



Catholic Parish of St Edmund, King and Martyr, Godalming with St Joseph's, Milford

*Through the love of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
our Parish will grow as the Body of Christ in Godalming
and as a sign lifted up for the peoples*

Second Sunday of Advent 4th December 2022

On the prophecies of Isaiah

Alec Motyer writes of today's first reading "Isaiah extends to the remnant the hope of the Royal Messiah. It is specifically a word of assurance for the dark day of the Assyrian threat but contains in itself clear indications that its fulfilment is for time yet to come. Undated hope is a living, ever present assurance for God's people, and it is at this point that the passage speaks as much to the church today as in Isaiah's time".

The part of the world which includes modern day Israel was highly contested even in the thousand years before the birth of Jesus. In the eighth century BC, the time of Isaiah, it is under threat from the mighty power of Assyria. The Israelites are divided in two – a Northern Kingdom, often making alliances with surrounding powers – and the southern Kingdom of Judah, centred on Jerusalem. It is to that 'remnant' that Isaiah speaks. Through his ministry the Lord seeks to strengthen their faith and their hope, despite their sense that they have become few in number and are significantly outnumbered. It is to this part of our experience that the passage speaks – not to a politically strong and numerous group, but one that is marked out by its faithfulness and the way it looks to the Lord himself as the source of their hope.

The image with which the passage opens is of a fallen tree with its roots exposed. It is not as dead as it might seem for from it comes new life. The reference to Jesse makes it clear that this new shoot is another David, and not simply the latest (and rather inadequate) descendent of his. The Spirit of the Lord that rests on him grants power to bring about change and realise God's will. Here that will is to be seen in the wonderful vision of the various creatures living together in peace.

Some may despair at the state of the world and the challenges that face the Church and our mission. The Advent season and the beautiful sayings of Isaiah are gifted to us to sustain our faith and hope. And here a word of appreciation for the signs of hope and of new life in the body of Christ that we give to one another through our participation in the life of the parish.

Mass Responses for Second Sunday of Advent

PSALM RESPONSE: In his days justice shall flourish, and peace till the moon fails.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight, and all mankind shall see the salvation of God.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights, and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

19 Croft Road, Godalming, Surrey GU7 1DB t: 01483 416880

Parish Priest: Fr Jonathan How e: jonathan.how@abdiocese.org.uk

Parish Assistant: Sarah Stilwell e: godalming@abdiocese.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding phonenumber: 07534 146908

www.stedsgod.com

Fr Rajesh will be celebrating our Masses this weekend. Please join him for coffee/tea after 8.45am Mass. And support the Fairtrade sale!

The **Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary** falls this Thursday. Mass will be celebrated at 7pm in the evening at St Edmund's. Morning Mass at 10am in Guildford.

Bishop Richard will be with us for 6pm Mass next Saturday 10 December to induct Fr Rajesh as one of the priests of the parish. He will celebrate the 11am Mass at Haslemere to induct Fr Rajesh and Fr Jonathan as priests of Haslemere, Hindhead & Chiddingfold parish.

Stewardship A big thank you to all who have kindly returned the two leaflets - Time, Talents and Treasure, and My Parish Commitment. If you would like copies, please ask at Mass or check our website. You can find out more about how to share your Time and Talents at <https://stedsgod.com/time-and-talents> and, there's an online form at: <https://stedsgod.churchsuite.com/forms/rgrm97bf>

Annual parish quiz raises £545! Many thanks to all who supported the recent quiz night. Special thanks to quiz master Ian and assistant Louise, and to all who helped with food and clearing up. The funds raised will be used to purchase items from CAFOD's World Gifts catalogue to help the poorest in our world. Thank you.

EdsKnitters The parish knitting group is meeting on 12th December 2-3pm, at St Edmund's presbytery, for tea and Christmas cake. If you enjoy knitting/crochet and would like to come along, please email Sarah for more info: godalming@abdiocese.org.uk

SVP Afternoon Tea This takes place on Wednesday 14th December 2.30-4pm, at United Reformed Church, Elstead. For a lift please contact Janet on 01252 702156.

