

Readings & Prayers Sunday 10.30am

Introit

Rorate cali

Drop down ye heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness: let the earth open, and bring forth a Saviour.

(Ps) The heavens declare the glory of God: and the firmament showeth his handiwork. GLORY. Drop down...

Cf Is 45:8

Collect

Raise up, we beseech thee, O Lord, and come among us, and with great might succour us: that whereas, through our sins and wickedness, we are sorely hindered in running the race that is set before us, thy bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through the satisfaction of thy Son our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Spirit be honour and glory, for ever and ever.

First Reading *2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16 [RSV]*

Now when the king dwelt in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies round about, ²the king said to Nathan the prophet, "See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent." ³And Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that is in your heart; for the LORD is with you."

⁴But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan, ⁵"Go and tell my servant David, 'Thus says the LORD: Would you build me a house to dwell in? ⁶I have not dwelt in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent for my dwelling. ⁷In all places where I have moved with all the people of Israel, did I speak a word with any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, 'Why have you not built me a house of cedar?'" ⁸Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel; ⁹and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. ¹⁰And I will appoint a place for my people Israel, and will plant them, that they may dwell in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly, ¹¹from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. ¹²When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come forth from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. ¹³He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom for ever. ¹⁴I will be his father, and he shall be my son. When he commits iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men, with the stripes of the sons of men; ¹⁵but I will not take my steadfast love from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away from before you. ¹⁶And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure for ever before me; your throne shall be established for ever."

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Second Reading *Romans 16:25-27 [RSV]*

Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery which was kept secret for long ages ²⁶but is now disclosed and through the prophetic writings is made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to

bring about the obedience of faith— ²⁷to the only wise God be glory for evermore through Jesus Christ! Amen.

Gospel *Luke 1:26-38 [RSV]*

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you!" ²⁹But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and considered in her mind what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. ³¹And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus.

³²He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High;

and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David,

³³and he will reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there will be no end."

³⁴And Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I have no husband?" ³⁵And the angel said to her,

"The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God.

³⁶And behold, your kinswoman Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. ³⁷For with God nothing will be impossible." ³⁸And Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

Prayer over the Offerings

May the Holy Spirit, O Lord, sanctify these gifts laid upon your altar, just as he filled with his power the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Preface *Preface of Advent (Preface 4)*

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God; because thou didst send thy beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great glory to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; ever more praising thee, and saying: Holy, Holy, Holy &c.

Communion *Ecce Virgo concipet*

Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and his name shall be called Emmanuel.

Is 7:14

Postcommunion

Having received this pledge of eternal redemption, we pray, almighty God, that, as the feast day of our salvation draws ever nearer, so we may press forward all the more eagerly, to the worthy celebration of the mystery of your Son's Nativity. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.



The Catholic Church of Our Lady of the Assumption and St. Gregory

A parish dedicated to the life of the Personal Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham

Sunday 24th December Advent Four

A very warm welcome to Mass today, especially if you are new or visiting. This sheet contains information about the week's Masses, along with this week's readings and hymns. You are warmly invited to stay for coffee, tea and wine, which is served after the 10.30am Solemn Mass in the Presbytery.



Here we enter a new stage of Advent: having spent so much time on the Second Coming, now we look back, to remember the details of the Lord's First Coming. Today we focus on the character of Mary, and hear of the angel Gabriel being sent to her, to invite her to take her part in the mystery of the Incarnation, 'the revelation of the mystery kept secret for endless ages'. This mystery springs from the House of David, and so we lead into the Gospel by hearing of the establishing of that house. An interesting idea is that the first reading talks of David wishing to build a house for the Lord; through the prophet he is told not of the house that he would build, but the House which is his line: eventually, in Mary (betrothed to Joseph) the House of David does itself become the house of the Lord, the womb wherein he has a dwelling place.

