

# OUR LADY OF DOLOURS SERVITE CHURCH

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Second Sunday of Advent

(Year A)

8<sup>th</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)

## **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!

**Charismatic Prayer Group:**  
Every Thursday at 11am

## **Saints Days**

Mon 9<sup>th</sup> – Immaculate Conception  
Tue 10<sup>th</sup> – Bl Jerome of  
Sant'Angelo of Vado  
Wed 11<sup>th</sup> – St Damascus I  
Thu 12<sup>th</sup> – Our Lady of  
Guadalupe  
Fri 13<sup>th</sup> – St Lucy  
Sat 14<sup>th</sup> – St John of the Cross

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

Please, No flowers in Church  
for Advent.

**St Peregrine Mass Dec:** Will  
be on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup>  
December at the 10am  
Mass.

**Sunday Reflection** – Today, we hear the lonely, yet powerful voice of the great John the Baptist, proclaiming: “Repent, for the kingdom of Heaven is close at hand”. He was the one described by the great Isaiah as “a voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord”. John the Baptist is the tough man of scripture. He lived in the wilderness, an eccentric figure whose wardrobe was a camel-hair garment, and his diet consisted of locusts and wild honey. The wilderness was a special place of encounter between God and his people, so it is fitting that this new exchange should also happen in the desert. In accordance with the prophetic tradition John calls for deep and profound change from the people. They flock to the desert to hear him. John doesn't mince his words – if you want a better future, then Repent. He tells them, you must change your ways' and sort out the moral mess you are living in – reassess your values and your lifestyle; that is how you will prepare a way for the Lord.' John, like all the prophets before him, is aware that the human world is far from perfect. There are so many wars, so much violence, death and destruction. Yet he claims there is hope for the future, but it requires profound change. In our first Reading we hear the hope-filled message of Isaiah, telling all that even though people are at an all-time low, yet a new anointed leader, filled with the spirit of God will emerge to inaugurate this new world by governing with integrity and faithfulness. The prophet envisions this new world: “The wolf lives with the lamb... Calf and lion cub feed together... The infant plays over the cobra's hole... They do not hurt...” What a wonderful image of a world ruled by God's word? The ravenous and the meek live happily together. All destructive forces are tamed because “the country is filled with the knowledge of the Lord”. John introduces the people to Jesus, ‘the one who follows him’. As John promises, Jesus “will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire”. This new world is called “The Kingdom of God”, a kingdom ruled and maintained by love. We all can contribute to building this new world. Our Advent prayer is “Come Lord Jesus”.

**Feast of the Immaculate Conception** As today, 8<sup>th</sup> Dec is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent, tomorrow, Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Masses for this Solemnity are at 10am and 6.30pm.

**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<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec, Novena Masses 8pm. On 23<sup>rd</sup> Dec at 6pm & food served in School Hall.

**First Holy Communion** – Next session is Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> Dec at 9am. A letter is emailed to each Parent after each session, if you are not receiving it please contact the Parish office.

**Christmas Bazaar** – Was on yesterday Sat 7<sup>th</sup> and it was a great success. Thank you all for your support, gifts, donations and a special word of thanks to all who volunteered, to all those who worked so hard with the preparations and on the day itself. Thank you all.

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