

The Parish Clergy:
The Reverend the Vicar and Surrogate
Fr. Andrew Stevens, M.A., S.S.C.,
Regional Dean For Southwark Forward in Faith
S. Nicholas Vicarage, 64, Purrett Rd., Plumstead,
London. SE18 1JP
Tel. 020-8854 0461 Facsimile 020-8265 5065
e-mail parishpriest@saintricholasplumstead.org
Web site: www.saintricholasplumstead.org
The Reverend the Hon. Curate Fr. Charles Heard
The Churchwardens:
Mrs Cecelia Okrafo-Smart Mr Alex Davies
The Churchwardens Emeriti
Mr Reg Martin Miss Betty Stroud

THE ADVENT CROWN HYMN

The First Sunday of Advent:

*The holly and the ivy
 are dancing in a ring
 round the berry-bright red candles
 and the white and shining King.*

Oh, one is for the prophets
 and for the light they bring.
 They are candles in the darkness
 all alight for Christ the King.

The Second Sunday of Advent:

And two is for God's people
 and for the light they bring.
 They are candles in the darkness
 all alight for Christ the King.

The Third Sunday of Advent:

And three is for John the Baptist.
 He calls us on to sing:
 "O prepare the way for Jesus Christ,
 He is coming, Christ our King".

The Fourth Sunday of Advent:

And four for Mother Mary:
 "I cannot see the way.
 But you promise me a baby.
 I believe you, I obey".

Christmas Day:

And Christ is in the centre,
 For this is His birthday
 With the shining lights of Christmas,
 Singing "He has come today".

Welcome to our Church today, after the Parish Mass refreshments will be served at the back of Church. Please join us and make yourself known to one of the clergy.

This ancient church has been a place of Christian worship of Almighty God for well over 1,000 years; as we enter the third millennium of our salvation it is salutary to remember that Christians have gathered here on this spot since the first millennium.

If you would like to pray, the Lady Chapel is set aside as a place of quiet, where the Blessed Sacrament is reserved or you might like to light a candle at one of the many shrines around church.

THE PARISH AND ANCIENT CHURCH OF SAINT NICHOLAS, PLUMSTEAD

WELCOME TO OUR CELEBRATION TODAY



Induction loop fitted Sound reinforcement



Ramp available for access

A Forward in Faith parish under the Episcopal Care of the Bishop of Fulham, during the vacancy in See The Right Reverend Peter Wheatley, we are a Eucharistic community who is worshipping in the present, upon the Apostolic Truths of the past, in the hope of finding our future salvation in God's Heavenly Kingdom.

The Mass is offered daily

Sunday	8:00am
	11:00am
Monday	8:00pm
Tuesday	7:30pm
Wednesday	9:30am
Thursday	7:00pm
Friday	12:00pm
Saturday	10:00am



Exposition of the BLESSED SACRAMENT or ADORATION half an hour before Mass every day except Sunday.

The ROSARY of the Blessed Virgin Mary is said after Mass on Friday and Saturday

Confessions:

Monday 7:30-8:00pm. Tuesday 7:00-7:30pm, Thursday 6:30-7:00pm, or by appointment.



Please turn off all mobile 'phones

PLEASE TAKE THIS SHEET HOME

now read on . . .

1 John 3. 1-3

We are reminded of the opening verses of St John's Gospel which is read on Christmas Day: how the grace of the Incarnation gave to those who have faith in Christ 'power to become the sons of God'. Here again the inspired writer tells us that the great gift of God is not worldly wellbeing, but transforming love. Some of the early Church Fathers make the bold assertion that God taking on our human nature has made us a part of the divine Being- 'he became Man, that we might become God'. It is a thought that we dare not explore with rational enquiry, but accept joyfully as a sacred mystery. The celebration of All Saints makes us reflect on those, known or unknown by name, who have specially shared this closeness to God. The saints were not all 'good' people at all times; many of them must have been difficult to live with. But they were filled with the power of God and showed something of the glory that was in the Son. If we follow them, we shall not always be understood or accepted in a world so often estranged from faith. We have the greater obligation to try to honour the Sonship bestowed on us, to live daily nearer to the pattern of our Lord. It is a calling that will lead to an even greater wonder - to be truly like him when at last we see him as he is.

