



OUR LADY OF DOLOURS SERVITE CHURCH

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Third Sunday of Advent

(Year A)

15th December 2019

Mass Times

Vigil Mass: Sat 6.30pm
Sunday 8.30am
10am
(Spanish) 11.15am
12.15pm
8pm
Mon - Fri 10am + 8pm
Sat 10am, 6.30pm + 8pm

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)

Adoration of Blessed Sacrament

After 10am Weekday Mass

Rosary: Wednesdays 10.30am,
followed by Tea/Coffee in the
Founders Room.

Legion of Mary - Every
Tuesday at 7pm in the Library.
New members are welcome!

Saints Days

Sat 21st - St Peter Canisius

St Peregrine Mass Dec: Will
be on Tuesday 31st December
at the 10am Mass.

Eucharistic Ministers - If you
are here for Christmas, it is
important you put your name
on the sheet in the Colonnade
so the Christmas Duties can
be done. It seems we are very
short so if anybody is
attending more than one Mass
please put your name down."

Sunday Reflection - This Sunday of Advent is referred to as "Gaudete" Sunday. The somber penitential mood lightens. We can wear 'Rose' coloured vestments at Mass and the Advent candle on the wreath is 'Rose' or 'Pink'. The instruction for today's liturgy states: "The Advent moderation in the use of the organ, other musical instruments and flowers, does not apply to "Gaudete Sunday". With the increase of light on our Advent wreath (now 3 candles) we are beginning to sense the nearness of the Lord and feel the warmth and light of his presence. We are anticipating the approach of the great feast of Christmas. During Advent we hear again the great promises of God to his people. Isaiah generates hope by announcing: ... 'let the wasteland rejoice and bloom' and 'the desert will gush with water'. God will restore his People, crushed by misfortune and maimed by disabilities, but God promises a huge change for the better. Last week we met John the Baptist in his austerity mode, a voice crying "prepare a way for the Lord". John the Baptist sees himself as the one to prepare for and introduce this great Messiah. Today we find John in prison for denouncing Herod over marrying his brother's wife, Herodias. In the darkness of prison John is overwhelmed by fear and doubts. "Is he the One?" or "must we wait for someone else?" John had an image of the Messiah as a strict judge on human affairs. Jesus didn't fit the image. Through Jesus' compassionate love, the blind see, the lame walk and lepers are cleaned, the dead are raised to life, and the Good News is preached to the poor. Jesus says look around and recognize the signs of the Kingdom of God at work. The new age of God's Kingdom is evident - "happy is the person who does not lose faith in me". The least in the kingdom can recognize who Jesus is. We pray "Come, Lord Jesus".

First Holy Communion - Next session is Sunday 15th Dec at 9am. A letter is emailed to every Parent after each session of our First Holy Communion sessions, if you are not receiving this email please contact the Parish office.

Novena Mass for Christmas/Simbang Gabi - Starts on this Sunday 15th - 22nd Dec, Novena Masses 8pm. On 23rd Dec at 6pm & food will be served in the School Hall.

New Mass Times this Week - Evening Mass on Sunday 15th at 8pm not 7pm. From 16th to 20th Evening Masses will be at 8pm and not 6.30pm. On Saturday 21st Masses will be at 10am, 6.30pm and 8pm.

Our Christmas Bazaar - On Sat 7th was a great success. Thank you all for your support, gifts, donations and a special word of thanks to Susana and all who volunteered. The amount raised was £3,679.24.

Confirmation 2019/2020 - Please collect a Confirmation Enrolment Form from the Colonnade. See requirements on the form.

Christmas Cards - With all Service times over the Christmas season are at the back of the Church. Please do take one per household.

Charismatic Prayer Group - Will not meet over Christmas from 19th Dec. It will resume on Thursday 9th January at 11am in the Founders Room.