

St Saviour's Church

1 December 2019 - Advent I



In today's gospel we hear Jesus reflecting on the end of the world. No one every knows when the Lord will come or when our time on earth is ended.

Advent means Coming. It is the time of preparation for the coming of the Son of Man into our life. Jesus exhorts us to be vigilant. He asks us to be attentive to the events in order to discover in them the hour of the coming of the Son of Man. At the beginning of Advent, we commit to learning anew how to read the signs of our times in the light of God's promise of Hope and Good News for the world. And this in order not to be surprised, because God comes without telling us, when we least expect.

Parish Notes:

Welcome & thank you to Fr Keith Kimber for preaching & presiding today.

Benediction with Music for Advent in St Saviour's next Sun 8 Dec at 6pm. We will have a Candlelit Advent Carols and Lessons this evening in St German's at 6pm.

Nightshelter - Thank you to all who turned up at our meeting last Monday. We are currently preparing the rotas for the next few weeks. If you are able to help us on the night shift or in the kitchen we would be very grateful. We are also looking for donations of coats, hats and gloves to give out to our homeless guests. New or nearly new please.

Advent and Christmas Services - details of our services are on our website and copies are available at the back of the Church.

Flowers for Christmas - to sponsor an arrangement please speak to Gwyneth.

Christmas Cards & Charity - We will be creating a Christmas Greeting Display, where you can send a personal Christmas message and at the same time give a present to church via a donation envelope. This can also be gift aided if you are able. Donations should be given to John. Those wishing to make a charitable donation to the Nightshelter to support its on going running cost can give envelopes (provided) to Fr Phelim.

Foodbank - Current urgent items: Tinned Fruit, Long life fruit juice, UHT milk, Rice Pudding, Sponge Puddings. Tinned potatoes. For an up to date overview of the plight of hungry people in the UK please visit www.stateofhunger.org which is research and policy conclusions conducted by the Trussell Trust.

The Departed: During our weekday masses of November we pray for all the Holy Souls. May they rest in peace with God for ever.

This week:

Sun 1: Advent I

9:30 Sung Mass (St S)

11am Sung Mass (St G)

6pm Advent Carols by Candlelight

Mon 2:

11am Pilgrim Mass (StG)

Tues 3:

10am Mass (St S)

St Francis Xavier

Wed 4:

No Mass today (St G)

St John Damascene

Thur 5:

5:45pm Mass (St S)

Fri 6:

6pm Mass (St S)

St Nicholas

Sat 7:

No Mass today

St Ambrose

Sun 8: Advent II

St Saviour's:

9:30 Sung Mass;

St German's:

11:00 am Sung Mass

Parish Priest:

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READINGS THIS WEEK

Isa 2:1-5

Ps 122:1-2, 3-4a, 4b-5,
6-7, 8-9

Rom 13:11-14

Matt 24:37-44

READINGS NEXT WEEK

Isa 11:1-10

Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17

Rom 15:4-9

Matt 3:1-12

PSALM RESPONSE

I rejoiced when I heard
them say: 'Let us go to
God's house.' (vv.4)

COLLECT

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

GATHERING:

Hark! a herald voice is calling:
'Christ is nigh,' it seems to say;
'Cast away the dreams of darkness,
O ye children of the day!'

Startled at the solemn warning,
Let the earth-bound soul arise;
Christ, her Sun, all sloth dispelling,
Shines upon the morning skies.

Lo! the Lamb, so long expected,
Comes with pardon down from
heaven;
Let us haste, with tears of sorrow,
One and all to be forgiven;

So when next he comes with glory,
Wrapping all the earth in fear,
May he then as our defender
Of the clouds of heaven appear.

Honour, glory, virtue, merit,
To the Father and the Son,
With the co-eternal Spirit,
While unending ages run. **Amen.**

O JESSE TREE

O Jesse tree, O Jesse tree,
you stand through all the ages.
O Jesse tree, O Jesse tree,
your prophets and your sages.
Remind us all of every sign
that speaks of Jesus' love divine.
O Jesse tree, O Jesse tree,
you stand through all the ages.

