

Sunday 19th November 2023
2nd SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT
Year A 23/46

ST JAMES

Islington N1 8PH



Welcomer Martin and Kerri Allen
Readers Shirley Chinery, Eddie Jenkyns
Interceder Luigi Falcioni
Euch Min Isabel Nisbet
Coffee Eva Kasella
Music:
Entry AM790 Teach me my Lord
Gradual AM490 There is a longing
Offertory AM494 I, the Lord
P-Comm TP70 Jesu, Jesu
Final LamPr50 I waited patiently
Mass Burley Mass, Simon Lole

Collect: Gracious God, you have richly blessed all creation with your own gifts and skills; encourage us to use our talents generously so that, remaining faithful to your vision on earth, we may finally inherit your glory in the world to come. We make our prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.



THE PCC MET in the Vicarage on Wednesday evening and 'looking forward' was on all of our minds. Very helpfully *Thomas* shared the work he has been doing over the last eighteen months to upgrade our website. As he said, social media has moved on hugely over the last couple of years and we are very lucky that he has been willing to use his professional skills on our behalf. This is still 'work in progress' - but the progress is very impressive and we thank him for all he has done. We also noted developments on the transfer of the Parish Office to the Hall which has been repainted alongside the deep cleaning of the major walkways and toilets. In another busy week, we reflected on the success of the organ recital last Saturday with a full-ish Church and no technical glitches and looked at the new Parish Directory which we hope gives clear instructions about where everything is kept and how it works! We heard about the imminent transfer of the Sunday School to *Lucy Haire* and her team and the PCC elected *Isabel Nisbet* and *Jane Falcioni* to be the official representatives of the parish when interviewing for a new parish priest. *Susan Sorensen* reported that the huge hike in utility bills last year had put a severe strain on parish finances but that stewardship giving and Hall/Church hirings were holding up well. Finally *Sinead Burniston* was given the chance to reflect on her time at St James'. It was full of positive comments about the kindness and skills of the congregation. Quite right too.



WELCOME to everyone in Church today, especially those visiting for the first time.

- Please ask the nearest person to you in the pews if there is anything you need. There is a carpeted area in the south aisle for our smallest children. A full service booklet is available and the T-loop system works well.
- A collection of money is taken during Mass and there is a card-reader on the back wall for digital donations. We are very grateful for your kind support.
- At the time of communion, please feel free to come forward to the front of Church - either to receive communion or a blessing. Jesus invites everyone, you too!
- Finally, do stay for a drink after Mass if you can and say hello before you leave. If you would like to keep in touch, please fill in a white Contact Card and we'll respond asap.

St James' Islington: discovering how to live like Jesus in the 21st century

FOR GAZA O God of all justice and peace, we cry out to you in the midst of the pain and trauma of violence and fear which prevails in the Holy Land. Be with those of all faiths who need you in these days of suffering and for all people of that land. While we pray to you, O Lord, for an end to violence and the establishment of peace, we also call for you to bring justice and equity to the peoples. Guide us into your kingdom where all people are treated with dignity and honour as your children - for to all of us you are our Heavenly Father. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.



THIS WEEK (and next)

INTERCESSIONS The time has come for the writing of intercessions to be widely shared. This is an opportunity for people to lead our congregation in asking God to be present in the millions of situations we are involved in between us. No one person can do that adequately - and certainly no books of prayers are ever going to be sufficiently relevant in our ever-changing world. I hope today's teach-in will give you the confidence to offer to lead our parish prayers occasionally: there is no right or wrong way of doing it but there are a few tips worth bearing in mind when you are serving the people of God in this way. Isabel needs volunteers urgently please!

