THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF ST PANCRAS, IPSWICH

Deum diligere et quæ sunt Dei

'To love God and the things of God.'

The Presbytery
1 Orwell Place
Ipswich
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Parish Priest:
Fr Joseph Welch

Sundays: Yr B
Weekdays: Yr 1

December is dedicated to
the Immaculate Conception

Sunday 29th November 2026
First Sunday of Advent
09:30 – Pro Populo
11:00 – Private int.

Monday 30th November
St Andrew
10am – Mim's int.

Tuesday 1st December
Advent feria
8am (TLM) – Hołyst Julian

Wednesday 2nd December
Advent feria
6pm – Carmen's int.

Thursday 3rd December
St Francis Xavier
12:15pm – Pat Ware's int.

Friday 4th December
Advent feria
10am – Holy Souls

Saturday 5th December
Advent feria
10am – Patricia Ware

Vigil of the Second Sunday of Advent
6pm – Holy Souls

Sunday 6th December 2026
Second Sunday of Advent
09:30 – Pro Populo
11:00 – Philomena Palmer RIP

CONFESSIONS:
Mon-Sat: 30 minutes before each Mass
& Sat: 5pm – 5:45pm
1st Friday: 6pm – 7pm

ADORATION: Sat: 5pm – 5:45pm &
1st Thursday: 11:15am
ROSARY: Mon – Fri after Mass
DEVOTIONS TO O.L. OF IPSWICH & ST PANCRAS: Sat. after 10am Mass

TLM MASS: 2nd Sunday of the month at 8am.
(Next 2nd Sunday Mass: 13th December.)

AN ADVENT EVENING OF RECOLLECTION

Monday, 30th November from 6pm – 8pm

Hymns, prayers, reflections, times of silence, and concluding with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Come and meditate on the words of the Advent antiphon, *Rorate Cæli*

'Drop down dew, ye heavens, from above, and
let the clouds rain down the Just One.'
Is 45:8

ALSO IN ADVENT…

RORATE MASS
Saturday, 12th December at 7am
The traditional Advent candlelit Mass in honour of Our Lady.

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT & BLESSING OF CRIBS
Sunday, 20th December at 4pm
Dust off your crib from its box in the loft and bring it to receive this year's blessing before Christmas Day arrives.

CHRISTMAS AFTERNOON – BENEDICTION AT 5PM

Get a breath of fresh air after lunch, pop into church to kneel before our Eucharistic Lord on His birthday, sing a couple of favourite carols, before going home again to settle down for your Christmas evening.

STELLA MARIS APPEAL

Can you help with Christmas gifts for those who will be at sea during the festive season? We would welcome boxes of chocolates, and woolly hats and gloves. Donations to Fr Joseph before Gaudete Sunday, 13th December, please.

RESTORING RUIN'D NATURE

Copies of Fr Joseph's new book of Advent reflections are now available at the back of church just in time for the start of the Church's new year. *Restoring Ruin'd Nature: Thoughts on the Great 'O' Antiphons of Advent* traces the great story of salvation – creation and the fall, prophecy and promise, the Incarnation, redemption and the restoration of our fallen nature in Christ.

Please consider making a **STANDING ORDER** instead of a weekly cash donation to the parish. Bank: Barclays. Account name & no: St Pancras Catholic Church 00775843. Sort code: 20-44-51. Our parish is part of the East Anglia Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust: registered charity no. 278742.

MONTHLY ADORATION This Thursday, 3rd December, 11:15am – 12:15pm.

THE ST CARLO ACUTIS GROUP (14-18 year olds) will meet this week on Thursday, 3rd December at 7pm.

MISSIO Please return your red boxes as soon as possible so we can send off the money that has been collected. Thank you.

PARISH MAGAZINE deadline 6th December. New contributors especially welcome. Please send all articles to: st.pancras.magazine@outlook.com

SECOND COLLECTION for the diocesan Dependent Priests' Fund on Gaudete Sunday, 13th December.

CATHOLIC MOTHERS' COFFEE MORNING every Monday following the 10am Mass and rosary.

ADULT CATECHISM CLASSES continue every Wednesday at 7pm for all who would like to learn more about our Catholic Faith.

50 YEARS OF MEMORIES 1976-2026 An exhibition, in our parish hall, drawn from the parish archives. Take a trip down memory lane.

THE BOOK CLUB will meet on Monday, 14th December at 7pm to discuss *Seven Bells to Bethlehem: The 'O' Antiphons* by Oliver Treanor. (Fr Joseph has a spare copy if anyone would like it.)

