



# 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent - Year B

3 December 2023

*Psalm Response: God hosts, bring us back;  
let your face shine on us and we shall be saved*

<b>Sun:</b>	9.00am Mass 11.00am Mass	Winifred Buchan RIP Dennis Sherwin & Fam RIP
<b>Mon:</b>	12 noon Mass	Dominic McDevick Int.
<b>Wed:</b>	12 noon Mass	Geraldine Carr Int.
<b>Fri</b>	<b>Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Solemnity)</b> 12 noon Mass 5.30pm Exposition and Confession 6.30pm Mass	Peace in the Holy Land Joy Lewandowska Int.
<b>Sun:</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent - Year B</b> 9.00am Mass 11.00am Mass	Eilish Doyle & Fam. & Murray Fam. RIP Harold & Eunice Roe RIP

#### Money Matters:

Collection: £497.74

For those who regularly contribute to the church via the Envelope Scheme, another option would be to set up a Direct Debit or Standing Order –  
**Lloyds Bank: sort code 30-92-59;**  
**Account number 01620555 – English Martyrs, Derby RCP.**

Payments to the parish by cheque should be made payable to:  
English Martyrs Derby RCP

Sanctuary Lamp:

**Prayers for the Sick:** Please always keep in your prayers the sick and housebound especially Simon Thompson, Christine and Michael Dreuitt, Terry Bullock, Alan, Norman Annable, Giovanni Busato, Ian Robinson, Bart Makowski, Joe Migallo, Liam Blaney, Christopher Turner, Sean Connolly, Tracey Reeve, Kathleen Kinsey, Julie Connolly, Loretta Hewitt, Liz Simmons, Terry & Liz Spencer, Anu Chilka, Mick Connolly, Angela Skliarsky, Maria Latwiel, Anne Smith, Margaret Johnson and Sylvia Wilson.

#### For Your Diary:

#### Churches Together in Chellaston

**Saturday 9 Dec** – Holiday Club/Christingle 10am – 3pm

**Saturday 16 Dec** - 4.00pm Pop-up Church and Christmas Carols at Lidl, (former site of SRS Church) All welcome

**Sunday 17 Dec** – Carol Services St Peters 5pm and 7pm – 2 readers from St Ralph Serwin will be required for each service

**Nativity Festival** This will be held at St Peters. St Ralph Sherwin Flower Group will have a display

**CAFOD World Gift Catalogue** is now available. Please take a copy and consider a gift that also helps those in most need.

**Please pray** for the repose of the soul of Alan Monk. May he rest in peace. Please also remember his family in your prayers. His funeral service will take place on **Friday, 22 Dec** at 12 noon at English Martyrs.

**Second Collection** next Sunday, **10 December** for Poor & Needy Parishes.

**‘Jesus I Trust in You’** Father Chris Alar is the provincial superior of the Marian Fathers and Director of the National Shrine of the Divine Mercy in Massachusetts, USA. He is petitioning Pope Francis asking for St Faustina Kowalska to be given the title of ‘Doctor of the Church’. You can help to make this happen by signing an on-line form which is quick to complete.

Please log on to <http://www.thedivinemercy.org/doctor> to sign up.

#### Christmas Masses:

<b>Sun 24 Dec</b>	-	<b>9.00am Advent Mass</b> <b>11.00am Advent Mass</b>
<b>Vigil Mass</b>	-	<b>4.30pm</b>
<b>Carols</b>	-	<b>11.30pm</b>
<b>Midnight Mass</b>	-	<b>12.00am</b>
<b>Christmas Day</b>	-	<b>9.00am Mass</b> <b>11.00am Mass</b>

Father M Brentnall VF [Parish Priest]

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[www.englishmartyrsparish.org.uk](http://www.englishmartyrsparish.org.uk)

Hall Enquiries: Rita Merrison

### **St Nicholas, Bishop – 6 Dec (Optional Memorial)**

St Nicholas (fourth century) was born perhaps at Patara (now in Turkey) and became bishop of Myra. He may have been imprisoned under the Emperor Diocletian and have attended the Council of Nicaea which opposed the Arian heresy. He is venerated in both the East and the West, especially as a patron of sailors and of children, as can be seen in the Christmas tradition of 'Santa Claus'. The saint's relics were later brought to Bari (Italy).

### **St Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church – 7 Dec (Mem)**

St Ambrose (c. 340-397) was born in Trier (now in Germany, but then capital of the Roman prefecture of Gaul) and worked as a lawyer. In 370 he was appointed Governor of Liguria and Aemilia, with a residence in Milan. In 374 he was chosen to be the city's bishop, much to his surprise – not only was he a layman, but he was also not yet baptized: he was a catechumen preparing for baptism. He proved to be an outstanding bishop, not afraid to challenge the actions of the emperor and uncompromising in his struggle against Arianism. His converts included St Augustine and his teachings have led him to be numbered as one of the Latin Doctors of the Church.

### **The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary – 8 Dec (Solemnity)**

Today we celebrate the Blessed Virgin's unique privilege of being preserved from the stain of sin at the very moment of her conception. This was fitting for she would one day carry the second person of the Trinity in her womb. Blessed John Henry Newman wrote that 'there is no difference in kind between her and us, though an inconceivable difference of degree. She and we are both simply saved by the grace of Christ.' But with Mary, the manner in which she was saved was exceptional: from the first moment of her existence, she was freed from the stain of Original Sin. This dogma was solemnly defined by Blessed Pius IX on 8 December 1854 but had long been believed by Christians.

**CAFOD Reflections:** From the start of December CAFOD is sharing daily Bible reflections, stories of our global family, prayers and practical ideas for action, as we create a space to prepare for the coming of Christ. This online Advent calendar of daily prayer and reflection will offer an opportunity to pause, reflect, pray and take action as we prepare for Christmas. To sign-up for the Calendar, visit:

<https://cafod.org.uk/pray/advent-calendar>

**A reflection from Pope Francis for the Year of Prayer:** The world is divided in two: those people who do not give thanks and those who do; those who take everything as if it is owed them, and those who welcome everything as a gift, as grace. The prayer of thanksgiving always begins from here: from the recognition that grace precedes us.

***'What Christ gives us is quite explicit if his own words are interpreted according to their Aramaic meaning. The expression 'This is my body' means 'This is myself'.***

***Karl Rahner, SJ***