"As we rejoice in the faith of your saints, inspire us to follow their example."

Do you have a favourite saint? If so, which one?

Many individuals and some congregations feel a particular affinity with an individual saint or saints. The most obvious example is the patron saint of a parish church. If we have a church dedicated to a saint, then as a church family, we may feel a particular connection to that person to his or her life, to their witness, and a sense of their intercessions for us in heaven. As individual Christians we may also have a saint with whom we can identify - perhaps a local saint who worked in and around the place where we now live; or if we were fortunate enough to have been born on a saint's day, we may feel a particular connection with this person.

There are many saints whom we celebrate in the course of the Christian Year, but there are also many others of whom we know relatively little and still others who have now vanished from our collective memory. Today's feast is about All the Saints - those known to us and those known only to God Himself. The saints of old inspire us in our own Christian pilgrimage to heaven and from their place in glory they intercede on our behalf. The saints are for everyone: because we can be reassured that there is a saint out there who is/was just like us; so inspired by their example let us endeavour to follow their example.

Forward! is published each week by Forward in Faith, 2A The Cloisters, Gordon Square, London WC1H 0AG

Forward!

Welcome to our celebration today

All Saints

Cloud of Witnesses

We are called to be saints. The same Grace that was at work in the Holy Ones that have gone before us is at work in us. The sacramental life of the church, the Scriptures, the presence of the Lord all endure. All Saints tide reminds us that among the 'Great Cloud of Witnesses' that is the company of saints - there is someone who matches our age, our social background,



our particular family situation and social standing.

We are reminded that Holiness, and the ability to be a 'light to the world' in our generation' is a real and attainable possibility. It is as St Paul reminds us 'from first to last the work of Christ' but let us take to heart the exhortation in the

Letter to the Hebrews 12 'since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses ... let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus.'

With all the saints let us work and pray hard for that day when the whole of creation will be made perfect and when with them we will be partakers of the eternal feast of victory.

Let us remember one another in concord and unanimity. Let us on both sides [of life and death] always pray for one another. Let us relieve burdens and afflictions by mutual love, that if one of us, by the swiftness of divine condescension, shall go hence first, our love may continue in the presence of the Lord and our prayers for our brethren and sisters not cease in the presence of the Father's mercy.

St. Cyprian of Carthage Letters 56[60]:5

S. NICHOLAS CHURCH**FLOODLIGHT: LIGHT THE CHURCH**

We all realise how important it is to support our Church, more so in these days of rising costs; well here is a good way of supporting it and enjoying it personally.

Floodlight the building by day £2.25 or by the week £14.50, for that personal event: a birth, Baptism, Birthday, an Anniversary, Wedding or Years Mind of a loved one, in doing this you will remember and at the same time help pay the electricity bill. The price is reasonable and shows this building in all its glory after sunset, it does enhance this fine building. Reg holds the diary, to be sure there are no double bookings, it is yours for the day or week.

Sancte Nicolae, Ora pro nobis

All-powerful God,
you made
Saint Nicholas
a bishop and leader
of the Church
to inspire your people
with his teaching
and example.
May we give fitting
honour to his memory
and always have the
assistance of his prayers
We ask this
through our
Lord Jesus Christ,
your Son,
who lives and reigns
with you and
the Holy Spirit,
one God,
for ever and ever.
Amen

Christus, Heri, Hodie, Semper

If you are celebrating
a BIRTHDAY or ANNIVERSARY
and would like to share it with your Church Family
A £15 DONATION
covers the cost of Sherry
(You may if you wish provide wine of your own choice)
to be enjoyed at the back of church after Mass
Please see Gwen or Christina Agin!

