# OUR LADY OF DOLOURS SERVITE CHURCH 264 FULHAM ROAD, LONDON SW10 9EL

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First Sunday of Advent

(Year A)

1<sup>st</sup> December 2019

### **Mass Times**

Vigil Mass: Sat 6.30pm Sunday 8.30am 10am

(Spanish) 11.15am 12.15pm

7pm

Mon - Sat 10am + 6.30pm

#### Sacrament of Confession

Mon - Fri 6.15 – 6.30pm Saturday 10.45 – 11.15am 6.00 – 6.30pm

#### Parish Office Opening Hrs

Mon - Fri 9am to 5pm (Lunch 1.30pm - 2.30pm) <u>Adoration of Blessed Sacrament</u> After 10am Weekday Mass <u>Rosary:</u> Wednesdays 10.30am, followed by Tea/Coffee in the Founders Room.

<u>Legion of Mary</u> – Every Tuesday at 7pm in the Library. New members are welcome! <u>Charismatic Prayer Group</u>:

Every Thursday at 11am

## Saints Days

Tue 3<sup>rd</sup> - St Francis Xavier Wed 4<sup>th</sup> - St John Damascene Fri 6<sup>th</sup> - St Nicholas



New Liturgical Year – Begins this weekend, Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December, the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent.

Please, No flowers in Church for Advent.



**Children's Liturgy Group** – On next Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> Dec at 10am Mass.

**Sunday Reflection** - On this 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Advent season, we begin a new liturgical year. The English word "Advent" is from the Latin, "Adventus", meaning "Coming" or "Approaching". Our focus during Advent is on the "Coming" or "Approaching" of God. We confidently proclaim, "The Lord is near". The mood during these weeks is one of joyful anticipation. Hope is in the air. We wait expectantly for something new and wonderful to happen. Waiting is part of life, and there is no life without it. Our culture has invented the "Waiting Room". We sit in waiting rooms anticipating news about ourselves or others. While waiting in Advent we are admonished "to stay awake" to "be alert", to be ready for the glory of Christ to be revealed in all its fullness. Jesus alerts all, when he says "... you too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect". We now live "in the meantime", "the in-between" time i.e. the time between the First Coming of Christ and Second Coming in glory. We wait creatively by <u>remembering</u>. We recapture the longing and expectancy of God's people as they hoped for an "Anointed leader" and "better times". We prepare for the feast of Christmas by re-living the experience of God's people "waiting in hope" for the birth of the Messiah. Bringing the past into the present creates a foundation from which emerges a hope-filled future. We invite God in the person of Christ to enter our lives and dispel the encircling gloom, coloured now by the economic uncertainty. Material prosperity does not offer fulfillment, so our prayer is all the more urgent. "Come Lord Jesus".

**Christmas Advent Talk –** Given by Fr. John Hemer (Allen Hall) on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm in the Founders Room. Everybody Welcome!

**Parish Christmas Bazaar** – Is on Saturday next 7<sup>th</sup> December. We are excited at all the wonderful stalls that will be available on the day such as hot and cold food, mulled mine, children's tombola, wheel of fortune, Santa's grotto and donkey rides. One week to go to support us by donating any of the following items; Wine and Spirits, Chocolates and Biscuits, new and unopened Toiletries, Perfumes, Make up, Bric a Brac (good condition). These can be left in the boxes in the colonnade and school office. Tickets are still available for the raffle of the wonderful prizes donated by local businesses. If you have ticket stubs, please return with monies to the Parish Office by Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December. Come, Enjoy & Thank you for your support! **Parish Celebration of Reconciliation/Confession** – On Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm. All Parishioners are welcome!

**Servite Christmas Carol Concert –** Will be held on 14<sup>th</sup> December from 3pm to 5pm. Our own Choirs as well as other visiting Choirs will sing. We invite you to come along and enjoy!

Novena Mass for Christmas/Simbang Gabi – Sunday  $15^{\rm th}$  –  $22^{\rm nd}$  Dec, Novena Masses 8pm. On  $23^{\rm rd}$  Dec at 6pm & food served in School Hall.

**Confirmation 2019/2020** – Please collect a Confirmation Enrolment Form from the Colonnade and return to the Parish office by  $10^{th}$  January 2019. See requirements on the form. Class commencement date to be announced.