A close up of a logo

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**Newsletter for the week commencing 5th December 2021**

**Second Sunday of Advent ( C )**

**Entrance antiphon: O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.**

**First Reading: Baruch 5: 1-9**

**Psalm 125 Response: What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.**

**Second Reading: The letter of St Paul to the Philippians 1: 3-6, 8-11**

**Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight. And all mankind shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!**

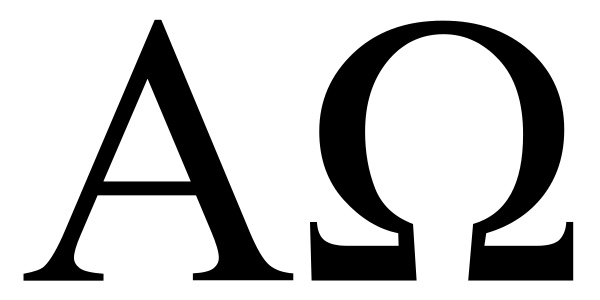
**Gospel: Luke 3: 1-6**

**Communion antiphon: Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights, and behold the joy which comes to you from God.**

**Father Behr writes:**

Dear Parishioners

With the Greek alphabet in the spotlight due to the COVID variants like Omicron and Delta it is good to remind ourselves that Jesus is the Alpha and Omega.



Look, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to each person according to what they have done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End. (Rev 22:12-13)

Jesus is Lord of the universe and all time belongs to him.  Nothing is hidden from our Lord and he has a plan for all of human history and our individual lives and that plan is a plan of salvation.  Everything that happens in human history is enfolded in a providential plan.

In order to cooperate in this plan of salvation it is vitally important that we deepen our spiritual lives and take every opportunity to devoutly receive Holy Communion and make the time for a good confession.  If you feel unable to come to Mass or to come to the church for confession then please get in touch and we can arrange a visit.

Best wishes

Father Behr

**Your Prayers are asked for:**

**Those recently deceased:**

**Those ill or infirm**: Marie Smith, Charlotte Elliot (daughter of Maureen Davidson), Joe Adams, Ellie Lawrence, Anne Bryant, Patricia Hook, Elena Peck (senior), Josie Payne, Pat Holland and all those self-isolating or suffering from COVID-19.

**Those whose anniversaries of death occur at this time:** Edith Margaret Corbett. Alex Mickle, Elizabeth de Blaby, Agnes Finnan, Nora Cregan, Frances Kelly, Ann Collins, Nathaniel ‘Nat’ Kennell, Barbara Beresford, Gwladys Webbe-Wood, Kieran McNamara, Ron Sturdy and Norman Blackman.

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| **This week’s services (4th – 11th December), Feasts and Mass intentions during the week.** | | | |
| **Saturday 4th December**  10am Mass  6pm Vigil Mass | St John Damascene, Priest & doctor of the Church  *Bridget Bishop RIP*  *Fr Mario Sanderson RIP* | **Thursday 9th December**  **8.30am Mass** | St Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin  *Frederick Bishop RIP* |
| **Sunday 5th December**  10am Mass  12 Midday Traditional sung Latin Mass | **Second Sunday of Advent (C)**  *People of the Parish* | **Friday 10th December**  10am Mass | Our Lady of Loreto  *Iglinski Family* |
| **Monday 6th December**  10am Mass | St Nicholas, Bishop *Jose Carrizales RIP* | **Saturday 11th December**  10am Mass  6pm Vigil Mass | St Damasus I, Pope  *Dunhill Family Wellbeing*  *Big M* |
| T**uesday 7th December**  10am Mass | St Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor of the Church  *The Meagher Family* | **Sunday 12th December**  10am Mass  12 midday Traditional Latin Mass | **Third Sunday of Advent ( C )**  *People of the Parish* |
| **Wednesday 8th Dec** 10am Service of the Word and Holy Communion  12 midday Traditional Latin Mass | THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY  Immaculate Conception | **Please note the change of Mass time on Thursday** | |
| **Flowers: Tidying of wreath - Pat** | | | |

**Advent Confession**

**This weekend,** (Saturday 4 December and Sunday 5 December), Father Gabriel Diaz will be preaching at Mass and he will be available for Confession after holy Mass.

**Important dates and times:**

**Town Carol Service** - Saint Mildred's Church - Tuesday 21st December - 7:30 - this service will be streamed live, so as many of the town's folk can attend or if you are at all concerned about attending in person - details will be made available in due course.

**SERVICES AT SAINT ANDREW'S**

**Friday 24th December 2021 - Christmas Eve**

Vigil Mass at 18:00 - 6pm

Mass during the night - 21:00 - 9pm

**Saturday 25th December 2021 - Christmas Day**

Mass during the day at 10am

Extra-ordinary form Mass at 12md

**Sunday 26th December 2021**

Mass during the day at 10amExtra-ordinary form Mass at 12md

***For your safety and well-being, all the Christmas Masses will be bookable [except the extra-ordinary form Masses]***

***Please email Jolyon with any requests for seats as quickly as possible please.***

***Fr Behr***

**APPRENTICE CHAPLAIN VACANCY**

Are you interested in becoming a school chaplain? Would you like to learn more about what being a school chaplain involves? Know someone who would? St Simon Stock Catholic School has a really exciting opportunity to join our team as an Apprentice Chaplain, exploring your own call and ministry while sharing the good news with staff and students.

**Application Deadline: 17:00, 10th of December 2021**

**Shortlisting: 13th of December 2021**

**Interviews: Wednesday the 15th of December 2021**

**For more information visit** <https://www.ssscs.co.uk/recruitment/>

**Christmas cards**

“ We finally received our order of cards from The Catholic Children’s Society on Monday Nov 29. They will therefore be on sale in the hall after the 6.30pm and 10 am Masses, at £3.50 for 10, together with our remaining cards from Aid to the Church in Need which are £5.00 for 10. I hope the late arrival of the former won’t have inconvenienced anyone. Nuala “

**Christmas flowers**

After the success of the vases and arrangements that many parishioners brought in to decorate the windowsills last Christmas, we are asking for volunteers again this year. If you think you can help please contact Frances Lawrence on 01233 732657/f.lawrence999@btinternet.com so that she has an idea of how many to expect. The colour scheme will be red, white and gold.

Details of when to bring your vase or arrangement will be given nearer to Christmas.

There will be a collection for Christmas flowers for the altar on Saturday 18th/Sunday 19th December.