

# OUR PARISH NEWSLETTER



Sacred Heart Parish  
Caterham Whyteleafe Godstone

15th December 2013

**Third Sunday of Advent Year A**



Sacred Heart Parish  
Caterham Whyteleafe Godstone

**"Gaudete Sunday" - Rose coloured vestments**

**Sacred Heart Church**  
Essendene Road,  
Caterham, CR3 5PB

**Parish Priest:**

Fr Kieran Gardiner  
37 Whyteleafe Rd  
Caterham,  
Surrey  
CR3 5EG

Tel: 01883 343241

priest@sacred-heart.co.uk



The Arundel & Brighton Diocesan Trust is a Registered Charity No 252878

Advent week 3  
Psalter week 3



Parish Website Address:


## A short history of Advent

Advent is undoubtedly the warmest, homeliest of the liturgical seasons, so it may come as a surprise to learn that in the first few centuries of the Church's life, Christmas did not exist and neither did Advent. The only festival to be solemnly celebrated was the Resurrection. It was only in the 4th century in the West that the Church Christianised some of the festivals of popular culture. December being a dark and gloomy month became a time of celebrating Jesus, the Light of the World. The season of Advent was only added onto the Christmas cycle in the 6th century. From then on Advent became the start of the new liturgical year. How did this come about? Is Advent a time of penance or a season of joy? The Church itself has had some difficulty in finding a focus. In the early days of the missionary expansion in northern and western Europe, the emphasis was on the penitential character of Advent. It was seen as a time of spiritual discipline for all the faithful and of intense catechesis for those being initiated, through baptism on the Epiphany. However, in Rome itself the development of Advent was quite different. In Rome the feast of Epiphany was not a baptismal day, so preparation was unnecessary. Advent was seen as a preparation for the joyful season of Christmas, and so Advent, as developed in Rome, was characterised by festive joy. How could there not be joy in the anticipation of a birth, especially when the baby is the Son of God incarnate? By the early 12th century Roman custom and the Advent liturgy was festive and adorned in white and gold. The Gloria was sung and the joyful Alleluia remained in place. Sadly however, by the end of the century the pendulum had shifted and the liturgy was stripped of its festive elements, the Gloria was silenced, the colour of the vestments became black and the mood was decidedly much more sombre. What of today's practice? It seems that we still have difficulties with Advent and how it should be approached. A time of penitence or a time of joy? The season seems to be caught in a collision of conflicting interpretations and practices which continue to make it a difficult season to manage, a situation presenting some difficulty to priests, musicians and liturgical planners. Rather than focusing on difficulties, the wise priests and liturgists should see Advent as a season pregnant with possibility. Surely it is not a good idea to make Advent a little Lent in December. In the contemporary western world with all its pre-Christmas frenzy, the more appropriate approach is; "reflect, pray, take time to be still and rejoice for we are about to celebrate the birth of all births...." In the poorer countries of the world there is already so much enforced hardship that a season of joy and hope should make a pleasant relief. Unaware that Advent has had a curious development down through the centuries, Christians continue to celebrate some beautiful customs, though unless priests, teachers and liturgists make supreme efforts to constantly promote these, they could well be in danger of being swallowed up in the great shopping madness that seems all too prevalent on the four Advents Sundays and weekdays.



**R.I.P.** Please keep in your prayers Zofia Kozlowski and Marguerite Dicker who died this week.

### WHAT'S ON IN THE PARISH THIS WEEK

Sun: Children's liturgy at 9am & 10:30am Mass  
Tea & Coffee after 10:30am (Cent Hall)  
(Helen Steptoe & Claire Bentley)   
Drinks and refreshments after 5:15pm Mass  
6.15 pm Male Voice Choir Rehearsals in Church

Mon: Tea/Coffee after the 10 am Mass in Old Hall  
2:30pm Nine Lessons and Carols here in the church led by students from St Francis School.

Tue: 9.30 am Mother & Toddler Group  
8.00 pm Advent Group in Presbytery

Thu: 1.30 pm: Advent Group meeting in Annabel's

Sat: 6.00 pm Carol Concert in Church

Sun: Children's liturgy at 9am & 10:30am Mass  
Tea & Coffee after 10:30am (Cent Hall)  
(Isabel & Elisa Labonte)  
11:30 am Children's Christmas Eve rehearsals  
3:30pm Parish Community Reconciliation Service

### Community Reconciliation Service

The Parish Community Reconciliation Service will be next Sunday 22nd December at 3.30 pm. Fr Rory Kelly will also be assisting.

### 5.15 pm Socialising

After the 5.15pm Mass today, please join us for seasonal drinks and light refreshments - a chance to meet other members of your community. All welcome

### Children's Books:

If you are clearing children's bookshelves ready for Christmas could you please remember the Fundanami Trust. We collect and ship children's books to schools in South Africa. We are willing to collect or just leave them in the box in the porch.

