



St. Edmund and St. Frideswide R.C. Church
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2nd Sunday of Advent (Year B) – 6th December 2020

1st Reading – Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

Psalm – Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help.

2nd Reading – 2 Peter 3:8-14

Gospel – Mark 1:1-8

The Gospel this week is calling us to prepare for the Lord's arrival, and as part of this to reflect on the need to obtain God's forgiveness for our sins. To welcome the Saviour, we first of all have to be aware of our constant need of salvation, of someone who can make a real difference to my being, of someone who can transform me fully. The Son of God has that power, He alone can forgive our sins, and bring peace into our lives.

Forgiveness is made available to anyone who asks for it, with a desire to change one's way of life and in some way make up for one's sinful actions. A desire to seek God's forgiveness is already a gift of God that changes us, and that gently leads us to make the right decisions. God is offering us this gift freely, and wishes us to come and receive it, enjoy the fruits that it brings, and pass it on to others. Certain things seem insignificant to us, but whatever the circumstances, whenever we forgive we become the living image of God who is rich in mercy and compassion. What better way to prepare for the great event of Christmas, than endeavour to forgive those we live with, we work with, or who have simply crossed our paths for a brief time and hurt us. It may hurt as we try to do it, but the prize we win in the process is peace, love, and a renewal of God's image within us.

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.

Dr. Pereira R.I.P. – We are praying for the repose of the soul of Dr. Pereira who died this week. We keep his family in our prayers. May his soul and the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace.

Carol Service: Helping us to prepare for Christmas we will be having our carol service on **Sunday the 20th December at 3pm** in the church. We cannot join in the singing, but we can come to listen, pray and reflect together. Please book via our website.

Church re-opening: The full list of guidelines can be obtained through our website at www.greyfriarsoxford.uk . I ask your co-operation in the new Track and Trace system that will be in place in our parish for the good of the wider community, and to follow the guidance of the stewards.

YouChat Online: 'Prepare the Future' - Our youth group currently meets online via Zoom on Wednesday at 7.30pm. Email the parish to join.

Holy Communion / Confirmation 2021: If you would like to enrol your child for our programmes, please email the parish office.

Tuesday 8th December: School of Prayer—Your Word is Light and Hope: 7.00pm

For all seeking a personal relationship with God or to deepen their prayer life, this School of Prayer is a space to listen to, absorb, and meditate on God's Word in our hearts, and incarnate that Word in our lives. This term we focus on examples of Old Testament people: from Abraham to Mary. We meet online. To register please contact greyfriarszoom@gmail.com.

Mass Times and Intentions

Sunday 6th December

9.00am	Parishioners
11.00am	OFS
5.30pm	Pascal Oliveira, Maia Teresa Alves

Monday 7th December

St. Ambrose

7.30am	Friars who died in December
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Tuesday 8th December

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

7.30am	Kieran Hughes
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Wednesday 9th December

7.30am	Ellen Quirke
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Thursday 10th December

7.30am	George & Kathleen Drennan
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Friday 11th December

7.30am	FMM's & Benefactors
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Saturday 12th December

8.00am	Our Lady of Guadalupe
6.30pm	Parishioners