

THE 3RD SUNDAY
OF ADVENT

13TH DECEMBER
2020



GAUDETE SUNDAY

THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS PARISH

The Sacred Heart, Southwold and St Edmund, King & Martyr, Halesworth

Priest: Rev Richard Ireson

The Presbytery, The Common, Southwold IP18 6AH

TELEPHONE: (01502) 723207

Website:- www.southwoldhalesworthrc.org.uk

IN AN EMERGENCY IF FR RICHARD IRESON IS NOT AVAILABLE, PLEASE
TELEPHONE THE PRESBYTERY AT:

BECCLES (01502) 713179, BUNGAY (01986) 893355,

LOWESTOFT (01502) 572453 OR PORINGLAND (01508) 492202

MASS TIMES IN THE PARISH FOR THE COMING WEEK

SOUTHWOLD	DATE	TIME	
Sunday	13 th December	11.00	3 rd Sunday of Advent
Monday	14 th December	10.00	St John of the Cross – Mem
Tuesday	15 th December	10.00	Advent Feria
Thursday	17 th December	NO MASS	Advent Feria
Saturday	19 th December	10.00 am	Advent Feria
HALESWORTH			
Sunday	13 th December	9.00	3 rd Sunday of Advent
Wednesday	16 th December	10.00	Advent Feria
Friday	18 th December	10.00	Advent Feria

MESSAGE FROM FR RICHARD

The readings in these days of Advent, especially this Sunday, Advent 3, are full of joy and hope. It is traditionally called Gaudate Sunday from the Latin of the Entrance Antiphon for today: "Rejoice in the Lord always; and again I say, rejoice. Indeed the Lord is near" Philippians 4:4-5.

The antiphon captures the mood of the entire liturgy as we move into the second part of Advent: there is a sense of joyful expectation, an awareness that the fulfilment of God's great plan for us is near. That sense is strong in the Sunday readings.

In Advent, we await the commemoration of Jesus' coming into human life and his Second Coming at the end of time.

Take a quiet moment; choose a place you find comfortable, perhaps in nature or other sign of God's creation. Consider how you prefer to pray: sitting, kneeling, lying or standing. Are your hands and heart open? Breathe deeply. Contemplate a phrase of scripture or use the Jesus Prayer, that Eastern Orthodox gem. (breathe in - "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God" - hold your breath - "have mercy on me" - breath out. Let the life giving Spirit of the Lord join with the life giving oxygen to renew and refresh you, body, mind and soul.) Then simply wait, inviting God to be born in your heart.

God bless you this Advent and Christmas.
Your friend and Parish Priest,
Fr Richard

GOLDEN WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS



David and Anne Curran will celebrate their Golden Wedding Anniversary on the 19th December and I am sure you will all join me in sending them our prayers, love and warmest congratulations !

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Fr Michael Stokes has kindly offered to help Fr Richard with the Christmas Masses.

PLACE	DATE	TIME	CELEBRANT
Halesworth	Thursday, 24 th December – Christmas Eve (Family/Children’s Mass)	6.00 pm	Fr Michael Stokes
Southwold	Thursday, 24 th December – (First Mass of the Nativity of the Lord)	7.00 pm	Fr Richard Ireson
Halesworth	Friday, 25 th December, Christmas Day	9.00 am	Fr Richard Ireson
Southwold	Friday, 25 th December	11.00 am	Fr Michael Stokes

BOOKING FOR MASS

Due to COVID regulations seats in our churches will be limited and, in Southwold particularly, there are likely to be a number of visitors. Consequently we would ask that you let us know, by Monday 21st December please, which Mass you wish to attend and how many will be in your party. Please book online, see or email Pat Hollingsworth at patricia9@aol.com for Southwold. Anne Fleming is taking bookings for the Halesworth Masses and you can phone her on 01986 872103.

ACCESS TO OUR CHURCHES

Wonderfully we are once again able to attend public Masses again. Both churches will continue to remain open for private prayer (all day, every day in Southwold and for 2 hours after Mass on Wednesdays and Fridays in Halesworth) so that, if you feel unable to attend Mass, you can pray in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS FOR THE SACRED HEART CHURCH

There is a basket at the back of the church for your donations towards our Christmas flowers. Do please give generously !

LOWESTOFT FOODBANK

The Reydon coordinators of the Foodbank say that inevitably demand for help is high and will no doubt increase in the coming months. If you are not able to shop easily for extra items to donate you can give money. If you would like to make a donation please make cheques payable to The Lowestoft Foodbank and send to Lowestoft Community Church, 8 Haddenham Road, South Lowestoft Industrial Estate, Lowestoft NR33 7NF. Thank you.

