

**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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PARISH NEWSLETTER

27th November 2016

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Stay awake so that you may be ready.

First Reading	Is 2:1-5
Responsorial Psalm	Ps 121:1-2.4-5.6-9
Second Reading	Rm 13:11-14
Gospel	Mt 24:37-44



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT: In our first reading the Prophet Isaiah looks forward to the Day of the Lord. The manifesting of God's Kingdom will have a two-fold effect. Peoples from all over the world will flock to Jerusalem and the Temple to acknowledge the one true God as their King. Secondly the acceptance of God's reign will bring about justice and peace. He encourages his listeners to prepare for this day by walking in the light of the Lord here and now. In St Matthew's Gospel Our Lord adds a note of urgency. Judgement implies discernment, even discrimination. It is essential that we are ready for God's coming so that he will not find us wanting or unprepared. Since we do not know when that day will be we must be ready at this moment. Our Lord does not say these words as a threat but simply because they are the truth and because it matters whether we are ready to meet God face to face. Advent is a time of preparation. We reflect on the meaning of his First Coming two thousand years ago in order to be ready to meet him now.

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 *Parval Piekieron, Susan Masters, Ernest Bell, Frances Browney, Christopher Edwards, Sr Mary Teresita OP, Marlene Kennedy, Josephine Grima, John Wood, Kathleen Lee* and *Margaret Farley* whose anniversaries occur at this time.

ADVENT BOOKLETS: The usual Advent reflection booklets are available at the back of the Church. The adult booklets, 'My Day by Day', cost £1.00. The children's booklets both infant and junior cost £0.55. I have not order any copies of 'Walk with me' this time as they were much less popular and we had a lot left over.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR: Many thanks to all who helped in so many ways to make the Bazaar an enjoyable and successful occasion for the parish. Whatever the money raised, working together and enjoying each other's company helps to build parish life.

DIOCESAN YEAR BOOK: The 2017 edition of Brentwood Diocesan Directory is now available and costs £2.75. It contains all sorts of useful information about the Diocese and also, for those who like to attend weekday Mass or follow the Liturgical Calendar at home, full details of the liturgy for each day of the year.

MASS VARIATIONS: Please note that we are hosting the next Deanery Clergy Conference this Wednesday, and as usual when it falls in November it will be preceded at 10.30 a.m. with a Mass for the deceased clergy. All are welcome. On Thursday Mass will be at 9.00 a.m. due to the Clergy Day of Recollection at Chigwell. On Saturday there is the usual monthly 12.15 p.m. Tridentine Mass.