Sun 19 **2nd SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT 8am Mass 10am PARISH MASS and SUNDAY SCHOOL.** 12noon Pastoral visiting, Peabody Estate. 12.30pm Fixing Lambe-light!! 2-10pm *Sacha Elina Organ performance.*
Mon **8.30am Morning Prayer. 9am Mass.** 6.30pm - 9pm Farewell Supper, Church Hall.
Tues **10am Mass. 7-9pm Sing.**
Wed 11.30am and 3pm Farewell Assemblies at Richard Cloudesley School. 5.15pm Servers. **6pm Evening Prayer.** 6.15pm Office session.
Thurs 11am Funeral in Church of Frederick Campbell (laledon House).
Fri 10.30-5.30pm *New London Chamber Choir rehearsal.* 6pm Fr Rajiv Michael's induction, St John's RC Church, Duncan Terrace.
Sat
Sun 26 **CHRIST THE KING 8am Mass. No 10am PARISH MASS or SUNDAY SCHOOL.** 2.30-4pm *Yoon Chung rehearsal.* 5pm **PARISH MASS and PARTY in Church.**
Tues **8.30am Morning Prayer. 9am Mass.**
Wed **10am Mass.**
Thurs 5.15pm Servers. **6pm Evening Prayer.** 6.15pm Office session.
Fri The Interregnum begins.
Sat 5.30pm *Heather Tuach Cello concert.* 7pm *Jan Guthrie Concert.*
Sun 3 **ADVENT SUNDAY 8am Mass** (Fr Stephen). **10am PARISH MASS and SUNDAY SCHOOL** (Fr Jim).

Calendar and Daily prayer themes

Sun 19 **2 BEFORE ADVENT** Fr Stephen Taylor; Ken and Margaret Thompson
Mon 20 **DEL Week 33** Fr Victor de Waal; Fr Jim Walters; Kathryn Ward
Tues 21 **Feria** Belle Williams, Tom, Poppy, Pearl and Bow Wheatley
Wed 22 **St Cecilia** Tim Willis; Chris Wright; Lisa, Darren, Max and Oscar
Thurs 23 **St Clement** Louise Ahmet, Vinney, Benji and Sienna Payne
Fri 24 **Feria** Martin, Kerri, Rebecca and Joseph Allen; Leiby and Sarah Anafu
Sat 25 **St Catherine** Richard and Elizabeth Batchelor; Vicky Bellamy
Sun 26 **CHRIST THE KING** Fr John, Maria, Sinead and Catriona Burniston

PRAYER BOARD/NOTICES - Requests for prayer welcome

- BIRTHDAYS** Many Happy Return this week to Eddie Jenkyns who we are delighted has made a home with us recently.
- SICK** Denise Clarke, Peter Freeth, Paul Hope, Kris Hyde, John, Sharon McPherson, Kingsley Lewis, Delia Rockett, Hazel Saunders, John Scott, Charlie Sharpe, Julia Taylor and Mary Whalley.
- INDOOR MEMBERS** Annie Bryan, Vivien Carlton, Kingsley Lewis (Bridgeside Lodge) and Wendy Fisher Gordon.
- ANNIVERSARIES** 23rd: Nancy Buckley (2012); 24th: Hathaway Holness (1992).
- INTERNATIONAL LINKS** *In the US:* Fr Travis Smith, Angleton; Mth Suzanne Smith, Alvin, Texas. *In Japan:* Fr Sebastian and Yuki Naniwa.
- IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK** We pray for all caught up in the violence in Gaza, praying for the release of the hostages, the restoration of power, the free flow of food and medical supplies and a negotiated ceasefire. We pray too for the people of Ukraine as their severe winter begins.



Open from 12 noon each Monday.



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PARISH MASS FOR 2nd SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT 2023

Entry Hymn: **AM790 Teach me my God and King**

[t Sandys]

*Teach me, my God and King,
your words both old and new,
that what I learn in anything
I learn it, Lord, from you.*

*Wherever we may roam
we wonder where you hide;
reveal to us your heavenly home
and keep us by your side.*

*Each day you share your life
with those who seek your face;
though we endure both pain and strife
you strengthen us by grace.*

*Your truth is like the gold
we hew from rock and stone;
it changes lives where'er it's told:
help us to make it known.*

(Words: JB loosely based on the hymn by George Herbert)

PARISH MASS for 2nd Sunday before Advent 19 November 2023 Intercessory Prayer

as streamed from
St James' Church
Islington N1



May God bless every
£1 we give so that St
James' will be here,
not just for today and
for tomorrow, but for
the future he wants to
create.

The Greeting

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be always with you.
And also with you.