UPDATE ON COLLECTIONS & DONATIONS FOR NOVEMBER 2020

The Total standing order/cash/CAF collection for October amounted to	£1694.00
2 nd collection cash	£ 0.00
Donation	£ 0.00

Dona on Line contribution £120.00 for November Breakdown below

Offertory	£120.00
2 nd Collection	£ 0.00
Donations	£ 0.00
Restoration fund	£ 0.00

Total received into the Parish in November 2020	£1814.00
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Total for Parish use	£1814.00
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Due to Corvid 19 our offertory collection will be down approximately £6000.00 on last year. But expenditure has stayed about the same.

A big thank you to all who pay via envelopes, standing orders or using the Dona system. Thank you also to those who have placed their offertory collection at the back of our churches. One lady gave me £50.00 cash when I visited her. This has been banked and included in the above figures.

We have many generous people in our parish, but if anyone wishes to increase their offertory amount, it would be gratefully received.

Rosemary

CAROLS ON THE HIGH STREET – SOUTHWOLD

A socially distanced group from the Christians Together committee will sing carols outside the URC in the High Street on Saturday the 19th December from 11.00 am. This provides the ideal opportunity to remind shoppers of the true meaning of Christmas. We are usually accompanied by musicians from the Salvation Army but this is not of course possible due to Covid restrictions. The Salvation Army always benefit from any money collected so do please make a donation if you are passing that day. Many thanks.

CONTACTLESS PAYMENTS – NEW WAY OF GIVING TO SUPPORT THE PARISH

Contactless payment terminals for collections and donations are available in both churches. A terminal is also now set up in Halesworth. You can also contribute to parish funds via the 'Givingq' page on the website at www.southwoldhalesworthrc.org.uk/about-us/giving/ to enable contributions to be made to specific funds such as a second collection. Also included is the facility to donate a fixed sum chosen from a menu. We hope this will help to make it easier to support the Parish funds both at this difficult time and in the future.

100 CLUB

Winners in the draw on 6th December were:- 1st Anne Fleming (7); 2nd John Hennessey (28) and 3rd Anne Fleming (3). The Big Christmas Draw will take place after the 9.00 am Mass on 20th December – prizes will be doubled! Please join the 100 Club as money it raises helps towards costs in the Parish. Monthly cash prizes of £50, £25 or £15, for a small monthly cost of £3, payable yearly, half yearly or quarterly. Standing order forms are available for those who wish to pay by that method. Forms are available from Anne Fleming (01986 872103) or Eric and Stella Dobson (01986 875748)

RECOLLECTIONS OF A SOUTHWOLD GP

'Recollections of a Southwold GP', a memoir by Christopher Hopkins has been on sale in both Southwold and Halesworth churches. Copies are now sold out but more should be available soon. Sounds a most interesting read which includes stories and experiences of life at a monastic school and the difficulties faced by a Catholic doctor. Price £20, with £5 from each copy sold in the parish going into our church funds.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING WHO ARE SICK OR IN HOSPITAL

Michael Carroll, Paul Carroll (Michael's son), Brian Chapman, Trevor Croucher (John Holt's brother-in-law), Denise Denning, Janet Dent, Chloe Drew-Batty (Dorothy's granddaughter), Tony & Marie Brear, Dorothy Drew, Judith Etherton, Susan Goldsmith, Ken Goody, Olly Grantham (Caroline's son), Brian Hayward, Mick Heil, Peter Henderson, Margaret Holt, Rosemary Jones, Juliet Lightfoot, Romilda Lobling, Elizabeth Martin, Eugene McEvoy (Tony's brother), Ita Miller, Paul Munson, Maureen Murphy, Caroline Pryke, Stephen Percival, Mary O'Rawe, Alan Redmond, Pearl Reeves, Alva Semple, Stewart Semple, Sr Rosaleen Shaw OP (Laurette's sister), Olivia Thorby, Gregory Walker (son of Lucy), Maureen White, Oliver Williams (Janet Dent's grandson), David Wright and Frank Wright. May they be comforted by our prayers and awareness of our love for them.

If you know of any changes or additions to the Sick List, could you please let Fr Richard know. Thank you

ITEMS FOR NEWSLETTER

SOUTHWOLD: Please contact Fr Richard or Laurette Burton on [07966 541747](tel:07966541747) or email at lauretteburton147@gmail.com

HALESWORTH: Please contact Colette Haward on 01986 875013 or email colclive@onetel.com

