



Sunday 7th December 2025

NEWSLETTER

2nd Sunday of Advent

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"Rise, Shine, for Your Light Has Come" (Isaiah 60:1)

Dear brothers and Sisters,

As we gather on this Second Sunday of Advent for our Christmas Lights Switching-On celebration, we come together as a family filled with hope, expectation, and the quiet joy of this holy season. **Today we also prepare to share a moment of light, unity, and peace as a community.**

We are blessed to welcome **Ms Sara Olney**, our Member of Parliament, and **Councillor Rowena Bass**, Councillor for Coombe Hill Ward, who join us for this special occasion. We also warmly welcome **Reverend Mandy from Kingston Vale**, **Reverend Jyoti Prasad**, **Rev Fr Arul Raj**, and **Rev Fr Edwin Raj**, whose presence reflects the friendship and fellowship we share across our Christian communities.

We are grateful for the presence of our friends from other religious traditions who join us with their families: members of the **Ahmadiyya Muslim Community**, New Malden, **Mohammed and family** from the Muslim community, **Guljit and family** from the Sikh community, **Rathan and family** from the Hindu community. Your presence is a blessing and a sign of harmony among us.

We will light the Advent candle, the altar candles of peace and unity, and the Christmas lights both inside and outside the church. *May these lights remind us of the light of unity to dispel darkness, guide our steps, and bring hope to our world.*

Our heartfelt thanks go to everyone who has prepared for today's celebration: **those who arranged the decorations, set up the lights, coordinated the logistics, assisted with the liturgy, welcomed our guests, and planned the refreshments.** Your generosity reflects the true spirit of Advent: preparing the way of the Lord with love, service, and joy.

As we enter this celebration together, may the light we are about to bless and share touch our homes, our families, and our whole community with peace and hope.

With warm blessings,

Fr James Raj (jamesraj@rcaos.org.uk)

WHAT WILL HAPPEN TODAY - A SIMPLE GUIDE

Dear brothers and sisters, to help us follow today's celebration, here is a brief outline of what will take place during the Mass and the lighting ceremony.

SWITCHING ON THE INDOOR CHRISTMAS LIGHTS**Lighting the Window Decorations, Pew Candles, Crib & Christmas Tree**

Four people near each window will come forward to switch on: **Two candles, Two flower pot lights**, One appointed person will use a **remote to switch on the window** serial lights. Each pew has **small electrical candles**. You will find the switch underneath each one. Whoever is seated closest will turn on. Katherine will switch on the Crib and the Altar Servers will switch on the Christmas Tree.

Lighting of the Advent Candle

The Advent Candle will be lit by:

- Reverend Mandy
- Reverend Jyoti

Lighting of the Six Altar Candles

These candles symbolise unity, peace, harmony, goodwill, friendship, and hope. They will be lit by:

1. members of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, New Malden and Mohammed
2. Guljit and family
3. Rathan and family
4. Ms Sara Olney (MP)
5. Councillor Rowena Bass
6. Dylon and Alby

After Communion – Felicitation of Guests

After Holy Communion, there will be a brief felicitation to thank and honour all our invited guests and representatives from the parish, neighbourhood, faith communities, and local institutions.

OUTDOOR LIGHTING CEREMONY

After the Final Hymn: We will all process to the front of the church. Together, we will count from ten to one. At “one”, the outdoor Christmas lights will be switched on. All are warmly invited to share in this joyful moment.

Visit from Santa: Soon after the outdoor lights are switched on, Santa will arrive to greet the children.

Entrance Antiphon: Is 30: 19, 30:

O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.

ENTRANCE HYMN

Refrain

**Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness. Christ, be our light!
Shine in your Church gathered today.**

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to You.
Make us Your own, Your holy people,
Light for the world to see. **Refrain**

Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope – many despair.
Your word alone has power to save us.
Make us your living voice.

Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others,
Shared until all are fed.

Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others,
Walls made of living stone.

Many the gifts, many the people,
Many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
Making Your kingdom come.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**First reading - Read by Rev Mandy****Isaiah 11:1-10**

On that day:

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.

And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him,
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and might,
the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide disputes by what his ears hear,
but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist,
and faithfulness the belt of his loins.

The wolf shall dwell with the lamb,
and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat,
and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together;
and a little child shall lead them.

The cow and the bear shall graze;
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra,
and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.

They shall not hurt or destroy
in all my holy mountain;
for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD
as the waters cover the sea.

In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the
peoples — of him shall the nations enquire, and his resting-place
shall be glorious.

