

## DATES FOR DIARY

### International Evening – Carol Singing:

On Saturday, the 7th of January from 5-8pm we will be having another International Evening in the presbytery, this time with a focus on singing together Christmas Carols from various parts of the world. There will be food, and drink. It should be a wonderful evening! Do come along and join in the fun!

### International Liturgical Music Workshop:

We invite all singers and musicians to the 1st International Liturgical Music Workshop which taking place at St Ignatius church from 6.30pm on Friday, 13th Jan to 3.00pm on Sunday, 15th Jan 2017. We are going to be taught, practice and finally perform beautiful English and Polish liturgical songs together. Everything will be taught in English. For more information, please see the posters in church or look on our website: [www.stignatius.co.uk](http://www.stignatius.co.uk). Please note that the closing date for applications is Tuesday, 3rd January 2016.

## LATELY DEAD

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Edmond (Ted) Doherty who died on the 11<sup>th</sup> of December and whose funeral will be at St Ignatius at 10.00<sup>am</sup> on Wednesday the 28<sup>th</sup> December.

## MUSIC

### 10.00<sup>am</sup> Mass:

**Entrance:** 112, **Kyrie:** 1012, **Psalm:** Let the Lord enter in (O'Hara), **Alleluja:** Folk, **Offertory:** Ave Maria (Lindley) + 366, **Sanctus:** 1014, **Acc:** 1015, **Amen:** 1018, **Agnus Dei:** 1019, **Communion:** 113 + 631, **Final:** 770

### 11.30<sup>am</sup> Mass:

Caribbean Choir

## USUAL TIMES FOR LITURGIES

### Sunday Masses

7<sup>pm</sup> [Sat evening – Vigil of Sunday]  
8.30<sup>am</sup>, 10.00<sup>am</sup>, 11.30<sup>am</sup>, 6<sup>pm</sup>  
4.30<sup>pm</sup> (Latin American, en español)  
1.30<sup>pm</sup> & 7.30<sup>pm</sup> (Polish, po polsku)

### Weekday Masses

Mon - Fri: 10<sup>am</sup> & 6.30<sup>pm</sup>  
Saturday: 10<sup>am</sup>

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

in English:  
Saturday: 10.30-11.15<sup>am</sup>; 6.00-6.45<sup>pm</sup>  
in Polish (po polsku):  
Sunday: 1.00-1.30<sup>pm</sup>; 6.00-6.45<sup>pm</sup>

### Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

1<sup>st</sup> Friday: 10.30<sup>am</sup>-8<sup>pm</sup>  
Other Fridays: 10.30-11.30<sup>am</sup> & 7-8<sup>pm</sup>

## PARISH STAFF & TEAM

Contact them on: 020 8800 2121

For appointments to see a priest, please phone, between 8am and 1pm Monday to Thursday

**Parish Priest:** Fr David Smolira SJ

**Assistant Priests:** Fr Michael Bossy SJ,  
Fr Gerard Gallen SJ, Fr Mateusz  
Konopiński SJ, (Polish/English),  
Fr Bogdan Leśniak SJ (Polish/English)

**Jesuit Superior:** Fr Hugh Duffy SJ

**Sacristan:** Sr Eugenia Geraghty OSM

**Parish Secretary:** Judy Bronson  
Tel: 020 8800 2262

**Catechetics:** Elwira Pniewski  
Tel: 020 8800 2202  
[elwira.pniewski@schoolandfamily.org](mailto:elwira.pniewski@schoolandfamily.org)

**Parish Council Chairman:**  
Mathew D'Souza Tel: 07717 172003

If you have any concerns about safety or well-being of a child or vulnerable adult in the parish, please contact our Safeguarding Officer:  
Attracta Asika 07494 366233



18th December 2016  
4th Sunday of Advent – Year A

A Roman Catholic Parish served by the Jesuits: 27 High Road, London, N15 6ND. Tel: 020 8800 2121  
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# THE LORD IS NEAR!

TODAY'S READINGS AND RESPONSES:

### Entrance Antiphon

Drop down the dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

### Readings

Isaiah 7: 10-14, Romans 1: 1-7, Matthew 1: 18-24

### Responsorial Psalm

Let the Lord enter! He is the king of glory.

### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel, a name which means 'God-is-with-us'. Alleluia!

### Communion Antiphon

Behold a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and his name will be Emmanuel.

