

ST ALBAN'S CHURCH CHADDESSEN DERBY AND THE CHURCH ON OAKWOOD

www.stalbansderby.org.uk

Parish Priest: Fr Gerry Murphy

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DECEMBER 13th 2009 ~ THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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| Saturday | 6.30pm | Walentyna Sliwinski |
| Sunday | 10.00am | For all Parishioners |
| | 5.30pm | At the Church on Oakwood Bridget Kilkelly RIP ann. |
| Monday | 7.00pm | Willie Doherty RIP |
| Tuesday | 8.30am | Patrick Murphy RIP |
| | 9am - 5pm | Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament |
| Wednesday | 9.15am | John Ford RIP (M. Kelly) |
| | 7.00pm | Service of the Word and Holy Communion at the Church on Oakwood |
| Thursday | 7.00pm | Patrick Doyle RIP |
| Friday | 9.15am | Giovanna & Vincenzo Contaldo RIP |
| Saturday | 6.30pm | George & Edie Grayley RIP ann. |
| Sunday | 10.00am | Gina Chiavaggo RIP |
| | 5.30pm | For all Parishioners |

Sacrament of Reconciliation: there will be a Service of Reconciliation on Monday, December 21st at 7.30pm. I have invited 3 local priests to come and join us. There will be individual confessions on Saturday, December 19th at 10am ~ 11am and on request.

PLEASE PRAY FOR: ~ Pat Dawson, Brian Turner, Doreen Pitman, who are in hospital and Bill Stone and Helen Booton who have come home this week. Please remember Mary Eaton who has gone for respite care and Joy Rath who is poorly.

THIS WEEKEND

You are invited to sign a Christmas card which will be sent to an "Amnesty International selected prisoner of conscience". Please take a moment after mass to choose one of the prisoners of conscience and write a card to them with a none

religious message. Postage costs 62p and a donation would be appreciated. Our thanks to Anne Kearney for organising this.

THE CHURCH AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Pope Benedict XVI recently wrote in his letter 'Love in Truth'; "the environment is God's gift to everyone, and in our use of it, we have a responsibility towards the poor, towards future generations and towards humanity as a whole". The United Nations claim that 300,000 people are already dying each year from climate related causes with a future 300 million affected. In El Salvador there is too little rain for crops; in Haiti so much rain that it washes away the soil. So far it is mainly the poor people of the world who have been effected. If we carry on without significantly changing, it will be all of us!

The Copenhagen Summit could be a reality check for each of us; ~ how can we rediscover our responsibility for the material world? What changes in personal habits and local possibilities can we adopt? This is the surest foundation for change at a national and international level. It could give each of us back a healthy relation with the material world.

PARISH CHRISTMAS CARD

Is available in the porch today. Please write a message and your name, and give a donation and it will be used to buy items from the Cafod World Gift Catalogue.

ADVENT CAROL SERVICE

Our thanks to the Parish Social Committee for organising the tea ~ almost 60 people sat down together and thoroughly enjoyed the fare put before them ~ and to Janice Wright, who played the music.

ALTAR SERVERS

We are hoping to initiate our 6 Altar servers into the Guild of St. Stephen on Sunday, December 27th at 10am mass. Any queries please contact Simon Baldwin ☎ 678837 or Cheryl Shanks ☎ 679642.

BIDDING PRAYERS

My thanks to Carl Mendonca, William Breslin and Dawn Kiddie who write the Bidding Prayers with me for St. Albans. Annie Squires has recently moved to Mickleover and left the team ~ any volunteers please see me. It would mean writing the prayers every 5 weeks ~ training given!

CAFOD ADVENT SERVICE

Thanks to all who supported it and those who helped with the readings, the symbols and the refreshments and sale of fairly traded goods.

CHRISTMAS AT St. ALBANS

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| CHRISTMAS EVE | 4.00pm | Mass led by the Children's Liturgy Group |
| | 6.30pm | Vigil Mass |
| CHRISTMAS DAY | 8.30AM | at the Church on Oakwood |
| | 10.00am | at St. Alban's |
| Saturday December 26 th | 6.30pm | Mass |
| Sunday December 27 th | 8.30am | at the Church on Oakwood |
| | 10.00am | at St. Alban's. |

200 CLUB ~ DECEMBER WINNERS

£250 no. 13 Max & Marjorie Butcher

£30 no.27 Mr & Mrs Rowley

£20 no. 15 Clare Beech

DECORATING THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS: HELP NEEDED

- **Greenery required** – if you have Holy or Ivy or other evergreens you can supply please bring to Church next weekend **19/20 Dec** or no later than Tues 22 Dec. and leave in the Reconciliation room.
- Anyone (new or old), willing to help with **Decorating the Church** is invited to come along on **Wednesday 23rd December 10.30 a.m.**

Every year someone says: *"I wouldn't mind having a go but I wouldn't have much idea and anyway I'm sure there's plenty of others doing the job!"*

If that's you - you're wrong on both counts:

1. Someone will show you what's needed
2. You won't be trampled in the rush to help

If you can help in either way or want more details contact:

Di Reid on 672091 or Ellen Taylor on 602346 Thank you.

COLLECTIONS:

Last week £821.58, plus £172 standing orders.

Thank you all.

COUNTERS NEXT WEEK ~ Anne Kearney and Peter Peek

WELCOMERS NEXT WEEK: 6.30pm Dawn & Ryan Kiddie

10.00am Pat Orrell & Sheila Caruth

First Reading: Zephaniah 3:14-18

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion, Israel, shout aloud! Rejoice, exult with all your heart, daughter of Jerusalem! The Lord has repealed your sentence; he has driven your enemies away. The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst; you have no more evil to fear.

When that day comes, word will come to Jerusalem; Zion, have no fear, do not let your hands fall limp. The Lord your God is in your midst, a victorious warrior.

He will exult with joy over you, he will renew you by his love; he will dance with shouts of joy for you as on a day of festival.

This is the word of the Lord.

Response to Psalm: Sing and shout for joy for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

Second Reading: Philippians 4:4-7

I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord; I repeat, what I want is your happiness. Let your tolerance be evident to everyone: the Lord is very near. There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus.

This is the word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! The spirit of the Lord has been given to me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor. Alleluia!

Gospel Reading: Luke 3:10-18

When all the people asked John, 'What must we do?' he answered, 'If anyone has two tunics he must share with the man who has none, and the one with something to eat must do the same.' There were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and these said to him, 'Master, what must we do?' He said to them, 'Exact no more than your rate.' Some soldiers asked him in their turn, 'What about us? What must we do?' He said to them, 'No intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your pay!'

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.' As well as this, there were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.