The word of the Lord. R. Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm**Ps 72(71):1-2. 7-8. 12-13. 17. R cf. 7****Response: In his days shall justice flourish, and great peace for ever**

O God, give your judgement to the king, to a king's son your justice, that he may judge your people in justice, and your poor in right judgement. **R.**

In his days justice shall flourish, and great peace till the moon is no more. He shall rule from sea to sea, from the River to the bounds of the earth. **R.**

For he shall rescue the needy when they cry, the poor who have no one to help.

He will have pity on the weak and the needy, and save the lives of the needy. **R.**

Second reading**Romans 15:4-9**

Brothers and sisters: Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, 'Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles, and sing to your name.'

The word of the Lord. R. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation: **Luke 3:4, 6:** Alleluia, alleluia. Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight; all flesh shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia.

Gospel**Matthew 3:1-12**

In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.' For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said, 'The voice of one crying in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight."' Now John wore a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, and they were baptised by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees' coming to his baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not presume to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our father", for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 'I baptise you with water for repentance,

but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.' **The Gospel of the Lord. All reply: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

The Creed: I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERTORY HYMN

In bread we bring You, Lord, our bodies' labour.
In wine we offer You our spirit's grief.
We do not ask You, Lord, who is my neighbour,
But stand united now, one in belief.
Oh, we have gladly heard Your Word, Your holy Word,
And now in answer, Lord, our gifts we bring.
Our selfish hearts make true, our failing faith renew,
Our lives belong to You, our Lord and King.

The bread we offer You is blessed and broken,
And it becomes for us our spirits' food.
Over the cup we bring Your Word is spoken;
Make it Your gift to us, Your healing blood.
Take all that daily toil plants in our hearts' deep soil,
Take all we start and spoil, each hopeful dream –
The chances we have missed, the graces we resist,
Lord, in Thy Eucharist, take and redeem.



COMMUNION HYMN - 1

Make me a channel of your peace
Where there is hatred let me bring your love
Where there is injury, your pardon Lord
And where there is doubt true faith in You

**Chorus: Oh, Master grant that I may never seek
So much to be consoled as to console
To be understood as to understand
To be loved as to love with all my soul**

Make me a channel of your peace
Where there is despair in life let me bring hope
Where there is darkness only light
And where there's sadness ever joy **Chorus...**

Make me a channel of your peace
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned
In giving to all men that we receive
And in dying that we are born to eternal life **Chorus...**

COMMUNION HYMN - 2

SOUL OF MY SAVIOUR – NO. 663”

Soul of my Saviour, sanctify my breast;
Body of Christ, be thou my saving guest;
Blood of my Saviour, bathe me in thy tide,
Wash me with water flowing from thy side.

Strength and protection may thy passion be;
O blessèd Jesus, hear and answer me;
Deep in thy wounds, Lord, hide and shelter me,
So shall I never, never part from thee.

Guard and defend me from the foe malign;
In death's dread moments make me only thine;
Call me and bid me come to thee on high
Where I may praise thee with thy saints for aye.



RECESSIONAL HYMN

As I kneel before you, as I bow my head in prayer,
Take this day, make it yours and fill me with your love.

Ave Maria, Gratia plena, Dominus tecum, Benedicta tu.

All I have I give you, every dream and wish are yours,
Mother of Christ, Mother of mine, present them to my Lord.

As I kneel before you, and I see your smiling face,
Ev'ry thought, ev'ry word, is lost in your embrace.



Dear all,

Our heartfelt thanks to everyone who joined us for the Christmas Lights Switching-On celebration on 2nd Sun. of Advent. We were blessed by the presence of Ms Sara Olney, MP, and Councillor Rowena Bass, whose support and goodwill we deeply appreciate.

We are grateful to Rev Mandy, Rev Jyoti Prasad, Rev Fr Arul Raj, and Rev Fr Edwin Raj, and to representatives from St Boniface, the Kingston Deanery, and John the Baptist Anglican Church. We also thank members of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, Mohammed and family, Guljit and family, and Rathan and family for representing our friends from different faith traditions.

A warm thank you to representatives from Holy Cross Preparatory School, Marymount International School, Galsworthy House, and Sherwood House care homes, and to our neighbours around Kingston Hill, whose presence enriches our parish life. I am also grateful for the presence and support of my family members, especially my mother.

We extend special thanks to all who helped prepare for the celebration: Liam and his team, Loyola, Ranjan, Lijo, Richard, Simon, Sean, the Church Maintenance Team led by Joseph, Katherine and her team, the Welcome Team, and all Refreshment volunteers. Your dedication reflects the spirit of Advent.

It was our joy to felicitate our dignitaries and guests with Kingston Vale Honey, lovingly produced by our parishioner Barry Wood, winner of five national awards this year — a small token of gratitude and the sweetness of community life. May the light we share continue to shine in our homes, our parish, and our neighbourhood.