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## ONE WEEK TO GO

I remember some years ago, I happened to be in Milan at this time of year and when I went to Mass I was rather surprised to hear the priest welcome us on this “sixth Sunday of Advent.” Sixth Sunday of Advent? Some mistake surely? But no. In Milan, they have a slightly different form of liturgy called the Ambrosian rite and there are indeed six weeks of Advent, so they have a good long time to prepare for the feast of Christmas. We are now at the fourth and final Sunday of Advent and Christmas is next Sunday. Even though our Advent is shorter than in Milan I hope we have tried to make good use of it. There have been some things here in the parish designed to help us prepare for the coming feast. There were the Advent scripture talks, the Advent films, the opportunities for the sacrament of reconciliation. But even if you were not able to attend any of those things there is still a week left and it’s never too late to start some preparation. Maybe you could begin with the gospel that we hear today. In contrast to Saint Luke, who looks at the circumstances of the birth of Jesus largely through the eyes of Mary, Saint Matthew looks at them a bit more through the eyes of Joseph. We know the story: Joseph is engaged to Mary and discovers that she is expecting a baby. We can imagine his feelings. Should he take steps to cancel their marriage? We are told that he is a just man and he does not want to do anything to harm Mary. He is told in a dream not to be afraid, the message of so many episodes in the gospels, and he takes Mary to his home. After the baby is born he looks after Mary and her son with great love and tenderness. He protects them and works hard to feed and clothe them. He is a true husband and father.

Have you ever spent time at the altar of Saint Joseph at the back of our church? There are beautiful mosaics, one of them a very rare image of the wedding of Mary and Joseph. There is one of the birth of Jesus and one of the death of Joseph. Maybe in this coming week we could with Saint Matthew follow the events in the company of Joseph. We could listen to the angel’s message not to be afraid, we could make a place in our homes for Mary, and we could welcome with great joy the Christ-child more deeply into our lives at Christmas.

Fr Hugh Duffy SJ

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## SUNDAY AT ST IGNATIUS

**The Christmas and New Year Schedule of Masses** will be included in a flyer together with this newsletter. Please take one home and refer to it over the holiday period as mass times will be a little different from usual.

**Hanukkah & Advent:** Today, the 18th of December, at 5.00pm in the Old Refectory at St Ignatius, the Council for Christians and Jews will be holding a joint Advent and Hanukkah service. All parishioners are most welcome to attend and celebrate this time of year with our Jewish neighbours. Fr Ashworth will be making a return visit to the parish to give a talk at this event and there will be singing from a Jewish choir and the Caribbean Choir. Refreshments will be available after the service.

**Last Sunday’s Collection:** Beta is on a week’s leave this week so we will inform you about the amount in the collection last Sunday in next week’s newsletter. Apologies for the delay.

**The Counters this Week:** Group A

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## THIS WEEK AT ST IGNATIUS

# Advent

**Advent Talks:** Fr Nick King SJ, will be concluding his series of Advent Talks this Tuesday, 20th December, from 7.15 – 8.45pm. This week’s talk is entitled, “God Comes Very Close” and will focus on the readings for the 4th Week of Advent and the Christmas Day readings. This is your last chance to come and listen to Fr Nick and to prepare for Christmas with some reflection on the scriptures. All are welcome!

**Advent Film Nights:** These last of our Advent Film Nights will take place this Thursday, 22nd of December at 7.15pm. This week’s film is called “The Birth of Jesus”. Refreshments will be available and a discussion will take place afterwards about the film’s contents. Please consider taking an hour or two out of your busy schedule of shopping and getting ready for the celebrations to come, by giving some time to spiritual preparation for you and your family. Please come on time so you don’t miss the start of the film. All are welcome!

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## PARISH ITEMS AND EVENTS

**Thanks** to everyone who completed a questionnaire during mass last weekend on how best to meet the needs of couples and families in the Parish. Nearly 550 completed English Questionnaires were returned and the Polish-speaking members of the parish also completed the questionnaire

too. It will take us a few weeks to read all the comments and prepare some feedback for you, but thanks again for being so willing and open. We really appreciate your help.

**Christmas Hampers:** A reminder that we are collecting non-perishable food items and non-alcoholic drinks for our Christmas Hampers for the needy. All donations can be put into the boxes in front of the Sacred Heart Altar. Please make sure that the goods offered are well within their “sell-buy” date.

**Poor Box:** Some people have still not found the new location for the poor box, so a final reminder that the box in the church where donations for the homeless & poor can be put has moved from under St Anthony’s statue to a more secure location in the Sacred Heart chapel. This is to try and discourage thefts from the box. Please show your concern and support for the homeless by putting money in the box so that we can ensure that it is used for those in genuine need. Please do not give money to beggars outside the church.

**Website Support Team:** We are still urgently looking for one or two people who are computer literate and familiar with websites to volunteer to keep our new parish website up to date. We will also need people in the parish to provide material and electronic photos to be loaded onto the website. If you are willing to do either task, please give your name and phone number to Fr David.