



St. Edmund and St. Frideswide R.C. Church  
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#### **4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent (Year B) – 20<sup>th</sup> December 2020**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading – 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16  
Psalm – I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Reading – Romans 16:25-27  
Gospel – Luke 1:26-38

As we enter our final few days of preparation for the great celebration of Christmas, we are reminded of King David and his desire to do something for God. This may resonate with us too – after all, a time of preparation is meant to be a time of doing something, it is a time of activity. God's response is striking – it is the Lord who has done a whole multitude of things for David, and it is God who will continue to achieve wonders for David and his people. In one way, God is telling David that what you intend to do for me is really insignificant, and that you would do better by calling to mind all that I have and will continue to do.

This in itself is a real challenge, not least for those who are workaholics. The lesson goes to the heart of our time of preparation and the whole meaning of this holy season of Advent. It shifts the focus away from what we can do, to God who does all. Our main activity throughout our lives is to learn to actively wait, to admire, to thank. The Lord is working miracles daily, He humbles himself to come to us at the altar, He gives himself fully to us each day, every moment. St. Francis would remind us of this truth and invite us to ponder over this great mystery, to allow ourselves to be amazed by it, and to make this our best preparation for Christmas.

In all our final preparations, let us remember it is the Lord who gives us the grace of working. All belongs to Him. Let us give thanks for all that we have and enjoy.

**Carol Service Cancellation:** Due to the current local situation concerning the spread of the virus we felt it safer not to proceed with our Carol Service this Sunday. I want to thank the choir for their willingness to support us in our preparation for Christmas, as well as for their difficult decision for the good of all.

**Dr Herlander Pereira R.I.P.** – We are praying for the repose of the soul of Dr Pereira whose funeral will take place on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> December at 11:30am. Let us also remember his wife and the family at this difficult time. May he rest in peace. Amen

**Holy Communion 2021** - If your child is in Yr.3 – Yr.6 of primary school and you would like them to be prepared for their 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion in 2021, then please go to our Sacraments page on the website and fill out the relevant form - alternatively please contact the parish priest. You have until the end of this year to apply.

**Confirmation 2021** - If you would like to sign your child up for our Confirmation programme, please go to our Sacraments page and fill out the relevant form – alternatively please contact the parish priest. You have until the end of this year to apply.

**Mass Times and Intentions**

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December**

|         |                              |
|---------|------------------------------|
| 9.00am  | Dr. Pereira R.I.P.           |
| 11.00am | Parishioners                 |
| 5.30pm  | Adelina Hall R.I.P. & Family |

**Monday 21<sup>st</sup> December**

|        |               |
|--------|---------------|
| 7.30am | Kieran Hughes |
|--------|---------------|

**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> December**

|        |            |
|--------|------------|
| 7.30am | Holy Souls |
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**Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December**

|        |               |
|--------|---------------|
| 7.30am | Inner Healing |
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**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> December**

|        |           |
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| 7.30am | Vocations |
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**Christmas Eve**

|          |  |
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| 6pm      | Christy & Winnie Joyce R.I.P. / Mary Gaffey R.I.P. |
| 8pm      | Maria Fatima Soares & Carlos Godihno & families    |
| 10pm     | Br. Martin's Intentions                            |
| Midnight | Parishioners                                       |

**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> December**

**Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ**

|         |                                   |
|---------|-----------------------------------|
| 9.00am  | James Begley R.I.P. (Anniversary) |
| 11.00am | John Fenely                       |

**Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> December**

**St Stephen**

|                                 |                                  |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 9.00am                          | Alan Inseal R.I.P. (Anniversary) |
| 6.30pm (Holy Family Vigil Mass) | Holy Souls                       |

Please pray for those members of our community who are sick. If you are aware of somebody in our community who is sick and in need of our prayers, please ask them to contact the parish or let us have their contact details.