Mike + Eliz Wood 01883 348081. [mjw@litnum.com](mailto:mjw@litnum.com)

### Appreciation

Phyl Taylor & Family would like to thank everyone for their support, prayers and sympathy cards. It was very much appreciated.

### CAFOD WORLD GIFTS –

The true spirit of Christmas giving!

Are you looking for a really special Christmas gift? Take a look at the wide range of gifts on offer at the CAFOD table in the porch after all Masses this weekend. These 'alternative' gifts will delight family and friends but also make a positive and practical difference to the lives of those in need. Many of the gifts are especially suitable for children.

### Diocesan Directory 2014

The new Diocesan Directory is now available from the shop at £4.50 .

### 9 Lessons & Carols

Please join the students from St Francis School as they lead us in 9 Lessons & Carols at 2.30 pm tomorrow Monday here in the Church.

### Thanks

To all who have sent Fr Kieran Christmas Cards and gifts, you will understand that it is impossible for him to send a thanks to each person individually so please accept this insertion as his acknowledgment and grateful appreciation to you.

### Peace Light from Bethlehem

An appeal that 'jars'. - from Peter Lovatt.

We need clean, washed jam-jars to give to people who would like to take the Peace Light home, but who do not have a jar of their own. The Peace Light will be brought into our church at the 9.00p.m. Mass on Sunday the 22nd December (next Sunday). The flame starts its journey at the Grotto of Christ's birth where a Muslim Scout passes the flame to a Jewish Scout and then onto a Christian Scout for distribution around the world so that people can burn the flame in their homes and churches over Christmas as a symbol of peace. Anyone who wants, can light their own light from it to take back home to burn over Christmas as a focus for prayer and a reminder of the need for peace, generosity and tolerance in our homes, in our country and throughout the world. Bring a jar for yourself – and a jar (or jars) for others next Sunday!

### A.C.T.A.( A Call to Action)

*The National body of A.C.T.A. have collected over 1500 signatures expressing dissatisfaction with the present wording of the Mass, objecting to its "Latinized sentence construction, obscure vocabulary, excessively long sentences with too many subordinate clauses, loss of ecumenically shared texts which lacks inclusive language, clunky disjointed rhythms which do not serve proclamation- and little has changed to reconcile many in the pews or indeed the majority of priests to the Vox Clara texts". Many of you have already voiced similar complaints as well. The ACTA lay delegates hope to present their findings to the Conference of Bishops of England & Wales asking them for a review of the present wording of the Mass. It would seem the Catholic church in Germany*

*has had some success in preventing its implementation.*

*If you wish to join ACTA, please contact Eliz Woods:*

*[elizabeth.wood11@btinternet.com](mailto:elizabeth.wood11@btinternet.com)*

### **Brunton Centre - Christmas Day**

If anyone is available to drive guests to or from the Douglas Brunton Centre on Christmas Day could you please call Mary Richards on 01883 343081 or e-mail mary@randmrichards.co.uk Guests are usually collected from their homes between 11a.m. and 11.30a.m and collected from the Centre at around 4p.m. They are organising a Christmas Day Lunch for the elderly and lonely again this year, and are asking people to donate gifts and mince pies. Gifts should be approximately £5 in value, gift- wrapped and labelled clearly as for man or woman. Sue Hooper has kindly agreed to be the collection point again. Her address is 76 Campbell Rd Caterham 01883 342650.

### **Electric Generator**

On Tuesday a major fault developed with the electric generator which is situated along the path next to the church . The Electricity Board asked permission to install a temporary mobile generator on the grounds of our church until they are able to repair the existing generator which may take up to a month or longer. Refusing permission would have meant no electricity being supplied to quite a considerable number of homes on Caterham on the Hill , including the church ,right through the Christmas period. The only place they could park the temporary generator was on the disabled car park bay, as you can see. For the time being, could those who use this disabled car park space, please park on the driveway leading to the cottage next to the side entrance to the church. The tenants in the Cottage do not own a car, so don't feel you may be blocking anyone in.

### **All School Mass**

The 10 am Mass in the church this Thursday will be celebrated with all the children from St Francis School.

### **Second Collection**

Today there will be a Second Collection towards the cost of all the Christmas decorations, trees, flowers and candles.

### **Christmas Offerings**

Today there are some Christmas Offering envelopes in the porch to be used by those who may be away over Christmas but who wish to contribute to Fr Kieran's support. The Christmas offerings at all Masses on Christmas Eve and Day go towards his financial upkeep.