**3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**The Angelus will be sung at the
Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham**

HYMNS

Introit:	NEH	12
Gradual:	NEH	sung in full 501
Offertory:	NEH	16
Communion:	NEH	275
Post Communion:	NEH	10

PALM CROSSES:

Jessica Roberts in thanksgiving

THE PASCHAL CANDLE:

Flavia Kisambira in thanksgiving for Theo & Otto

THE SEVEN DAY SHRINE LIGHTS FOR DECEMBER**THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:**

Jessica Roberts: In thanksgiving

THE SANCTUARY:

Fr Charles: In thanksgiving for the life of his brother John

OUR LADY BY THE LADY CHAPEL:

Joy & Stephen Jahans: In thanksgiving

OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM:

Betty Stroud: In memory of Tillie & Bert

OUR LADY OF FATIMA:

*Murray Smallbone: For the repose
of the soul of John Beck 30-7-1937 - 8-10-2008*

S. NICHOLAS:

*Steve Chwalyk: For the repose
of the soul of Helen Chwalyk 17-8-1926 - 23-2-2011*

THE SUNDAY SHRINE LIGHTS FOR NOVEMBER**OUR LADY BY THE TOWER:**

Gwen Pearce

THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY:

Henry Aguh

OUR LADY OF SOPROWS:

Fr Andrew: for the repose of the soul of Ernie Maty

S. JOSEPH:

Paul Pangrace

S. FRANCIS:

Betty Stroud

S. MARTIN:

Reg & Doreen Martin

THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS:

Fr Andrew

FLOODLIGHTING

11th - 17th Jennifer Umusu: In thanksgiving

INTRODUCTION

Introduction

On this third Sunday of Advent we light the pink candle on the Advent wreath. This is Gaudete Sunday, when we focus on celebration, “Gaudete” being a Latin word calling us to rejoice. We rejoice together in the hope we have because Christ is quietly present in our world.

Today’s Readings

First Reading Isaiah 61:1-2. 10-11

The prophet Isaiah says God’s spirit brings him great joy. He prophesies that those who are poor will receive good news, broken hearts will be healed, prisoners will be freed and justice will reign.

Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Paul suggests that at all times and in all circumstances we are to rejoice, pray and give thanks to God.

Gospel John 1:6-8. 19-28

John the Baptist points out that the Lord is quietly present in the world and that he himself is simply “a witness to speak for the light”.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

With trust in God’s faithfulness, let us turn to the Lord in prayer.

For all the peoples of the Holy Land: that they may one day experience justice and reconciliation.
Lord, hear us.

For the Church: that God’s people will not be indifferent towards individuals and communities throughout the world suffering violence, persecution and poverty.
Lord, hear us.

For young people everywhere: that they may enjoy an environment that is conducive to happiness and hope.
Lord, hear us.

For people who find it hard to be happy and optimistic, particularly those suffering depression or bereavement: may they find hope in God’s loving presence in our world.
Lord, hear us.

Lord, hear our prayers, which we make trusting in your faithful love for us, through Christ our Lord.

PRAYER FOR HEALING

- Olivia Grace Kintu Barbara Brunt Jack Brunt
Murray Smallbone
Fr Gerald Lane Sarah Catherine Namutebi
Fr Charles Ada Smith Amina Chaudhury
Joe Moss Chucks Owilbo Colin Jones Daphne Langford
Bhupendra Pattini Anita Johnson Lisa Bowden
Geoff McCarthy Mary Cook Sue Yurik Wayne Yurik
Josephine Bampton Alison Mules Christina Agin
Victor Boyce Madeleine Barrelo Heath (10 month old baby)
Marjorie Unwin Phylis Knight
Lesley Loftus Ruby Arthurs Diane
Brian Goulding Issa Olarewaju Lawal
Doreen Cleaver Mandy McWhinnie
Carol Bohurjak Tommy Bohurjak Jim Webb
Pam Webb John David Cook Fr Timmothy Raphael
Tom Bohurjak Susan Jahans Sarah Burton
Beverley Goering Paul Rice Stanley Lewis
Ebere Collins Ofojebe Pat Wenham Liz O’Sullivan
Bill Russell Kay Nelson Connie Guntrip Diane Fulbrook
Colin Cresswell Rodney Warrenner Ian Mackie
Robert McEwan Kay Etherington Joan Gosling
Stephen Jahans Diane Kot Danny Bell Vic Clark
Jill Pearson Howard Weston-Smart Roy Richards Juliet Skinner
Nicky Thomas Stephen May Dorothy Crook Dorian Joseph
Joan Cosgrove Colin Bendall Pete Gray
Keiran (18 month old baby) Murial Taylor Callie
Fr David Dunn Hazel Clark Olive Verrall Grace Beasley
Brian Marshall Margaret Rusnyk
Jean Hills David Jahans