O Jesse tree, O Jesse tree,
you speak of Jesus' Advent.
O Jesse tree, O Jesse tree,
You tell us all what God meant.
We see in you the promised King
who heals our hurts
and helps us sing.
O Jesse tree, O Jesse tree,
you speak of Jesus' Advent.

OFFERTORY:

Lo! He comes,
with clouds descending,
once for our salvation slain;
thousand thousand saints attending
swell the triumph of His train.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
God appears on earth to reign.

Ev'ry eye shall now behold Him,
robed in dreadful majesty;
those who set at naught
and sold Him,
pierced, and nailed Him to the tree,
deeply wailing, deeply wailing,
shall the true Messiah see.

Every island, sea, and mountain,
heav'n and earth, shall flee away;
all who hate Him must, confounded,
hear the trump proclaim the day:
Come to judgment!
Come to judgment!
Come to judgment, come away!

Now redemption, long expected,
see in solemn pomp appear!
And His saints, by men rejected,
coming with Him in the air.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
See the day of God appear!

Yea, amen! Let all adore Thee,
high on Thine eternal throne;
Saviour, take the pow'r and glory,
claim the kingdom for Thine own:
O come quickly, O come quickly,
Alleluia! Come, Lord, come!

COMMUNION:

How deep the Father's love for us,
How vast beyond all measure,
That He should give His only Son
To make a wretch His treasure.

How great the pain of searing loss -
The Father turns His face away,
As wounds which mar
the Chosen One
Bring many sons to glory.

Behold the man upon a cross,
My sin upon His shoulders;
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held Him there
Until it was accomplished;
His dying breath has brought me life
I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything,
No gifts, no power, no wisdom;
But I will boast in Jesus Christ,
His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer;
But this I know with all my heart -
His wounds have paid my ransom.

FINAL HYMN:

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here,
Until the Son of God appear.

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, thou rod of Jesse, free
Thine own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell Thy people save,
And give them victory o'er the grave.

O come, thou dayspring,
come and cheer,
our spirits by thine advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows
put to flight.

O come, thou key of David, come
And open wide our heav'nly home;
make safe the way
that leads on high,
And close the path to misery.

O come, O come,
thou Lord of might,
Who to Thy tribes, on Sinai's height,
In ancient times didst give the law
In cloud and majesty and awe.

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In the days to come the mountain of the Temple of the Lord shall tower above the mountains and be lifted higher than the hills.

All the nations will stream to it, peoples without number will come to it; and they will say: 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the Temple of the God of Jacob that he may teach us his ways so that we may walk in his paths; since the Law will go out from Zion, and the oracle of the Lord from Jerusalem.'

He will wield authority over the nations and adjudicate between many peoples; these will hammer their swords into ploughshares, their spears into sickles. Nation will not lift sword against nation, there will be no more training for war. O House of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

This is the word of the Lord.

Isaiah 2

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**I rejoiced when I heard them say:
'Let us go to God's house.'**

I rejoiced when I heard them say:
'Let us go to God's house.'
And now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem. *R/*

It is there that the tribes go up,
the tribes of the Lord.
For Israel's law it is,
there to praise the Lord's name.
There were set the thrones of
judgement
of the house of David. *R/*

For the peace of Jerusalem pray:
'Peace be to your homes!
May peace reign in your walls,
in your palaces, peace!' *R/*

For love of my brethren and friends
I say: 'Peace upon you!'
For love of the house of the Lord
I will ask for your good. *R/*
Psalms 122

SECOND READING

A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

You know 'the time' has come: you must wake up now: our salvation is even nearer than it was when we were converted. The night is almost over, it will be daylight soon – let us give up all the things we prefer to do under cover of the dark; let us arm ourselves and appear in the light. Let us live decently as people do in the daytime: no drunken orgies, no promiscuity or licentiousness, and no wrangling or jealousy. Let your armour be the Lord Jesus Christ.

This is the word of the Lord.

Romans 13

GOSPEL

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St Matthew.

'But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

This is the gospel of the Lord.

Matt 24