Live Simply Christmas Appeal for St Mark's Foodbank to help with special Christmas food parcels for families at four local schools. Seasonal food items are needed and can be dropped off at the collection boxes at our churches by 11th December.

Fr Jonathan is making a short Advent retreat in the early part of this week.

The Season of Advent in the Parish

Lectio Divina Fr Jonathan invites you to join him for this prayerful reading of scripture, on Wednesday evenings during Advent at 7.30pm on **Zoom (ID 846 7892 5944, password 2022)**. This is a particularly fruitful form of prayer and can really bring the scriptures alive, and if you haven't given it a try before, there's always a first time! See the parish website for some background information and resources on Lectio Divina: <https://stedsgod.com/lectio-divina>

Sacrament of Reconciliation Fr Jonathan and/or another priest will be available on Saturday mornings to hear confessions at St Joseph's and St Edmund's. See list of services or calendar for time and location each week. Fr Rajesh will be available at Our Lady of Lourdes, Haslemere at 11am each Saturday.

Day of Prayer – Night of Light at St Joseph's, Guilford from 8am into the evening with priests available for confession on Saturday 17th December.

Daily Advent reflection You can sign up to receive a daily reflection from CAFOD <https://cafod.org.uk/Pray/Advent-calendar>

Crib Building Families are invited by the Sisters at Ladywell to help them build the Christmas crib in the Ladywell chapel, on 15th December at 5pm. A lovely event for parents or grandparents to bring their children to. All families are welcome. Adults are kindly asked to wear a facemask.

Outdoor Carols at Ladywell **at the earlier time of 2.00pm** on Sunday 18th December. (We have moved it earlier to avoid the football, and expect a finish around 2.45pm.)

Christmas Masses at 5pm (St Joseph's), 7pm and 10pm (St Edmund's) on Christmas Eve; 8.45am and 10.30am on Christmas Day.

Confirmation Preparation for 2023 will begin in January. To find out more and for a link to register please visit the parish website at <https://stedsgod.com/confirmation>

Churches Together Christmas Together Day 10th December 3.30pm at Crown Court and 4.15pm at Wilfred Noyce Centre with carols, readings and a 'Nativity from scratch'.

Contemplative Prayer The next Julian Meeting is at St John's Farncombe on Tuesday 13th December at 8pm.

Advent Retreat at the Franciscan Centre Ladywell 'God So Loved the World...' Led by Adrian Peelo OFM, 14th-18th December. Non-residential: £100 (with lunch/supper). 01483 675575 or franciscancentre@ladywell.org.uk

Chilworth Abbey Study Day on Saturday 10th December, 9am-3.30pm, Robert Barron on Our Lady: 'Our Tainted Nature's Solitary Boast'. <https://www.chilworthbenedictines.com/>

Godalming Community Gospel Choir Christmas Showcase 10th December at 7.30pm at SS Peter & Paul Church. Tickets £10 from <https://www.gcgc.org.uk/>

Looking ahead

North Wales 2023 If you might be interested in a family walking trip to North Wales next year please get in touch with Fr Jonathan.

Rome in Holy Year 2025 Fr Jonathan would also be glad to know if anyone might be considering a visit to Rome for Holy Year, as he can start to plan something that might work best for a group in terms of timing, cost and programme. Please speak to him asap!

After School Meals at St John's Could you help offer hot meals in a warm space on Mondays and Wednesdays from 3.45-5.45, for families affected by the cost-of-living crisis? Volunteers needed. For more details contact Sue: suepetty60@gmail.com

Synod 2021-2024 The Synod process has now been expanded with a new opportunity to reflect on a document summarising all the submissions from around the world. To view the document, FAQs and provide online feedback see: www.abdiocese.org.uk/synod.

CAFOD is looking for volunteers for local Catholic schools. If you enjoy working with children and young people and could help bring alive their sense of global justice, please contact the CAFOD office in Mellow for info: arundelandbrighton@cafod.org.uk

World Gifts Catalogues from CAFOD are available now, packed full of Christmas gift ideas. <https://worldgifts.cafod.org.uk>

Parish Finance Thank you to those who support the parish by their regular giving. Donations to the parish by bank transfer can be made to 'RCD AB Godalming', sort code 40-05-20, account number 41077481. To arrange a standing order/sign up for Gift Aid, or request envelopes contact Eileen: ga.godalming@abdiocese.org.uk

Some sources of practical support

SVP members offer regular visits, friendship and practical support to those in need. The helpline number is 07379 108009.