IN THANKSGIVING

- Val Marshall Mike Okeze Marie Borland
Teresa Agin Meghan Belcher

NOVEMBER	1 st Reading	2 nd Reading	Intercessions
Sunday 6 th †	Y. Stevens	D. Stevens	A. Davies
Sunday 13 th	B. Scott	E. Buhl	R. Martin
Sunday 20 th	J. Jahans	R. Barzey	B. Scott
Sunday 27 nd	P. Alexander	S. Obubo	J. Jahans
DECEMBER			
Sunday 4 th	D. Stevens	Y. Stevens	S. Jahans
Saturday 10 th St Nicholas Day	B. Stroud	T. Agin	G. Agin
Sunday 11 th	P. Channer	S. Jahans	A. Davies
Sunday 18 th	B. Scott	E. Crawley	T. Agin
Saturday 24 th Midnight Mass	G. Agin	P. Alexander	B. Scott
Sunday 25 th Christmas Day	D. Martin	R. Martin	Fr. Andrew
JANUARY			
Sunday 1 st	Y. Stevens	D. Stevens	R. Martin
Sunday 8 th	G. Agin	E. Buhl	J. Jahans

**FOR YOUR DAILY INTERCESSION
DECEMBER General Intention:**

That the nations of the earth, through knowledge and mutual respect, may grow in harmony and peace.

Missionary Intention:

That children and young people may be messengers of the Gospel and that their dignity may always be respected and preserved from all violence and exploitation.

FLOWERS IN MEMORY

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

THE DEPARTED

Henry Alfred [Harry] Longbottom
Ernie Maty Doreen Fisher
Bryan Vickery Mark Jaynes
Joseph Moss

YEARS MIND

13th Sonnie Bobo-Jama
14th Edna Earl
16th Rosa Barbara Powell
16th Lionel Stanley Jahans

THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN BAPTISED:

Sunday 9th October 2011:
Tia-Amber Gardener

THOSE PREPARING FOR BAPTISM

Sunday 18th December 2011:
Alexander Temitope Adeniji
Daniel Olamiposi Adeniji

THOSE NEWLY MARRIED

Saturday 14th August 2010 at 3:00pm
Ian Clive John Brooks & Tessa Amelia Hawkins

THOSE PREPARING FOR HOLY MATRIMONY

BIRTHDAY

15th Jaymour Thomas

**Sunday Readings: Year B
Psalter Week 3**

DECEMBER 2011

* 11	Su	P	THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT DO1(3) Mass pr, LI 48, Cr, Pref Advent I R1: Isaiah 61:1-2,10-11 R2: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24	(CWCL:3rd Sunday of Advent) MP:2(109) EP:1(101) Psalm Luke 1:46-50,53-54 Gospel: John 1:6-8,19-28	
12	M	P	FERIA OF 3rd WEEK OF ADVENT DO5(3) Mass pr, LI 53, Pref Advent I	MP:2(107) EP:1(102)	
			<i>or:</i>		
		W	Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mem DO4(3) Mass from Com of BVM, LI 53, Pref BVM I 'as we honour' or II	MP:215(309) EP:213(305)	
			<i>The optional memorial of S Jane Frances of Chantal is permanently transferred to the 12th August.</i>		
13	T	R	S Lucy VMr, Mem DO4(3) Mass from Com of Martyrs or Com of Virgins, LI 56, Pref Advent I	MP:192(321) EP:192(321)	
14	W	W	S John of the Cross PrDr, Mem DO4(3) Mass pr, LI 58, Pref Advent I	MP:189(325) EP:188(325)	
15	Th	P	FERIA OF 3rd WEEK OF ADVENT DO5(3) Mass pr, LI 61, Pref Advent I	MP:2(107) EP:1(102)	
16	F	P	FERIA OF 3rd WEEK OF ADVENT DO5(3) Mass pr, LI 63, Pref Advent I	MP:2(108) EP:1(103)	
ADVENT II FROM 17 TO 24 DECEMBER					
<i>*At Mass; Pref Advent II is said unless noted otherwise.</i>					
<i>Each weekday has a proper Mass according to the date.</i>					
<i>On Memorials: Mass and Office of the day is said. The Memorial is commemorated ad libitum at morning prayer and evening prayer by adding the antiphon (either proper or from the common) and the concluding prayer from the Memorial after the concluding prayer of the office of the day; at Mass, the opening prayer of the Memorial may be said ad libitum in place of the opening prayer of the Mass of the day.</i>					
17	S	P	FERIA OF 3rd WEEK OF ADVENT DO5(3) Mass pr, LI 76, Pref Advent II	(CWCL:O Sapientia) MP:2(109)	
		P	EPI of foll DO1(4)	EP:1(101)	