The theme of the Mass may be introduced

Opening Prayer

**Almighty God, to whom all hearts be open,
all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Confession

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, firmly resolved to keep God's commandments and to live in love and peace with all.

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
In thought and word and deed,
Through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins.
for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Almighty God, who forgives all those who truly repent,
have mercy upon us, pardon and deliver us from all evil
and keep us in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Stand

Gloria
Dom Gregory Murray

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

**Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sins for the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Collect

**Gracious God, you have richly blessed all creation with your own
gifts and skills; encourage us to use our talents generously so
that, remaining faithful to your vision on earth, we may finally
inherit your glory in the world to come. We make our prayer
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

1st Reading: (1 Samuel 1: 21—2: 2 CEV) After the birth of Samuel Elkanah and all his household went up to offer to the Lord the sacrifice due for the birth of a son. But Hannah did not go up, for she said to her husband, 'As soon as the child is weaned, I will bring him, that he may appear in the presence of the Lord, and remain there for ever; I will offer him as a Nazirite for all time.'

Elkanah said to her, 'Do what seems best to you, wait until you have weaned him; only - may the Lord answer your prayer.' So the woman remained and nursed Samuel and when he was weaned she took him up to the house of the Lord at Shiloh, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour, and a skin of wine. Then they slaughtered the bull, and they brought the child to the priest Eli. And she said, 'As you live, my lord, I am the woman who was standing here in your presence, praying to the Lord for the gift of a child. The Lord has granted me the petition that I made to him. Therefore, as long as he lives, he is given to the Lord'. Then Hannah prayed and said, 'My heart exults in the Lord; my strength is renewed by my God. There is no one like the Lord, no one beside the Holy One of Israel; there is no Rock like our God.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual: AM409 There is a longing in the air

The musical score is written in 2/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It begins with the tempo marking 'Steadily' and a repeat sign. The lyrics are: 'There is a long-ing in our hearts, O Lord, for you to re-veal your - self to us. There is a long-ing in our hearts for love we on-ly find in you, our God. 1 For jus-tice, for free-dom, for mer-cy: hear our prayer. In sor-row, in grief: be near, hear our prayer, O God.' The score includes a 'Refrain' section and ends with 'D.S.' (Da Capo).

**For wisdom, for courage,
for comfort, hear our prayer.
In weakness, in fear,
be near, hear our prayer, O Lord. There...**

**For healing, for wholeness,
for new life: hear our prayer.
In sickness, in death,
be near, hear our prayer, O Lord. There...**

**Lord save us, take pity,
light in our darkness.
We call you, we wait,
be near, hear our prayer, O Lord. There...** (Words and Music: Anne Quigley)

2nd Reading: (Ephesians 1: 15-23 CEV) Ever since I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, I have not stopped giving thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the gifts of wisdom and spiritual insight as you come to know him, so that you may sense the hope to which he has called you, how great the gifts he gives to his saints and how unlimited the possibilities that are open to us who believe and who are obedient to him who called us.

For just as God put this power to work in Christ Jesus when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places so that he reigns far above all rulers and authorities, far above every name, not only in this age but also in the age to come - putting all things under his feet and making him the head over all things for the benefit of the Church, which is his body - so he raises us up in order that we too might know his power which fills all in all.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

A short time of silence follows as we reflect on all we have heard.

Let us stand and welcome the Gospel.

Al - le - lu - ia! Your words, O Lord, are spi - rit and life.

Al - le - lu - ia! O - pen our hearts to your word.

Gospel Acclamation

We sing together:

Make your home in me, as I make mine in you; whoever remains in me bears fruit in plenty.

We sing once more: Alleluia, your words....

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Hear the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

Glorify to you, O Lord.

(St Matthew 25: 14-30) 'For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, "Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents." His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, "Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents. His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master."

Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, "Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours." But his master replied, "You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sit

Sermon

Stand

The Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is,
seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father.

God from God, light from light, true God from true God, begotten not made, of one Being with the Father; though him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven; was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again with glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Intercessions

At the end:

Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Peace

The Kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking but of truthfulness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. .