Warm blessings, Fr James Raj

ST ANN'S – ADVENT CALENDAR 2026

A simple, prayerful journey of hope – a place of solace – preparing our hearts for the coming of Christ.

Day	Theme/Reflection/Scripture/Action
08/12/ 2025 Day 9	Theme: Mary's Beautiful Yes Scripture: "Let it be done to me according to your word." (Lk 1:38) Reflection: Say one gentle "Hail Mary" and ask Our Lady to help you say "Yes" to God.
09/12/ 2025 Day 10	Theme: Be Patient Bible Thought: "Be still and know that I am God." (Psalm 46:10) Action: Offer patience in one situation today.
10/12/ 2025 Day 11	Theme: Listening Heart Bible Thought: "Speak, Lord, your servant is listening." (1 Sa3:9) Action: Before bed, listen to God in silence for one minute.
11/12/ 2025 Day 12	Theme: Compassion Bible Thought: "He had compassion on them." (Matthew 14:14) Action: Pray for someone who is grieving or lonely.
12/12/ 2025 Day 13	Theme: Remembering the Departed Bible Thought: "I am the resurrection and the life." (John 11:25) Action: Pray for Phil King and all our departed loved ones.
13/12/ 2025 Day 14	Theme: Gratitude Bible Thought: "Give thanks in all circumstances." (1 The 5:18) Action: Write down three blessings from this year.
14/12/ 2025 Day 15	Theme: Inner Cleansing Scripture: "Create in me a clean heart." (Psalm 51:10) Reflection: Let go of one small burden or resentment.



CRIP COMPETITION

22ND DECEMBER 2025

As we are approaching the Christmas season, I am delighted to let you know that, just like last year, we will be holding our Christmas Crib Competition for children. The rolling trophy will be awarded again this year, and the winner's name will be engraved on it. Please send your crib pictures or videos **by 21st December 2025**. Let us prepare our hearts and creativity to welcome the birth of Jesus with joy and love!

NATIVITY PLAY

24TH DECEMBER 2025

Our Nativity Play will take place during the **Children's Mass on 24 December 2025 at 5.00 pm**, where the Gospel will be beautifully enacted by our children. **We will hold two practice sessions, and all children who would like to take part are most welcome. Please leave your name so we can include you in the group.**

CHRISTMAS PREPARATION

As we begin preparing for the Christmas decorations and celebrations, I warmly invite you to take part in this joyful season of giving. You may use the QR code displayed here to contribute towards the preparations. **Christmas decorations and gifts for neighbours and the needy**
Your generosity helps us create a sacred and welcoming space to celebrate the birth of Christ together as one family.



CHRISTMAS INVITATIONS

Printed Christmas Invitations are now available for you, your family, and friends. Please feel free to take a copy. If you wish to post an invite, envelopes are provided for your convenience.



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ADVENT WREATH MAKING WORKSHOP AT THE CHURCH



Advent
Wreath Making

ST ANN'S READING ROTA FOR SUNDAYS

Role	7th December	14th December	14th December
1st Reading	Assigned Member	Disona Dominic	Volunteer
Psalm	Assigned Member	Vivian Thatcher	Volunteer
2nd Reading	Assigned Member	Lourdes Fuentes	Volunteer
Bidding Prayer	Assigned Member	Chidinma Igwilo	Volunteer

ST ANN'S LITURGICAL CALENDAR WITH MASS INTENTIONS

Date	Time	Intention	Celebration
Sunday 07/12	5.00 pm	Antonio Giavara RIP	2nd Sunday of Advent
Monday 08/12	10 am	Intention Available	Advent week
Tuesday 09/12	7.00 pm	Victor Ramanan Int.	Advent week
Wednesday 10/12	10 am	André Brenninkmeyer family	St Francis Xavier
Thursday 11/12	Day Off		
Friday 12/12	11.30 am	Phil King RIP	Funeral Mass
	7.00 pm	Intention Available	Advent Week
Saturday 13/12	12 Noon	Intention Available	Pilgrims Mass
	6 pm	Max Cockings RIP	Vigil Mass
Sunday 14/12	10.30 am	Anna Gonzalez (B/D)	3rd Sunday of Advent

Loose Collection: £ 195.30



Donate - St Ann's

FOR ST ANN'S CHURCH OFFERING

Account Name: RCAS Kingston Hill

Account Number: 79124429

Sort Code: 60-50-01, Bank: NatWest

Contactless Collection: £ 313.97

& Standing Order Income

Thank you for being part of our St. Ann's family.

Let's pray for one another and for the growth of our parish family.