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

*Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice.
Indeed, the Lord is near.*

COLLECT

O God, who see how your people
faithfully await the feast of the Lord's Nativity,
enable us, we pray,
to attain the joys of so great a salvation
and to celebrate them always
with solemn worship and glad rejoicing.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

FIRST READING Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.
The spirit of the Lord has been given to me,
for the Lord has anointed me.
He has sent me to bring good news to the poor,
to bind up hearts that are broken;
to proclaim liberty to captives,
freedom to those in prison;
to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord.
"I exult for joy in the Lord,
my soul rejoices in my God,
for he has clothed me in the garments of salvation,
he has wrapped me in the cloak of integrity,
like a bridegroom wearing his wreath,
like a bride adorned in her jewels.
"For as the earth makes fresh things grow,
as a garden makes seeds spring up,
so will the Lord make both integrity and praise
spring up in the sight of the nations."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM Luke 1:46-50, 53-54

RESPONSE: My soul rejoices in my God.

1. My soul glorifies the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.
He looks on his servant in her nothingness;
henceforth all ages will call me blessed. **R.**
2. The Almighty works marvels for me.
Holy his name!
His mercy is from age to age,
on those who fear him. **R.**
3. He fills the starving with good things,
sends the rich away empty.
He protects Israel, his servant,
remembering his mercy. **R.**

SECOND READING 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians.
Be happy at all times; pray constantly; and for all things give
thanks to God, because this is what God expects you to do in
Christ Jesus.

Never try to suppress the Spirit or treat the gift of prophecy with
contempt; think before you do anything – hold on to what is good
and avoid every form of evil.

May the God of peace make you perfect and holy; and may
you all be kept safe and blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the
coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has called you and he will
not fail you.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me.

He has sent me to bring good news to the poor.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL John 1:6-8, 19-28

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

A man came, sent by God.

His name was John.

He came as a witness,

as a witness to speak for the light,

so that everyone might believe through him.

He was not the light,

only a witness to speak for the light.

This is how John appeared as a witness. When the Jews sent
priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?"
he not only declared, but he declared quite openly, "I am not the
Christ." "Well then," they asked "are you Elijah?" "I am not" he
said. "Are you the Prophet?" He answered, "No." So they said to
him, "Who are you? We must take back an answer to those who
sent us. What have you to say about yourself?" So John said, "I
am, as Isaiah prophesied:

a voice that cries in the wilderness:

Make a straight way for the Lord."

Now these men had been sent by the Pharisees, and they put
this further question to him, "Why are you baptising if you are not
the Christ, and not Elijah, and not the prophet?" John replied, "I
baptise with water; but there stands among you – unknown to
you – the one who is coming after me; and I am not fit to undo his
sandal-strap." This happened at Bethany, on the far side of the
Jordan, where John was baptising.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

May the sacrifice of our worship, Lord, we pray,
be offered to you unceasingly,
to complete what was begun in sacred mystery
and powerfully accomplish for us your saving work.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear.

Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We implore your mercy, Lord,
that this divine sustenance may cleanse us of our faults
and prepare us for the coming feasts.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.