### **Offertory Collection**

Sincere thanks for your generosity last weekend:  
Offertory £902.59(Gift Aid £419.19;

### **Your Prayers are requested for the following persons who are ill or enfeeble.**

Pat Knight; Kathleen & John Saunders; Helen Keogh; Daisy Hill; Connie Cronin; Christopher Browne; Kit Monk; Krista Thompson; Jane Hill; Rosemary Whale; Michael Labonte; Leon & Sophie Kozlowski; Pam Weaver; Jimmy & Bridie Mullen; Jim & Bernie Horrocks; Margaret Robertson; Tess Gully; Heather Tordimah; Jenny Rower; Ken Archer; Jenny Trumper; Elizabeth Daley; Eileen Lattimore; Bryan Smith; Diane Bailey; Rose Knight; Oliver Farrell; Richard Richardson; Seeta Pillay; Ian Lester; John Gilford & Christopher Miles.



The Carol Concert will be this Saturday 21st December starting at 6 pm in the Church led by the Medway Brass Ensemble plus Tristan Horne playing the Cello and Max Neale playing

the saxophone and our own parish Male Voice Choir with a retiring collection to cover the cost of the hire of the Band. Refreshments in the Centenary Hall afterwards includes free Mulled Wine and Mince Pies .Bar facilities will also be available.

### **New Years Eve Party**

The tickets are selling out rapidly. £10 per adult. £5 per Primary School. Available from Parish Office.

This year's Children's Panto was a great success with 150 children in attendance. Special thanks to the families that stayed afterwards to help clear up which was a great relief.

### **TIMES FOR CHRISTMAS MASSES 2013**

#### **Christmas Eve:**

6.00pm  
9.000 pm  
12.00 pm Midnight

#### **Christmas Day**

9.00 am  
10.30 am  
No evening Mass

## CONTACTS

### **Parish Office:**

Leila Merrett ( Mondays & Wednesdays :  
9.30 am - 12.30 pm)  
info@sacred-heart.co.uk  
01883 343241

### **Baptism Preparation:**

John Baron 0208 763 2144

### **Holy Communion:**

Anne-Marie Young 07949 938984  
fhc.sacredheart@gmail.com

### **Confirmation:**

Allison Pullin 01883 382506  
al.pullin@ntlworld.com

### **Marriage Preparation:**

(6 months notice required) - Fr Kieran

### **Journey of Faith (RCIA):**

Peter Lovat 01883 345749  
peter\_lovat@yahoo.com

### **Chair of Liturgy Group:**

Eliz Woods  
elizabeth.wood11@btinternet.com

### **Centenary Hall Hire:**

Tara O'Sullivan  
07724 613407  
thecenthall@gmail.com

### **Maintenance & Fixtures:**

Gareth Till: 07966 777769

### **Safeguarding:**

Dee Hall and Jacqui Voorbach  
e-mail: safeguarding@sacred-heart.co.uk

### **Gift Aid:**

Peter Kelly 01883 330684  
peterf\_kelly@o2.co.uk

### **Tuesday Toddlers 9.30-11.00:**

Kelly Coyne: 07921030991  
kelly.coyne@btinternet.com

### **Parish Youth Club:**

(First Friday during school term. 7pm)  
Veronique Wood  
youthclubsacredheart@gmail.com

### **Chair of Parish Finance:**

Rayon Brown - raybrown2006@aol.com

### **St. Francis Primary School:**

Acting Headteacher: - Mrs Patricia Burke  
01883 342005

## **THIS WEEK—SERVICES, MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS**

<b>Sunday 15th</b>	<i>Third Sunday of Advent Year A</i>
9:00am Mass	Gilford Family Ints (Brenda)
10:30am Mass	August & Martha Reynard RIP (Ursula)
5:15pm Mass	People of the Parish
<b>Monday 16th</b>	<i>Monday in the Third Week of Advent</i>
10:00am Mass	Ceinwein & Keith Jeremiah Int (Peggy)
<b>Tuesday 17th</b>	<i>Start of the Great "O" Antiphons</i>
10.00 am Mass	Beryl Dickenson RIP
<b>Wednesday 18th</b>	<i>Mass for 18 December</i>
10.00 am Mass	No Mass
<b>Thursday 19th</b>	<i>Mass for 19 December</i>
10:00am Mass	Mary Preston RIP (P Foundation)
<b>Friday 20th</b>	<i>Mass for 20 December</i>
10:00am Mass	Gavin Aldridge RIP (R Knight)
<b>Saturday 21st</b>	<i>Mass for 21 December</i>
10:00am Mass	Holy Souls (Walker family)
<b>Sunday 22nd</b>	<i>Fourth Sunday of Advent Year A</i>
9:00am Mass	Michael Jennings RIP (Bridie & family)
10:30am Mass	Andrew Koh RIP (Ursula)
5:15pm Mass	People of the Parish



**Confessions** every Saturday 10:30 – 11:00am

**Lauds** Mondays at 9.45am

**Rosary** Thursday & Friday at 9:40am

**Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament**

Tuesdays: 9am - 10am; 1pm -2pm ;

Saturdays: 9am – 11am;

**HEALING MASS with Benediction** every first Friday at 10:00am