UK TAXPAYERS Please enter your details onto our Dona machines so that the parish can claim Gift Aid at no cost to yourself. Thank you.

EUCHARISTIC LEAGUE Please take a leaflet from the back of church to find out more.

Sick List Prayers are asked for Jim Convey, Vincent Convey, Larry Crowley, Alan Cutbush, Ciro Dellabella, Pat Dunnett, Evelyn Flach, Halina Gajewska, Fr Adrian Gates, Katherine Humpries, Linda Mitchell, Stephen Patten, Rosemary Pease, Brian Price, Judith Rogers, and Leighton Scott.

Of your charity Please pray for the repose of the souls of those who have died recently, and for all whose anniversaries occur at this time: William Rigby, Eileen James, Mary Smith, James Barker, Edith Connolly, Mary Graham, Adrian Patterson, Annie James, Rose Corrigan, Shirley Green, Maria Fee, Maria Bridgeman, Ian Garratt, Franco Jaccobucci, Michael Corkery, William Shapland, Kate Wells, Matthew Mazur, James Ward, Ivan Rose, Margaret Last, Anna Smith, Joan Osborn, Ellen Miller, Irene Zagni, Arthur Allsworth, Terence Dooley, Patrick Dermody, Thaddeus Rauch, Roman Pyrih, Gino Catania, Jean Killelay, Annie Rolston, Grace Lindemann, and Raymond Westerling. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

Fr Joseph writes: We begin a brand new series of reflections on the four main characters from Sacred Scripture whom we meet in Advent: the prophet Isaiah, St John the Baptist, St Joseph, and, of course, Our Lady.

ISAIAH

A prophet is one who has had a direct encounter with the Divine and has been charged by God to make known to others what has been made known to him. Sometimes this relates to the affairs of the day and to contemporaneous issues; but always, what is spoken in the mind, the heart, and the visions of the prophet has an eternal echo in heaven. In other words, the message of the prophet is for all time – at least, until the end of time – and what he speaks reverberates down the ages.

Isaiah, son of Amos, is called in the Book of Ecclesiasticus 'the great prophet' (48:25). Certainly, of all the prophets from the Old Testament it is his voice with which we are most familiar. In Advent especially we hear his words again and again, and there are particular themes which, even when we hear them at Mass at other times of the year, always remind us of Advent and Christmas.

Chief of these Advent prophecies is, of course, the foretelling of the virgin who will conceive and bear a son, and whose name shall be called Emmanuel (Is 7:14). Here, we have an echo of the Proto-Evangelium (the 'first Gospel') from the Book of Genesis when the Lord God promised that far from abandoning a fallen race, the seed of the woman would crush the serpent's head (Gen 3:15). The Child to be born for us, the Son given to us, says Isaiah, will bear the government of the world upon His shoulder, and He shall be called, Wonderful, Counsellor, the Mighty God, the Father of the world to come, and Prince of Peace (Is 9:6). He Himself will be the rod and the flower that shall rise up out of the root of Jesse (King David's father), and the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, of counsel and fortitude, of knowledge and godliness, and of the fear of the Lord, the same seven gifts of the Holy Spirit which we are given in the Sacrament of Confirmation (Is 11:1-3).

With the coming of this Messiah, the people that walked in darkness will see a great light, and to them that dwelt in the region of the shadow of death a light will arise (Is 9:2). Moreover, He shall cast down death headlong for ever, tears shall be wiped from every face, and the reproach of a sinful people shall be taken from the whole earth, and the people shall say on that day, 'Lo, this is our God, we have waited for him, and he will save us: this is the Lord, we have patiently waited for him, we shall rejoice and be joyful in his salvation' (Is 25:8-9). Furthermore, the 'sun shall go down no more, and thy moon shall not decrease: for the Lord shall be unto thee for an everlasting light, and the days of thy mourning shall be ended' (Is 60:20).

It behoves us during Advent, then, to heed the voice of one crying in the desert to prepare the way of the Lord and to make straight in the wilderness the paths of our God (Is 40:3).

The parish **SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVE** is Mim McMahon who may be contacted by anyone of any age, at any time, with any safeguarding concerns: 07813 199275 *or* mim@trianglemusic.info *or* mim.mcmahon@gmail.com.
For the Diocesan Safeguarding Co-ordinator, Mr Liam Sainsbury, call 07931 952626 or email liam.sainsbury@rcdea.org.uk