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

Offertory Hymn: AM494 I, the Lord of sea and sky

*I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?
Here I am, Lord, Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.*

*I, the Lord of snow and rain. I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send: Here I am...*

*I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send? Here I am...*

(Words: Dan Schutte)

At the Offertory

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have this bread to offer,
which earth has given and human hands have made.
It will become for us the bread of life.
Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of creation.
Through your goodness we have this wine to offer,
Fruit of the vine and work of human hands.
It will become our spiritual drink.
Blessed be God for ever.

Pray, my friends, that our thanksgiving may be acceptable to God,
the almighty Father.
**May the Lord accept this sacrifice from our hands
for the praise and glory of his name,
for our good, and the good of all his Church.**

Lord God, may the gifts we offer increase our love for you and bring us to eternal life. We make our prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Remain standing

Eucharistic Prayer B

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right it is our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give you thanks, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

For you are the God of nature, the God of grace. You have entrusted into our hands many skills and talents to be used and perfected in your service.

Teach us not to be afraid to use what you have given us; multiply our good works from the resources that have bestowed on us so that, at the last, you will find us faithful and call us to share the gifts of your heavenly kingdom.

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and saying...

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry, Ho-san-na in the high-est.
 Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na!
 Ho-san-na! Ho-san-na! Ho-san-na in the high-est!

Sit or kneel

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness; grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit, and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and wine may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Great is the mystery of faith.
When we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus, until you come again.

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross, his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world; rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

We bring before you this bread and this cup and thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your kingdom all who share this one bread and one cup, so that we, in the company of Mary the Mother God, St James, St Peter and all the saints, may praise and glorify you for ever, through him from whom all good things come, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Bless-ing and hon-our and glo-ry and power
 be yours for ev-er and ev-er. A-men.

Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy king-dom come,
 Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our dai-ly bread,

and for-give us our tres-pass-es, as we for-give those who tres-pass a-gainst us.

And lead us not in-to temp-tation, but de-liv-er us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom the power and the glory for ev-er and ev-er, A-men.

Fraction

We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ
Though we are many, we are one body,
 because we all share the one bread.

Agnus Dei

Je-sus, Lamb of God: have mer-cy up-on us.

Je-sus, bear-er of our sins: have mer-cy up-on us. Je-sus, re-deem-er

of the world: give us your peace.

Invitation

Come and kneel at the altar of God, not because you are strong but because you are weak. Come because you love the Lord a little and would like to love him more. Come because he loves you and gave himself for you.

Lift up your hearts and mind above the cares and fears and let this bread and wine be to you the token of the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, all meant for you if you will accept them in humble faith for this is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Happy are those who are called to his Supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
 but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

Sit

After Communion

Communion Hymn: **TP70 Jesu, Jesu,**

[t Cheriponi, Ghanaian Folk Song]

**Jesu, Jesu,
 fill us with your love,
 show us how to serve
 the neighbours we have from you.**

**Kneels at the feet of his friends
 silently washes their feet,
 Master who acts as a slave to them. Jesu, Jesu...**

**Neighbours are rich and are poor,
 neighbours are black and are white,
 neighbours are near and are far away. Jesu, Jesu...**

**Kneel at the feet of our friends,
 silently washing their feet,
 this is the way we should live with you. Jesu, Jesu...** (Words: Tom Colven)

Communion Antiphon:

We will rejoice at the victory of God and make our boast in his great name.

Post Communion:

God our guide, you have fed us with bread from heaven as you fed the people of Israel. May we who have been inwardly nourished be ready to follow you all our days; we ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us
 with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
 Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
 to be a living sacrifice.
 Send us out in the power of your Spirit
 to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

Community Notices

Stand

Blessing

Dismissal

Go in the peace of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

Final Hymn: **LamPr50 I waited patiently** [t AM587 Amazing Grace]

*I waited patiently for God,
for God to hear my prayer,
and God bent down to where I sank,
and listened to me there.*

*God raised me from the miry pit,
from mud and stinking sand,
and set my feet upon a rock,
where I can firmly stand.*

*And on my lips a song was put,
a new song to the Lord.
Many will marvel, open eyed,
and put their trust in God.*

*Great wonders you have done, O Lord,
all purposed to our good:
unable every one to name,
I bow in gratitude.* (Words: Psalm 40, ed. John Bell)