

# ST DOMINIC'S, DURSLEY & ST JOSEPH'S, NYMPSFIELD

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## 1<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2024 ADVENT I (YEAR C)



### ADVENT I (Year C) – New Church Year – THE JUBILEE OF 2025

Sat 30 <sup>th</sup> Nov		5.30pm	Sunday Mass (Goff Smith RIP)	Nympsfield
Sun 1 <sup>st</sup> Dec		10.30am	<b>Sunday Mass &amp; Enrolment for Adult Baptism</b> (Alan Uglow RIP)	Dursley
Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	Advent Feria	<b>Fr. P's Day Off</b>		
Tue 3 <sup>rd</sup> Dec	St Francis Xavier	9.30am	Mass (Pro Populo transf.)	Dursley
Wed 4 <sup>th</sup> Dec	St John Damascene	Fr. P at a family funeral		
Thu 5 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Advent Feria	10.00am	Mass of St Nicholas with Class 3 ( )	Nympsfield
Fri 6 <sup>th</sup> Dec	St Nicholas of Myra	6.00pm	Adoration, Rosary & Confessions	Dursley
Sat 7 <sup>th</sup> Dec	St Ambrose	7.00pm	Mass (November Dead List)	Dursley
		Noon	Mass ( )	Dursley
		3.00 -4.00pm	Confessions	Dursley

### ADVENT II (Year C)

Sat 7 <sup>th</sup> Dec		5.30pm	Sunday Mass (Pro Populo)	Nympsfield
Sun 8 <sup>th</sup> Dec		10.30am	Sunday Mass	Dursley
Mon 9 <sup>th</sup> Dec	<b>IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BVM (transf.)</b>	Noon	Mass	Dursley

## POPE'S INTENTION FOR DECEMBER - PILGRIMS OF HOPE

We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthen our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

CE

### MASS PROPERS FOR ADVENT I (Year C)

**Entrance Antiphon** to You, I lift up my soul, O My God. In You, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in You be put to shame.

LRD

**First Reading – Jeremiah 33:14-16** *God tells the prophet that He will raise cause a righteous branch to spring up for David*

**Responsorial Psalm** To You, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

**Second Reading – 1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2** *St Paul prays that the Lord will establish the hearts of the Christians of Thessalonica for the coming of Christ.*

JESU

**Alleluia Verse** Show us, O Lord, Your mercy, and grant us Your salvation.

**Gospel Reading – Luke 21:25-28 & 34-36** *Luke paints apocalyptic visions as Christ tells us that our redemption is near.*

**Communion Antiphon** The Lord will bestow His bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.

## FORTHCOMING DATES AND EVENTS

- Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December 7.30pm Annual Oriana Singers' Concert.
- Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> December, Feast of the Holy Family, we propose replacing the Café Dominic with Mulled Cider/Apple Juice and mince pies, to bring the family of the parish together.

## R. C. DIOCESE OF CLIFTON PILGRIMAGE TO ROME IN JUBILEE YEAR

**2025** Visit the main Basilicas of Rome with an opportunity to enter through a Holy Door in the Jubilee Year. Spend 5 nights in Palazzola Retreat House, set in the hills south of Rome near to Castel Gandolfo. Explore Rome with Canon Christopher on walking tours; Daytrip to Assisi with a stop at pretty hilltop village of Greccio where St Francis inaugurated the idea of a live crib scene 800 years ago. Contact us here: [enquiries@jcjourneys.com](mailto:enquiries@jcjourneys.com) [www.jcjourneys.com](http://www.jcjourneys.com) 01886 812862 Dates & Pricing Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> September - Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2025 What's Included 5-nights in Villa Palazzola, overlooking Lake Albano Return Easyjet flights from Bristol to Rome Daily Mass Airport transfers included Coach transfers to and from Rome for 3 days Breakfast and dinner at Palazzola included Day trip to Assisi and Greccio Led by Bishop Bosco MacDonald & Canon Christopher Whitehead £1050 pp Room with ensuite bathroom (limited rooms available) £965 pp Room with shared bathroom.



## ORIANA SINGERS PRE-CHRISTMAS

**CONCERT THURSDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER IN ST DOMINIC'S CHURCH, STARTING AT 7.30PM, WITH REFRESHMENTS AT HALF TIME. TICKETS COST £10 AND ALL PROCEEDS COME TO ST DOMINIC'S!**

## TIMES OF MASS FOR THE SOLEMNITY OF CHRISTMAS

Tues. 24<sup>th</sup> Dec. 6.00pm The Vigil Mass in St Dominic's  
Tues. 24<sup>th</sup> Dec. 9.00pm Mass of Christmas Night in St Joseph's  
Wed. 25<sup>th</sup> Dec. 9.00am Mass of Christmas Dawn in St Joseph's  
Wed. 25<sup>th</sup> Dec. 11.00am Mass of Christmas Day in St Dominic's  
Please note that the weekday Masses of the Christmas Octave will all be at  
Noon, no matter where they are celebrated



