Churches in Tiptree spend time together in prayer for local and national needs. All are welcome to join us at St John Houghton this Wednesday 7.30-8.30 p.m. This means that the parish Mass will be at 9.00 a.m. this Wednesday.

ADVENT RETREAT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE: The Brentwood Catholic Youth Service invites all young people in **years 11-13** to an Advent retreat in Walsingham House, Canvey Island. The retreat begins on Friday December 16th at 8.00 p.m. and finishes on Sunday 18th at 3.00 p.m. There is a limited amount of places, so if you would like to go, please download application form as soon as possible from bcys.net/event/advent-retreat/, ask your parents to sign it and submit it promptly. The cost is £35 but full or partial subsidy available from the parish Bursary fund. Please ask Fr Gordon or Angie Hart for an application form.

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL: This week the Youth Group have decorated a tree as part of the Christmas Tree Festival taking place at **St Mary's Parish Church in Kelvedon**. All the decorations have been handmade by the children. The festival has been open all weekend and continues today between 11.00 a.m. and 5.00 p.m. There is a short service at 5.00 p.m. today to mark it's close. Go along if you can as it is guaranteed to get you into the Christmas Spirit!

BOOK OF THE MONTH - DECEMBER: **Rich in Years by Johann Christoph Arnold.** An inspirational read for grandparents and indeed people of all ages. It deals sensitively with so many issues relating to aging and infirmity that people do not like to think about or talk about, but really should. I found *Rich in Years* beautiful, helpful and full of love.' *Catherine Wiley, founder of Catholic Grandparents Association.*

PARISH SOCIAL GROUP LEADERSHIP: Due to family and other commitments outside and within the parish, Aggie O'Brien is stepping down from being Leader of the Parish Social Group as of end of December 2016. The Social Group has grown from strength to strength over the years and has brought our parish consisting of 3 churches (Kelvedon, Coggeshall & Tiptree) closer through various social and fundraising events. If you would like to register your interest or find out more about this position, kindly speak to Aggie or Father Gordon. You will be leading a group of very enthusiastic group of volunteers who plan and organise events like Quiz Night (April), Seniors Luncheon (June/July), Annual Summer Fete (July), Father Gordon's Curry Night (October/November), Annual Christmas Bazaar (end November), Christmas Wassail/Live Nativity (December), and other events as and when needed. This group also does fundraising at all above events except the Senior's Lunch and some fundraising at parish subsidised events.

PARISH CHRISTMAS CARDS: These are available for you to collect today and next Sunday, those not collected will be posted. If you live in the parish and do not receive one please let us know so that we can update our records. If you see a card addressed to some one you know who may not be at Mass, please take it and deliver it to them.

ECUMENICAL CAROL SERVICE TIPTREE: Tiptree URC Sunday 11th December at 4.00 p.m. If anyone is planning to go and willing to do a reading, please let me know this weekend.

**MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS:
Morning & Evening Prayer: Week 2**

SUNDAY 4th December <i>2nd of Advent</i>	Coggeshall Kelvedon Tiptree	9.00 a.m. 11.00 a.m. 6.00 p.m.	All Parishioners Louise Grant RIP Barbara Kewell (anniversary)
MONDAY 5th December	Kelvedon	9.00 a.m.	Intention Throckmorton Family
TUESDAY 6th December <i>St Nicholas</i>	Kelvedon Tiptree Kelvedon	8.00 a.m. 11.00 a.m. 7.30-8.30pm	Private Intention <i>Rosary & Eucharistic Adoration</i> <i>Eucharistic Adoration</i>
WEDNESDAY 7th December	Kelvedon Kelvedon Tiptree	9.00 a.m. 12.00 noon 7.30-8.30pm	Private Intention <i>Requiem Mass: Madeleine</i> <i>Martin RIP</i> <i>Ecumenical time of prayer for</i> <i>the nation and local community</i>
THURSDAY 8th December <i>Immaculate Conception</i> <i>of BVM</i>	Kelvedon	10.00 a.m.	Edwin Hand (anniversary)
FRIDAY 9th December <i>St Juan Diego</i>	Kelvedon	9.00 a.m.	Private Intention
SATURDAY 10th December	Kelvedon	10.00 a.m.	Ray Deasy RIP
SUNDAY 11th December <i>3rd of Advent 'Laetare'</i>	Coggeshall Kelvedon Tiptree	9.00 a.m. 11.00 a.m. 6.00 p.m.	All Parishioners Maureen Savage RIP John Barrett RIP

*Sacrament of Reconciliation: this Saturday 10.30 a.m. - 11.00 a.m.
with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction*

Liturgical Rotas 11th December	Eucharistic Ministers	Lectors	Ministers of Welcome
COGGESHALL	Pat Ezra Jane Crone	Neville Bridgman	Clare Gallant
KELVEDON	Pat Richardson Steve Smith	Helena McNally	Elizabeth Maxted
TIPTREE	Mary Mann	Simon Hall	Celia Butt