Godalming Foodbanks Please contact the SVP or Fr Jonathan if you need a referral for St Marks Foodbank or Godalming Community Food Store.

Godalming Good Neighbours Volunteer drivers available to help with transport to medical appointments, for shopping etc. 07943 274461 or email: godalminggoodneighbours@gmail.com

Mental Health support The mental health crisis helpline is 0800 915 4644, open 24/7 for support for adults, children and young people in distress. If you're worried about yourself or a young person, you can be signposted to face-to-face assessment or support e.g. Guildford Safe Haven.

Please remember in your prayers The people of Ukraine. Those affected by the energy and food shortages that are a consequence of the war. Those affected by flooding in Pakistan.

The Holy Father's Intention for December We pray that volunteer non-profit organisations committed to human development will find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international co-operation.

The sick and those who care for them Helen Osborne, Sylvia Reilly, Jane Turner, Valentina Masella, Danny O'Sullivan, Ethel Stammers, Colin Humphrey, Catherine Goodridge, Alan Berry, Margarita Crawford, Rudolf Dorrepaal, Nancy Drapper, Nicolle Ernould, Nuala Gallagher, George Gelder, Audrey Hockey, Cliff Hutchinson, John Lennox, Ann Lloyd, Maria Lopez, Betty Matthews, Frances Muir, Gerry Newell, Jean Rejniak, Maria Rogers, Margaret Silvester, Anne Stephens, Jean Tyrell, Anita van Rheen and Josie Whittle, and those in our hospitals and care homes, and those who carry their illnesses privately.

The faithful departed, in particular for Victor Lee-Son, Barbara Barnett, and Irene Grant and who died recently, and Joan Wheeler, Bridget Madden, John Piasecki, Chris Ronan, Helene Eade, Geoffrey Simmonds, Michael Lada-Walicki, Cynthia Stowell, Margaret Bohan, George Wright and John Foster, whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Schedule of Masses & Liturgies
Second Sunday of Advent
4th December 2022

| | |
|--|---|
| Saturday 3rd December St Francis Xavier | 9.15-10.00am Confessions (St Edmund's) 6.00pm Vigil Mass (St Edmund's) – <i>Private Intention</i> |
| Sunday 4th December SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT | 8.45am Mass (St John's) – <i>People of the Parish</i> 10.30am Mass (St Joseph's) – <i>Jim & Nora Flynn RIP</i> |
| Monday 5th December | <i>10.00am Mass available at St Joseph's, Guildford</i> |
| Tuesday 6th December St Nicholas | <i>10.00am Mass available at St Joseph's, Guildford</i> |
| Wednesday 7th December St Ambrose | 5.30pm Mass in Elstead (The Quillet, Back Lane) 7.30pm Lectio Divina (Zoom 846 7892 5944; pwd 2022) |
| Thursday 8th December IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF BV MARY | 7.00pm Mass (St Edmund's) – <i>Chris Mooney RIP</i> |
| Friday 9th December | 7.30am Mass (St Edmund's) – <i>David & Helen Osborne's Intentions</i> |
| Saturday 10th December St Francis Xavier | 10-10.30am Confessions (St Joseph's) 6.00pm Induction Mass with Bishop Richard (St Edmund's) – <i>People of the Parish</i> |
| Sunday 11th December THIRD 'GAUDETE' SUNDAY OF ADVENT | 8.45am Mass (St John's) – <i>Jack & Kathleen Lewis RIP</i> 10.30am Mass (St Joseph's) – <i>Bernard William Rafferty RIP</i> 1.30pm Baptism – Orla McLaughlin (St Joseph's) |

Sunday Year A

St Edmund's Church is open each day, usually from 10am to 4pm

www.stedsgod.com

Hearing loops systems are available in our churches

For a communion host approved by Coeliac UK - please speak with a welcomer

Mass Books are available – please ask if you can't find one