**THE ADVENT PRESERVATION SOCIETY 2024** Before we get annoyed with those who do not keep Advent, we must admit that it is probably not their fault. They don't know what it is or how to keep it. The commercial world has largely convinced people that shopping for Christmas IS Christmas. The advertising experts have eliminated the word PREPARATION, even though that's what they want us to do in our shopping and wrapping and sending. The other clever deception they practice upon us is that the season of Christmas started the day after Halloween (or American Thanksgiving) and runs up to and ends on the 25<sup>th</sup> December. Thus, they have apparently squeezed out the season of Advent altogether. Because that's how it looks, many think that's how it actually is.



Even Christians are conned and pressurised into starting Christmas too soon. They pay lip service to Advent with purple in church, but they organise carol services and children's nativities from 1<sup>st</sup> December and are bored with the Lord's Birth before Boxing Day even arrives.

We do gently need to remind our fellow Christians that we don't have Easter parties, bunnies and chocolate in Lent. We don't anticipate the Resurrection before it happens and we should not anticipate the Nativity before it happens either.

With all that said, the "getting ready for Xmas" is still going on. You find Advent if you look carefully. The turkeys are not roasting yet, let alone chestnuts on an open fire! We need to be strong and hold fast to the keeping of Advent. We must explain firmly but politely why it matters, things like "Christmas is coming doesn't mean that Christmas is actually here yet". We must remind folks that the shining days of Christmas only start when it gets dark on Christmas Eve and they stay with us part Epiphany to the Baptism of the Lord. The Season has 3 Sundays in it!!!

## THEMES OF ADVENT

Advent = Coming

Coming = of the feast of Christmas this year

Coming = of Christ to be born in Bethlehem 2000 years ago

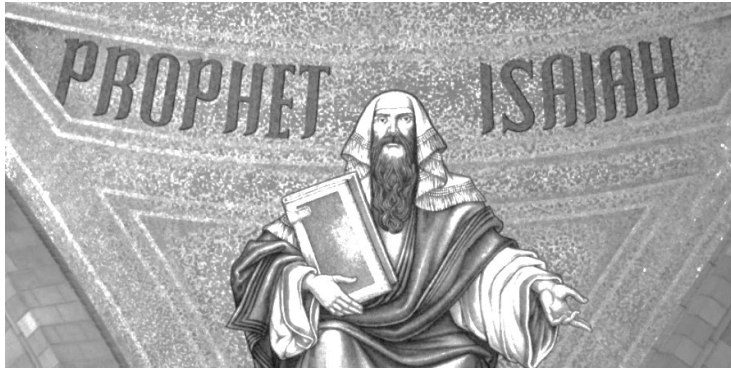
Coming = of Christ each day in word and sacrament and prayer and other people

Coming = of us to Christ in preparation and penitence.

Coming = of Christ in glory at the end of time to judge the living and the dead

Coming = of others to Christ because we live and proclaim the Gospel

The promises of Coming in Sacred Scripture, especially in the Old Testament. Advent is a tapestry of threads coloured from lightest blue to darkest violet, a beautiful fabric of promises



made with some fulfilled and some still awaiting completion. Prophets give it solidity, figures like Isaiah and John the Baptist. Through it runs a thread of gold, the Saviour Himself, from His involvement in all creation at the beginning to His work of salvation yet to be seen in all its glorious fulness. Advent's tapestry speaks of joyful

preparation, both by God and by us. It reminds us to be sorry for the clutter and error with which we fill the crib before the Lord ever arrives. Some of our preparation is also penitence, but Advent is not Lent. The growing excitement is never far away. The coming of candles into darkness, bringing gradual light is a metaphor for the season. The blaze of light is the choir of angels in the night sky over Bethlehem. The German custom of counting off the Sundays of Advent with candles on a wagon wheel has become almost universal in English speaking lands over the last 40 years or so, aided by the sales patter of candle manufacturers!

**200 CLUB** The Finance Committee has agreed that in order to help the fundraising efforts for the proposed and necessary upgrade to the hall, and to avoid having to purchase a licence from the Local Authority, that all proceeds from the 200 Club should be specifically for the Hall Improvement Fund. We have plenty of room for more members. Each number costs 50p per week and can be paid for weekly or monthly or annually, whatever is easiest for you. Draws are held monthly with prizes of £40, £30 and £20.

**2000**  
*Club*

The winners for November are:-

1<sup>st</sup> Mary Cryan

2<sup>nd</sup> John O'Donnell

3<sup>rd</sup> Laura Gardiner

For further information and sign up details, please contact Sue Whitney our treasurer