

PARISH OF ST MARY IMMACULATE & THE HOLY ARCHANGELS
KELVEDON, ST. BERNARD COGGESHALL, ST JOHN HOUGHTON TIPTREE,
(Twinned with St Joseph's Mission, Besters, Natal)

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PARISH NEWSLETTER

27th November 2011

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

*Stay awake, because you do not know when
the master of the house is coming.*

First Reading: Is 63:1-17. 64:1.3-8

Responsorial Psalm Ps 79:2-3.15-16.18-19

Second Reading: 1 Cor 1:3-9

Gospel: Mk 13:33-37



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT: Where is God? Fifty years ago, when Yuri Gagarin became the first man in space he reported back to Moscow that he could not see any sign of God, yet in today's first reading Isaiah prays, "Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come down!" God is not a resident of inner or outer space – the realm of the spirit is all around us, like a fourth dimension. God is never absent however much we may feel him to be. Isaiah's plea is not for God to move from one place to another but for him to make himself known to us – for us to feel his presence in our lives. But the 'coming' of God is a challenge. It brings us face to face with our inadequacies and his perfection and glory. Advent is a time we look forward to his final coming in glory. We prepare for this by reflecting on his first coming at Christmas where he demonstrates that he comes to us in love so as to transform us and make us ready for his final coming. In between these comings we must live by faith and not by sight in the knowledge that he is present to us through the sacraments and in prayer, his face hidden by a thin veil that can be lifted by love.

PRAYER NEEDS: Please continue to pray for those parishioners who are sick especially **Trisha Parkin, Mark Petchey, Deborah Lee, Hilda Hawes, Pam Lowth, Hanni Kyan, Bill Sullivan, Sheila Faulkner, Sarah Costello, Donovan Buahin, Mike Gibson, Rebecca Dillon, Brian Harper, Eddie Price, Anne Entwistle, Audrey Holder, Eric Bell, Paul Brittain, Audrey Hopwood, Karen Kelly,** and any unknown to us.

NATIONAL YOUTH SUNDAY: Many thanks to your most generous response to **Gareth Talbot's appeal** for the Diocesan Youth Service - **£370.35!**

ANNIVERSARIES: Please remember **Parval Piekieron, Susan Masters, Ernest Bell, Frances Browney, Christopher Edwards, Sr Mary Teresita OP, Josephine Grima, Kathleen Lee and Margaret Farley** whose anniversaries occur at this time.

APF MISSION BOXES: Jean Mullane has kindly offered to take over Danny's role as APF promoter for the parish. She has to prepare an end of year return and would very much appreciate you bringing any red mission boxes to be emptied in the next couple of weeks.

ST TERESA'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL: Applications for reception for September 2012. Children whose dates of birth fall between 1st September 2007 and 31st August 2008 are welcome to apply for a place. Please contact the school office for a supplementary information form and Priest's reference form – you must also complete the form you receive from Essex County Council. You are welcome to visit with your child. For an appointment contact: St Teresa's R.C. School, Clairmont Road, Colchester CO3 9BE Tel. 01206 508445.

BRENTWOOD DIOCESAN DIRECTORY: Copies now available at the back of the Church for £2.50 – full of information about the Diocese and with a liturgical calendar for 2012 for those who like to know the details for each day.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN COGGESHALL: Advent Service this evening at Christchurch 6.30 p.m. Fr Philip Banks will be moving soon to Bury St Edmunds where he has been appointed a canon residentiary – we thank him for all he has contributed during his time in Coggeshall, and wish Fr Philip, Janet and the family well in their new home.

A CELEBRATION OF WORDS & MUSIC: For *Winter and Christmas - an evening of poetry and song* is being held at **St John Houghton Church Tiptree** on the **17th December** at **8:00 p.m.** - entry by donation. All welcome. For further details contact Jean Ezra on 01376 513157.

THE BIGGER BREAKFAST: The next prayer breakfast for Churches Together in Kelvedon and Feering takes place this Saturday 8.00-9.00 a.m. at Kelvedon URC.

ADVENT: The usual Advent reflection booklets will be available. The booklets for adults, 'Walk with me' and 'My day by day' cost £1.00. The children's booklets cost £0.55. There are also Advent Calendars for the children – these are free!

BRENTWOOD NEWS: Latest number now available. Please do take one – they are free!

FINANCE: Offertory collection for **Sunday 20th November - £903.71.**

BEEF: Brentwood Ecclesiastical Education Fund is the money used to pay for the education of seminarians. There is a second collection for BEEF after all Masses today, and the money is needed as we currently have seven students in formation at a cost of well over £100,000 per year. This includes their tuition, accommodation and living costs. We would also ask for your prayers for all our seminarians – **David, Matthew, Nick, Patrick, Eamonn, Gary** and **Brendan** – as well as those considering an application in 2012. There is a special Mass for Vocations at St Basil the Great, Luncies Road, Basildon, SS14 1SD on Thursday 29th December at 11.30am, followed by lunch for seminarians and those enquiring about vocation. For more details email frdominic@brentwoodvocations.org.

MASS VARIATIONS: This Thursday morning Mass will be at 9.00 a.m. and there will be **no** evening Mass.

NEW SUNDAY YEARLY MISSALS: We still have a few left. These yearly Missals have the new translation in and begin on Sunday 27th November, 1st Sunday in Advent. They are priced at £5.00 each and can be found in St. Dominic's Room along with the books.

