



NEWSLETTER

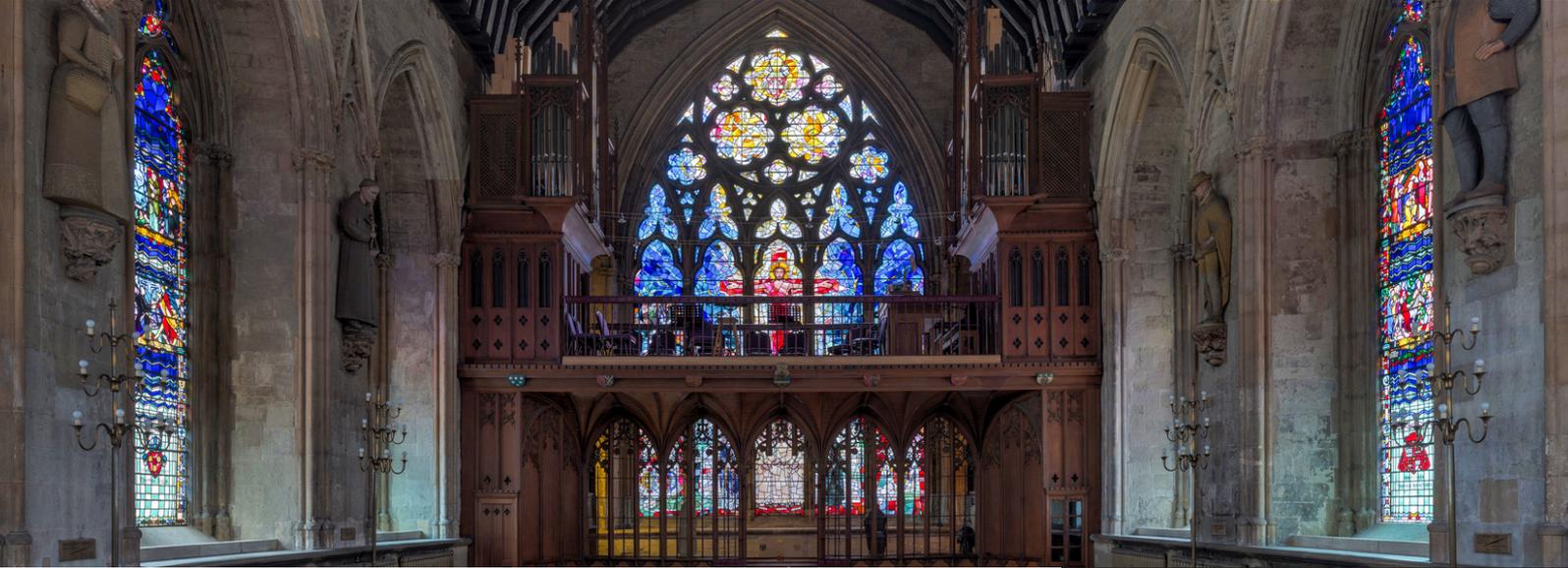
Mass Times

Sundays: 9 am (English)

11 am (Sung Latin)

Monday-Friday: 1 pm

John the Baptist Prepares the Way



Second Sunday of Advent (Year A)

Today that great figure of Advent – John the Baptist – appears in our Gospel reading, but not with a cosy message of a newborn baby destined for greatness, but rather, with a calling out of religious tepidity and complacency. He is the prophet of the final judgement of God when wheat is separated from chaff and fruitful trees from dead wood. On this second Sunday of Advent, before we are invited to wonder at the extraordinary outreach of Creator towards creation, the starting point for humanity is to confront the reality of our impermanence in this material world and to consider what the Baptist's call stirs up in our hearts.

Fr Anthony Furlong IC

Let us remember in our prayers:

Lily Sheehan and Joe Waters; Martin Maher and Sarah Daniel; recently married here.

Those who are sick, especially Geoffrey Cobden and Mary Ann Manning. We willingly accept new names to add to our prayers for the sick, but any such requests must first obtain the consent of the individual.

Etheldreda, Princess, Abbess, Saint

Etheldreda's World - Princess, Abbess, Saint. Dr Charles Moseley from Oxford University, wrote this book to mark 1,350 years since St Etheldreda founded a monastery on the site of what is now Ely cathedral in 673 AD. What was it like to be a Princess (c. 636-679 AD) an Abbess in a land where the old gods were still honoured by many? What power did women in her position wield? What did it mean to be revered as a Saint? This excellent book is available from the Presbytery. **Price 12.99.**

Sunday's Music (11am)

Byrd Mass in three parts

Morley Let my complaint

Gibbons This is the record of John *Credo IV, Alma Redemptoris mater, Advent Prose*

Music Director: Robert Patterson

Today's Readings

Isaiah 11: 1-10; [9 am Mass only: Psalm 71. **Response: "In his days shall justice flourish, and great peace for ever."**]; Romans 15: 4-9; Matthew 3: 1-12.

