



OUR LADY OF DOLOURS SERVITE CHURCH

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2nd Sunday after the Nativity (Year B) 3rd January 2021

Sunday Reflection: On the first Sunday of 2021 we hear an emphatic message about God's desire in Today's Collect to share our lives and to guide us by the way of his love: *'Almighty ever-living God... be pleased to fill the world with your glory and show yourself to all peoples by the radiance of your light.'* 'The phrase 'all peoples' shows an embrace of welcome and inclusion. No-one is excluded. The three readings today affirm for us that God is not only the Creator of the universe, an aspect common to many other world religions, but that he is the Father who *'chose us in him before the foundations of the world. He destined us in love'* to become one of us and live among us. Today's Gospel is a world-changing manifesto. God is being shared, communicated, passed on and embodied in Jesus 'for us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven as we pray in the Creed. *'In the beginning'* is a new start, a new creation, a new kingdom, a New Year. What will 2021 bring, given the pandemic of 2020 that has affected the entire world? The gospel uses the image of light. *'The Word was the true light that enlightens all people and he was coming into the world.'* Today, we celebrate the God who has *'taken root in a privileged people'* as the Book of Wisdom tells us. This same God *'chose us in Christ to live through love in his presence... his free gift to us in the Beloved'* as today's Letter to the Ephesians reminds us. St John frames our story against a word mosaic of an eternal background in today's gospel. As we read the full life-story of Jesus through 2021, let us be aware that whatever he does and says, like speaking forgiveness to foreign women, restoring sight to a blind man or changing water into wine, the encounter will also happen in our own lives. Today, in Jesus we are brought close to the Father's heart and are blessed with grace and truth, mentioned three times - as the lavish gifts of God to accompany us through 2021." (Intercom, The Editor"

Sincere Thanks – The Servite Community wish to thank you all for your very generous offerings on Christmas Day. We are most grateful to you all. We thank you too for your kind greeting cards, gifts and best wishes at Christmas. We appreciate your thoughtfulness and assure you of a special place in our prayers during the coming year. It has been a hectic year, a busy and demanding year with many changes, but with great work done in our church. Thank you again for your faith, your prayers and your support.

Happy New Year – We wish all parishioners and all who attend Mass in our Church a very Happy and Blessed New Year. January 1st was the World Day of Peace, so we pray for peace for those parts of our World ravaged by war and violence, we pray for peace in our homes and in our hearts. We wish you all a peaceful New Year. This year let us try to do and change what is possible and what is for the better, so let us resolve to be faithful and having some prayer time each day.

Vigil Mass: Sat 6.30pm
 Sunday 9.30am
 11.00am
 Spanish Mass 12.30pm
 Mon to Fri 10am (Daily)

Sacrament of Confession

By Appointment

If you would like Confession, please email, or call the Parish Office.

Parish Office Opening Hrs

Mon – Fri 9am to 5pm
 (Lunch 1.30pm – 2.30pm)

Saints Days

Wed 6th – The Epiphany of the Lord

Thur 7th – St Raymond of Penyafort

Confirmation – Details of the Celebration of the Confirmation Programme from 2019/2020 will be announced Shortly!

First Holy Communion: Dates of registration for our next programme will be announced Shortly!