PARISH YOUTH GROUP: We have recently formed a Youth Group catering for Post-First Communion children up to 13 years old. The aim of the Youth Group is to give the children of our parish an opportunity to put God's love into practice and also to give them a sense of 'belonging' to God's family through making new friends and maintaining the ones they made during their First Communion preparation. The group has been formed as a fund-raising group, which will meet periodically. They will be supporting a children's hospice and our twin parish in Uganda. Please, come along with your children to the first meeting on **Friday 9th December** at **6.00 p.m.** for a full presentation and fish and chip supper. It should be great fun as the children will be able to express their creativity and work as a team. This project is run completely by parents within the parish. The first activity will be house-to-house carol singing in Kelvedon on **Saturday 10th December** at **5.00 p.m.** to which all children, from six onwards are invited. Younger ones are welcome, but only if accompanied by a parent! For more information, contact Angie Hart (email: mahart66@hotmail.com) or Gaby Ruiz (email: rafael.ruiz@btinternet.com)

NEW MASS TRANSLATION: Nicene Creed - In England over recent years the significance and appropriateness of using 'inclusive language has become widely appreciated. That said, we are still in a transitional stage in this usage. Sometimes the use of rigorously gender neutral language is sacrificed for the sake of brevity or expression, or, simply, because of how sentence reads or sounds. In the Creed, the word 'man' is used in its inclusive sense to refer to all human beings. Many people regret this, and find unconvincing the explanations as to how to replace it by 'us' or 'human beings' or 'all people' would have been inappropriate. That said, it would be a great pity to let this distract us from the amazing truths that find their concise and almost gem-like expression here in the Creed. And there is more too. The CTS booklet *Understanding the Roman Missal*, by Cuthbert Johnson and available at the back of the church quotes Pope Benedict. 'The Creed is not a collection of propositions; it is not a theory. It is anchored in the event of Baptism – a genuine encounter between God and man. In the mystery of Baptism, God stoops to meet us. He comes close to us and in turn brings us closer to one another.' In the Creed we express the Mysteries of Revelation, which mediate intimacy between God and the Church.

THE CHRISTMAS JOURNEY: An original Musical by Edwin Fawcett and Elizabeth Swain at the Brentwood Centre, 1st and 2nd December. Each night, over 400 children from Catholic primary schools from across our Diocese are coming together to perform a joint musical nativity, and the evening will also include carols and Christmas songs performed by each school. The cost of the tickets is £13 for adults, £9 for concessions, and £35 for a family ticket (2 adults, 2 concessions) and any money raised will be go to the Brentwood Catholic Children's Society and the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service. Come and enjoy this wonderful start to the Christmas season. Tickets can be purchased on nationalboxoffice.co.uk or by calling 08712241113.

FAIR HAVENS HOSPICE: On 14th December Southend Borough Council will make a decision on the application submitted to build a new Fair Havens Hospice off Belton Way in Leigh, though the land is classed as greenbelt. With more than 17,000 signatures earlier this year, the petition shows overwhelming support but councillors have said they need more "proof" about the strength of feeling in support of the plans. With a looming deadline and a number of vociferous objectors, your help will really make a difference - especially as it appears some letters of support aren't necessarily being passed on to the Southend Borough Council Planning Department. If you support the plans you can help in two ways: Write a letter expressing your support to the plans addressed to Andrew Meddle, Head of Planning and Development. Please cite the Planning Reference Number 11/01343/FULM in your letter/email and send to: Planning Department, Southend Borough Council, Civic Centre, Victoria Avenue, Southend-on-Sea SS2 6ER or email planningregistrationteam@southend.gov.uk – or both! All letters or emails of support and comments on the application need to be submitted ideally by 7th December 2011.

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS
Psalms for Morning Prayer: Week 1

SUNDAY 27th November <i>1st Sunday of Advent</i>	Coggeshall Kelvedon Tiptree	9.00 a.m. 11.00 a.m. 6.00 p.m.	Vera Harrison RIP Joanne Hayes RIP All Parishioners
MONDAY 28th November	Kelvedon Coggeshall	9.00 a.m. 10.00 a.m.	Fr Thomas Varley RIP <i>Mothers' Prayer Group</i>
TUESDAY 29th November	Kelvedon Tiptree Kelvedon	8.00 a.m. 11.00 a.m. 7.30-8.30pm	Fr Richard Ashton RIP <i>Rosary & Eucharistic Adoration</i> <i>Eucharistic Adoration</i>
WEDNESDAY <i>St Andrew</i> 30th November	Kelvedon	7.30 p.m.	Kazimierz Sitkowski RIP
THURSDAY 1st December <i>Bl. John Beche</i>	Kelvedon Coggeshall Kelvedon	9.00 a.m. NO MASS 8.00-9.00 p.m.	William Joseph Hutley RIP <i>Parish Prayer Group</i>
FRIDAY 2nd December	Kelvedon	9.00 a.m.	Church in Czech Republic
SATURDAY 3rd December <i>St Francis Xavier</i>	Kelvedon	10.00 a.m.	James Sheldrake RIP
SUNDAY 4th December <i>2nd Sunday of Advent</i>	Coggeshall Kelvedon Tiptree	9.00 a.m. 11.00 a.m. 6.00 p.m.	Margaret McGonagall (ann.) All Parishioners Barbara Kerwell RIP

*Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 10.30 a.m. - 11.00 a.m.
with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction*

Liturgical Rotas 4th December	Eucharistic Ministers	Lectors	Ministers of Welcome
COGGESHALL	Teresa Hall Sean O'Leary	Sean O'Leary	Clare Gallant
KELVEDON	Pat Ezra Patricia Pike	Vivienne Talbot	Marie Sullivan
TIPTREE	Celia Butt Mary Mann	Valerie Bartlett	Jude Cody
FINANCE TEAM	Sean O'Leary & Tony Hinds		