

ADVENT PEACE THOUGHTS

Dietrich Bonhoeffer (1906-1945) speaks to us boldly about Advent. Imprisoned by the Third Reich, he knew what it was to wait---hopeful for his release, to see the ones he loved, for the war to end. He wrote:

Life in a prison cell may well be compared to Advent. One waits, hopes and does this or that or the other, things that are really of no consequence, but the door is firmly shut, and can only be opened from the outside. Celebrating Advent means being able to wait. Waiting is an art our impatient age has forgotten. It wants to break open the ripe fruit when it has hardly finished planting the shoot...Whoever does not know the austere blessedness of waiting--that is, of hopefully doing without - will never experience the full blessedness of fulfilment. For the greatest, most profound, tenderest things in the world, we must wait. It happens not in a storm, but according to the divine laws of sprouting, growing and becoming.

**WILL YOU ENTER INTO THE AUSTERE BLESSEDNESS
OF WAITING THIS ADVENT?**

TV WITH A CONSCIENCE

Check out ALJAZEERA NEWS as a companion to the other coverage that is being shared on the Israel/Gaza war. There is much to learn! ALJAZEERA ENGLISH - Freeview 235, Sky 513, Virgin Media 622.

SUNDAY 10.50pm BBC4: HORACE OVE REMEMBERED BY INDRA OVE

The work of the acclaimed director, photographer and artist is recalled by his daughter Indra. Followed at 11.05pm by Horace Ove's acclaimed drama:

A HOLE IN BABYLON: PLAY FOR TODAY

which is based on the events surrounding the Spaghetti House siege in London.

WEDNESDAY 9.00pm BBC2: BELFAST

Period drama. Northern Ireland, 1969: surrounded by sporadic violence and growing danger, nine-year-old Buddy finds himself confronted with the ugly reality of sectarian conflict in Belfast.

THURSDAY 8.30pm ITV1: HOMELESS FAMILIES: CHRISTMAS CRISIS

With thousands of families across the UK forced into temporary accommodation, with many waiting months - sometimes years - for a permanent home, this report talks to people whose lives have been left in chaos by our creaking housing system.

Registered Charity 232709



THE PARISH OF ST MICHAEL AND SACRED HEART

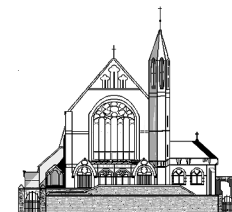
Fr. James Nugent Pastoral Area

St Michael's Church, Horne St, L6 5EH

Sacred Heart Church, Low Hill, L7 8TN

Tel: 0151 263 6578

Confessions: Saturday 12noon St Michael's



16th/17th Dec '23 3rd Sunday of Advent Year B Page 88

MASS TIMES

Monday 9.00am Sacred Heart

Tuesday 9.30am St Michael

Wednesday 12noon Sacred Heart

Thursday 7.00pm St Michael

Friday 10.00am Funeral Patsy Sinnott St Michael

Saturday 6.30pm Sacred Heart

Sunday 10.30am St Michael

Christmas Eve Sunday 7.00pm Sacred Heart (Children)

Christmas 'Midnight Mass' 11.00pm St Michael

Christmas Morning 10.30am St Michael

GOSPEL THOUGHTS John 1;6-8,19-28

Are we 'glass half full' people or 'glass half empty' people? Sometimes it is difficult to be happy and we only notice all that is not right. The scriptures today ask us to notice the 'Good News'. To spot healing and consolation leads to joy and rejoicing. Be happy, hold on to what is good.

Do good when no one is watching. When facing evil, only want to heal what's gone wrong. Among faults, persist in fresh opportunities, to be there for others. Is this how to struggle for integrity and peace?



REMEMBERED

...during Mass

Patsy Sinnott, Daniel Gibbons, Brenda Clew,
Dave Hughes, Annie Greenwood
and all our family and friends who have gone before us.

ADVENT CANDLE

As well as our Advent wreath candles, another
Candle, of various colours, is visiting each of
the local Churches and the Assisi Academy during Advent.
It is to be a sign of the unity and differences
of local Christian churches and the major religions.

HAVE YOU SENT A MESSAGE OF HOPE THIS ADVENT?

It was very moving to learn about each Prisoner of Conscience
and pray for them. Cards were distributed at the Masses last
weekend. Please note that there is information about the prisoner in
each envelope with suggested greetings and other instructions.

DID YOU POST THE CARD?

Please find out the cost of postage and send as soon as possible.
Thank you for bringing a message of hope
to those who wait for justice this Advent.

'PASTORAL PLAN - FRESH DEANERY NEWS

The Deanery Synodal Council has been working on the concept of
'Families of Parishes'. Discussions are happening to discover any links
that already exist between neighbouring communities.

Things are developing!

IRISH CENTRE - CHRISTMAS PROGRAMME

There is a very full programme of events and activities during the
month of December. These include wreathmaking, parties, a Pensioners'
Christmas dinner, coffee mornings, a tea dance, and musical shows.

Details at www.liverpoolirishcentre.org Tel.No. 0151 263 1808

PAX CHRISTI

Our next meeting - 2pm in the Parish Rooms, Thursday 11th January.
Help us plan for 2024.

CAFOD WORLD GIFTS

Why not have a look at

Cafod ideas for Christmas gifts this year?

For a small donation you can purchase seeds for a family,
basic hygiene equipment, school pencils etc. which can
make a difference. Check out the catalogue in church.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve, Children's Vigil Mass Sunday 7.00pm

Sacred Heart

Christmas 'Midnight Mass' Sunday 11.00pm

St Michael's

Christmas Morning Mass, Monday 10.30am

St Michael's

Come along and join us to celebrate the birth of Jesus!!

THE UNREHEARSED NATIVITY

Please come and join us on **Christmas Eve at 7pm for
The Children's Vigil Mass.**

This year we are asking adults and children to take part in our
'Unrehearsed Nativity'

Help us to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

PRAY FOR PEACE IN THE HOLY LAND

On Tuesdays, 9.00am - 12.00pm. in St. Michael's Church.

Please drop in to church for a short while to pray for those who are
suffering because of war in the Middle East and Ukraine,
and light a candle for peace.

PARISH FORUM

The Forum is our parish working for collaborative ministry. 10th Jan '24

KNIT AND CROCHET FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

**Thank you to everyone who has knitted or crocheted for us this
year. We have sent out over 150 blankets to Africa, Ukraine,
Syria and Turkey. Our final 20 will be going to Uganda in January.**

COST OF LIVING CRISIS

Pope Francis published a letter to the world on the feast of
St Francis of Assisi, 4th October.

It is about poverty and inequality in the global family.
Please find it on the internet and tell another person about it.
Don't be alone with money worries, there is help out there.

Citizens Advice Bureau 0300 330 1196

Kensington Fields Community Centre 0151 708 9107

BIG HELP Boaler Street 0808 275 9931

Join a Credit Union!