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**1st Sunday of Advent (B)** December 3rd, 2023

**SUNDAY MASS TIMES**



 Saturday 6.00pm St. Patrick’s church

 Sunday 9.30am Christ the King church

 Sunday 11.00am St. Patrick’s church

**WEEKDAY LITURGY TIMES**

 Tuesday 10.00am Christ the King

 **Wednesday 10.30am Christ the King (Funeral Mass)**

 Thursday 10.00am Christ the King

 Friday 10.00am St. Patrick’s

**MASS INTENTIONS RECEIVED**: Special Intention, Martin Donegan, Mary-Ann Hunt (Anni.), Archbishop Emeritus James Patrick Keleher (age 92)

**ANNIVERSARIES: December 3rd – 9th:**

Maureen Hall, Ken Hall, Bruce Peirson, Susan Hart, Syd Elsey, Philip Donoghue, Mary Ellen Green, Raymond Crawford, Anne Lenehan, Winifred Duffy.

**PLEASE REMEMBER** in your prayers all our sick and housebound brothers and sisters.

**The word this week**

Isaiah 63:16b–17 Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come down.

Psalm 79 ***‘God of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.’***

1 Corinthians 1:3–9 We are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed.

Mark 13:33–37 Stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming.

A

dvent opens with a great cry, and a great promise: “Oh that you would tear the heavens open and come down!” is the cry, of a people who need God. “...The master is coming” is the promise, not to breed fear, but to answer our cry. Advent begins, not with thoughts of the past, with the coming of the Lord we celebrate at Christmas, but with the future, and the promise that He is coming back. We are encouraged to treat every day as the day the Lord will come; we do not do this out of fear for a Master who beats his servants, but out of love of a Master who always treats us with love and mercy. Nevertheless, we must always be watchful, because we can grow sleepy and complacent.

**AT MASS TODAY WE PRAY** Eucharistic Prayer 3 and Preface 1 for Advent

Each week the heavens open, and the Lord Jesus is made present on this sacred table. With hearts eager for his coming, we lift our prayer of thanksgiving.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Please remember in your prayers **Mrs. Mary Kathleen “Pat” Oliver,** aged 91, from Thornaby, who died recently. Her Funeral Mass will take place this Wednesday, December 6th, at Christ the King Church at 10.30am. May she rest in peace.

**This Friday, December 8, Feast of Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

**MESSAGE FROM ALISON FISK:** COP28 is a huge event in the political calendar, where world leaders come together once per year to discuss, negotiate, and make commitments on climate change. It takes place 30th November to 12th December. We would like to invite parishioners into St. Patrick’s College this Monday, December 4th, at 1:30pm to join us in praying the Rosary for Creation, asking Mary, our Mother, to guide those taking part in making the right decisions which will ultimately have an impact on future generations. We will be joined by pupils from our primary schools on the day. Please come along if you are able.

**CHRISTMAS HAMPERS 2023:** Its that time for sharing where your help is needed to support our local area. Over the years we drive a Christmas hamper and present event. We have raised £30k plus, provided in excess 2000 hampers and over 7k presents for nominated families. Again, we are working to see what can be done in 2023. This year it will take place on 11th December. How can you help us?

Monetary Donations to Christmas Hamper Fundraising, 20-59-43 Account 53294919

Add your name in the reference field or pass to Liz Maw, Mary Goodwin, Fr Pat

Christmas hampers – we need as much food as you can provide. Think of the nice things that you would like at Christmas, sweets, chocolate, crisps, Christmas puddings etc. At the back of Asda, they have a trolley for toys that they are collecting for us

Presents – Mams and Dads gifts, children of any age group from baby up. Please provide new gifts. There is no need to wrap as we have plenty of elves supporting on the day. All need to be in no later than 5th December so we can sort in readiness for the big day.

**First Sunday of Advent (B)**

**December 3rd, 2023**

 **First reading** Isaiah 63:16-17,64:1,3-8

You, Lord, yourself are our Father,

‘Our Redeemer’ is your ancient name.

Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways

and harden our hearts against fearing you?

Return, for the sake of your servants,

the tribes of your inheritance.

Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come down!

– at your Presence the mountains would melt.

No ear has heard,

no eye has seen

any god but you act like this

for those who trust him.

You guide those who act with integrity

and keep your ways in mind.

You were angry when we were sinners;

we had long been rebels against you.

We were all like men unclean,

all that integrity of ours like filthy clothing.

We have all withered like leaves

and our sins blew us away like the wind.

No one invoked your name

or roused himself to catch hold of you.

For you hid your face from us

and gave us up to the power of our sins.

And yet, Lord, you are our Father;

we the clay, you the potter,

we are all the work of your hand.

 **Second reading**  1 Corinthians 1:3-9

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

 I never stop thanking God for all the graces you have received through Jesus Christ. I thank him that you have been enriched in so many ways, especially in your teachers and preachers; the witness to Christ has indeed been strong among you so that you will not be without any of the gifts of the Spirit while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed; and he will keep you steady and without blame until the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, because God by calling you has joined you to his Son, Jesus Christ; and God is faithful.

 **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Let us see, O Lord, your mercy

and give us your saving help.

Alleluia!

 **Gospel Reading** Mark 13:33-37

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!’