This Sunday's Readings

First Reading

2 Samuel 7:1-5,8-12,14,16

In the first reading David wishes to bring to fruition his heartfelt desire to build 'the House of the Lord.' But for all his greatness, for all that he has been blessed by the Lord in so many ways, David is not the one to do this. His own sinfulness makes him unworthy, and only in the days of his son, Solomon, will the Temple for the Lord be built. This promise finds its ultimate fulfilment, however, when Mary, the Ark of the Covenant, brings forth a Saviour, Jesus Christ, who will be the new Temple, from whose side will flow blood and water, the source of the sacramental life of the Church.

Second Reading

Romans 16:25-27

Jesus has been made known, Paul says today, to bring all nations to the obedience of faith. We are called with Mary today, to marvel at all that the Lord has done throughout the ages for our salvation. And we too, must respond to this annunciation with humble obedience – that His will be done, that our lives be lived according to His word.

Gospel

Luke 1:26-38

The encounter between the Archangel Gabriel and Mary is related only in Luke's Gospel. Mary learns that she is a person specially chosen for a task that will change the course of human history and transform the world. In this encounter Mary obediently accepts her destiny: 'Let it be done to me as you have said.' One might say that at this moment, the fate of the world hangs in the balance: Mary is the pivot on which the whole of creation turns, and her moment of humility and obedience makes redemption possible for the whole human race and allows us to be taken up in Christ.

SUNDAY MASS

6.00pm (Saturday Vigil), 10.30am (Solemn), 5pm

WEEKDAY MASS

12.45pm Mon-Fri

8am As advertised

HOLYDAYS OF OBLIGATION

As advertised.

8am and 12.45pm

8.00am Mass this week

See poster for details

CONFESSIONS

Sat 5.15-5.45pm

12.15pm Mon-Fri

News & Events

Tonight at 5pm

Solemn Vigil Mass of Christmas. The setting will be Haydn's *Missa Sancti Nicolai*. Tomorrow morning at 10.30am: Mass with Carols.

Please note that there will be NO Masses on Tuesday 26th.

Festival of Lessons and Carols at Warwick Street

In celebration of the Epiphany & Baptism of the Lord, followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. This will be on **Monday 8th January at 6.30pm**. There will be a fund raising reception in the Challoner Hall afterwards (£10).

13th/14th January 2018 White Flower Appeal

Over this weekend, we will be collecting for the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children. Please be generous in your support of the important work they do on behalf of the unborn and for their fidelity to the teaching of the Church.

Sunday 28th January at 10.30am

We welcome Bishop Nicholas Hudson, auxiliary bishop in Westminster, as our preacher at Mass that day. Please make a note of the date!

Ordinariate Membership Cards

Those who are Roman Catholics within the Ordinariate of our Lady of Walsingham are invited to take away a devotional card and fill in their name in the space provided. It is conveniently designed to be folded and fitted into a wallet or purse. Among other things it reminds members of their duties and obligations as Latin Rite Catholics, but also the special duty of praying for the unity of the Church.

Eucharistic Congress 7-9 September 2018

The Bishops of England and Wales have announced a National Eucharistic Pilgrimage and Congress (ADOREMUS) in Liverpool. Its purpose is to rejuvenate Eucharistic Adoration; to deepen and strengthen our love of Our Lord, present in all the tabernacles of the world; and to engender a deeper understanding of the centrality of the Mass in which the Sacrifice of Calvary is made present to us afresh. More details will follow in due course.

The Westminster Year Book

The 2018 edition is now available to buy. Price £4.50. Please see Fr Mark if you wish to buy one.

Monday 25th December	Nativity of our Lord	10.30am	People of the Parish	IN YOUR PRAYERS THE SICK Susan Elliott Smith, Rae Collins, Peter Oliver, Rosa Negra, Assumption Fernandez, Khady Gounougo, Paddy Naughton, Simon Ollivant, Sally Ward Enticott, Mick Batten, Ignatius Leong, Pauline Doherty
Tuesday 26th December	ST STEPHEN FIRST MARTYR	NO MASSES TODAY		
Wednesday 27th December	ST JOHN Apostle & Evangelist	8.00am 12.45pm 7.00pm Low Mass (1962)	Kate and Leigh Padgham (Int)	
Thursday 28th December	HOLY INNOCENTS MARTYRS	8.00am 12.45pm		
Friday 29th December	St Thomas Becket Martyr	8.00am 12.45pm	Private intention	
Saturday 30th December	6th in Christmas octave HOLY FAMILY	12 Noon (1962) 6pm Mass	Stanislas Stephen et al (RIP)	

THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

WHO'S WHO AT OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION

Parish priest: Fr Mark Elliott Smith

Fr Alan Griffin

Our Lady of Hal, 165 Arlington Road

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Readings & Prayers Saturday 6pm & Sunday 5pm

Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Is 45: 8

Drop down dew from above, you heavens,
and let the clouds rain down the Just One;
let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

Collect

Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord,
your grace into our hearts,
that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ your Son
was made known by the message of an Angel,
may by his Passion and Cross
be brought to the glory of his Resurrection.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

First reading

2 Samuel 7:1-5,8-12,14,16

Once David had settled into his house and the Lord had given him rest from all the enemies surrounding him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'Look, I am living in a house of cedar while the ark of God dwells in a tent.' Nathan said to the king, 'Go and do all that is in your mind, for the Lord is with you.'

But that very night the word of the Lord came to Nathan:

'Go and tell my servant David, "Thus the Lord speaks: Are you the man to build me a house to dwell in? I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be leader of my people Israel; I have been with you on all your expeditions; I have cut off all your enemies before you. I will give you fame as great as the fame of the greatest on earth. I will provide a place for my people Israel; I will plant them there and they shall dwell in that place and never be disturbed again; nor shall the wicked continue to oppress them as they did, in the days when I appointed judges over my people Israel; I will give them rest from all their enemies. The Lord will make you great; the Lord will make you a House. And when your days are ended and you are laid to rest with your ancestors, I will preserve the offspring of your body after you and make his sovereignty secure. I will be a father to him and he a son to me; if he does evil, I will punish him with the rod such as men use, with strokes such as mankind gives. Your House and your sovereignty will always stand secure before me and your throne be established for ever."

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 88(89):2-5,27,29

I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord.

I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord;
through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth.
Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever,
that your truth is firmly established as the heavens.

'I have made a covenant with my chosen one;
I have sworn to David my servant:
I will establish your dynasty for ever
and set up your throne through all ages.

'He will say to me: "You are my father,
my God, the rock who saves me."

I will keep my love for him always;
with him my covenant shall last.'

Second reading

Romans 16:25-27

Glory to him who is able to give you the strength to live according to the Good News I preach, and in which I proclaim Jesus

Christ, the revelation of a mystery kept secret for endless ages, but now so clear that it must be broadcast to pagans everywhere to bring them to the obedience of faith. This is only what scripture has predicted, and it is all part of the way the eternal God wants things to be. He alone is wisdom; give glory therefore to him through Jesus Christ for ever and ever. Amen.

Gospel Acclamation

Lk1:38

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the handmaid of the Lord:

let what you have said be done to me.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 1:26-38

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. He went in and said to her, 'Rejoice, so highly favoured! The Lord is with you.' She was deeply disturbed by these words and asked herself what this greeting could mean, but the angel said to her, 'Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God's favour. Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David; he will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will have no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'But how can this come about, since I am a virgin?' 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you' the angel answered 'and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow. And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Know this too: your kinswoman Elizabeth has, in her old age, herself conceived a son, and she whom people called barren is now in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible to God.' 'I am the handmaid of the Lord,' said Mary 'let what you have said be done to me.' And the angel left her.

Prayer over the Offerings

May the Holy Spirit, O Lord,
sanctify these gifts laid upon your altar,
just as he filled with his power
the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon

Is 7: 14

Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son;
and his name will be called Emmanuel.

Prayer after Communion

Having received this pledge of eternal redemption,
we pray, almighty God,
that, as the feast day of our salvation draws ever nearer,
so we may press forward all the more eagerly
to the worthy celebration of the mystery of your Son's Nativity.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

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