Thought for the week

Let us find rest in the hands of God, our Father; and in the peace that comes from Jesus, let us continue to draw closer to Him and never to draw breath except for Him, for His love, in His service and for the fulfilment of His adorable will. It often happens that one on a bed of pain draws closer to God in a few hours than in many years in the prosperity of the world. God is just, and no merit is lost or hidden from His eyes. Our most tender Mother Mary is our unfailing advocate before Him. He will refuse her nothing. We have her sacred name on our lips and filial tenderness in our heart.

Blessed Antonio Rosmini

Please Support Us



Coffee Morning

Call into the crypt for coffee and delicious home-made cakes after the 11 am Mass. It will be an opportunity, among other things, for visitors and newcomers to the parish to introduce themselves and for us to make them feel at home.

Camden Food Bank

The poster and deposit point next to the cloister table shows that we are now a collection point for donations to the Camden Food Bank. Please consider bringing an item of non-perishable food to put into the crate when you come to Mass. Also needed are additional volunteers who will give time on Tuesdays and Fridays from 10:45 am to 3:00 pm to receive, sort and pack food donations at the warehouse in Pratt Mews, NW1 0AD. If you can help, please contact Abi at: projectmanager@camden.foodbank.org.uk

An Ideal Christmas Present:

If you are looking for the ideal Christmas present for a discerning friend, consider St Etheldreda's Choir on CD: *O Holy Night – Seventeen Christmas Carols.* – **Other Choir CDs: (1) Catholic Collection** (Aid to the Church in Need) includes: *Missa de Angelis, Soul of My Saviour, Panis angelicus* and other much loved music. **(2) Christus Rex** (Aid to the Church in Need) includes: *Salve festa dies; Christus vincit; Ave verum corpus; O felix Roma;* and other much loved music. All CDs price £10 each.

Christmas Services

Tuesday 9 December: 6.30 pm, Parish Carol Service.

Wednesday 24 December (Christmas Eve): 11.30 pm: Carols; Midnight: Sung Latin Mass.

Christmas Day: 10 am Family Mass (English) with Carols. (No other Mass on Christmas Day).

Sunday 28 December: Feast of the Holy Family. Masses at 9 am and 11 am (sung Latin).

Monday 29 and Tuesday 30 December: Mass at 1 pm.

Wednesday 31st December: 1 pm & 11 pm Adoration followed by Midnight Mass.

Thursday 1 January: 1 pm Mass (English): Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God.

Planned Giving Drive

Many thanks to those parishioners who have responded generously to last month's appeal to review or begin their contribution to the parish through regular standing orders or offertory envelopes. Each response brings us closer to the critical break-even point in our running costs.

The 'Advent Prose'

This beautiful hymn is sung at the end of each 11 am Sunday Mass during Advent (one verse each Sunday). It is a very ancient hymn (4th century?) sung to Gregorian chant. In it the Church uses the words of the prophets to plead to God to send his Messiah (the 'Just One'), who, in the refrain (taken from Isaiah), is likened to the dew and the rains that fall from heaven to quench the thirst of the barren land. We confess our sinfulness and look forward to the liberation that the Messiah will bring to us.

The Advent wreath

...which stands in the sanctuary throughout Advent represents life (evergreen) and light (candles), penance (purple candle), joy (rose candle) and the countdown of time as week by week we await the coming of our Lord at Christmas.

Getting married at St Etheldreda's – how to proceed

You should e-mail the Parish Priest at least 6 months before your intended wedding explaining who you are, your religious background, why you wish to get married at St Etheldreda's, and when (exact day, if possible). If the church accepts your request you will be invited to a preliminary meeting where the initial paperwork will be completed and the whole procedure will be explained and set in motion.

Sponsoring the Choir

For those parishioners attending the 11am Mass, please consider sponsoring the choir by taking a Choir Sponsorship Form from the cloister table, fill in your details and drop it though the Presbytery letter-box. A monthly or annual standing order would be the optimal way of your contributing to this scheme.

Collections

9 am: Plate **£167.20**; Contactless: **£124.00**
11 am: Plate **£278.00**; Contactless: **£102.00**; plus €10.
Donations made by standing order, calculated weekly, amount to **£471.30**.
Thank you.

Mass Intentions

Sun 7th December
Second Sunday of Advent
9.00 am
Fr Jestus Pereira RIP
11.00 am
For the people of the parish

Mon 8th December
The Immaculate Conception
1.00 pm
James Harte RIP

Tue 9th December
Advent Feria
1.00 pm
Catherine Hurley RIP

Wed 10th December
Advent Feria
1.00 pm
Sylvia Bonnet RIP

Thu 11th December
Advent Feria
1.00 pm
Heather Locke RIP

Frid 12th December
Advent Feria
1.00 pm
Elizabeth Hennessy & Family

Contact

Parish Priest:
Fr Anthony Furlong IC
Tel. 020 7405 1061
email: enquiries@stetheldreda.com
www.stetheldreda.co.uk

Parish Office:
Mon–Fri (9.00am–5.00pm)
St Etheldreda's Church,
14 Ely Place,
London EC1N 6RY

Parish Safeguarding
Representative: Victoria Wilson
Tel. 07709347099

Institute of Charity ([Rosminians](http://Rosminians.org)).