

# ST TERESA ROCHFORD & ST PIUS X HOCKLEY

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## 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent

Today's readings are relatively brief. Their language and "message" are deceptively simple. But we should take note of the serious mood and penitential aspect of the Liturgy today—as the people of Israel recognise their sinfulness, their failures to keep God's covenant, their inability to save themselves.

In this Advent season, we should see our own lives in the experience of Israel. As we examine our consciences, can't we, too, find that we often harden our hearts, refuse His rule, wander from His ways, withhold our love from Him?

God is faithful, Paul reminds us in today's Epistle. He is our Father. He has heard the cry of His children, coming down from heaven to redeem us from our exile from God, to restore us to His love.

In Jesus, we have seen the Father. No matter how far we have strayed, He will give us new life if we turn to Him, if we call upon His holy name, if we pledge anew never again to withdraw from Him.

As Paul says today, He has given us every spiritual gift—especially the Eucharist and penance—to strengthen us as we await Christ's final coming. He

will keep us firm to the end if we let Him.

So, in this season of repentance, we should heed the warning—repeated three times by our Lord in today's Gospel—to be watchful, for we know not the hour when the Lord of the house will return.

Have a blessed, worshipful and loving week.

Fr Gerry

### What is happening in our parish this week

#### Monday

5.00 pm - Legion of Mary (Narthex)

#### Tuesday

7.10 pm - Evening Prayer

7.30 pm - Healing Mass

8.00 pm - RCIA/FHC

#### Wednesday

9.10 am - Morning Prayer

9.30am - Mass

10.00 am - St Teresa's Mother & Baby Group (Parish Centre)

#### Thursday

No Mass Today

#### Friday

9.10 am Morning Prayer

9.30 am - Mass

3.30 pm- 4.30pm - Adoration

#### Saturday

10 am - Christmas Mini-Market at St Pius X

5.00 pm - Reconciliation-St Teresa's

5.30 pm - Mass

#### Sunday

9.00 am - Mass (St Pius X)

10.30 am - Mass

11.30 am - Coffee Morning



## Sacramental Programmes

**RCIA** - 5th December at 8pm.

We will be looking at:

Why we believe in the Resurrection.

Why we believe in the Trinity.

All very welcome.

**Reconciliation** - First Saturday in every month at St Pius X or every Saturday at 5pm.

**Baptism** - If you are thinking about preparing your child/children for Baptism please speak to Fr Gerry after Mass.

**First Holy Communion** - Parents meet on the 5th December at 8pm. Please bring your children to Mass every Sunday, this is very important.

**Confirmation** - Our next meeting will be on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2017 after 10.30 Mass.

## ADORATION OF JESUS IN THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

JESUS is made present for us in the Blessed Sacrament. This is what sets us apart from the Protestant church. This is what makes us Catholic. This is the most beautiful Treasure on earth that anyone could be given: Jesus, here with us. Present. Real. Tangible. So Gentle yet so Powerful.

He comes to us humbly. He comes to us broken. He comes to us in Compassion and Mercy. He comes to us in overwhelming Love. How can we say 'no' to Him? How can we not be moved? He Adores us - how can we not adore Him back?

When we approach Him in reverence, He sees our devotion. When we sacrifice time to spend with Him, our prayers become incredibly precious. When we come before Him humbly, we also come with a certain boldness, because we can be sure of His Great Love. He understands. He knows us through and through, inside out, back to front. He knows our heart. He Created us.

Come to Him in thanksgiving for all the blessings you have received from Him. Come to Him in joy! Let us never forget to give thanks. There were ten lepers – but only one returned to say 'thank you.' Come to Him with all that burdens you: your anxieties, your fears, your pain, your confusion. Bring to Him your hopes, your dreams, your desires, your plans. Bring to Him your past, your present, your future. Bring to Him your all.

Spend time before Him in complete honesty. His shoulders are wide enough to bear the darkest secret, the deepest wound, the most troubled soul. He will raise you up. He will fill you with His Peace. He will bring you Healing. He will Restore you once again.

## How we Serve in the name of Jesus

**The Legion of Mary** is here to serve our parish beneath the standard of Our Lady's loving care. If you or a loved one would like a visit please leave your details in the 'Legion of Mary Box' in the church porch .

We meet at 5.00pm every Monday. All are very welcome.

### St Vincent de Paul Society -

#### Turning concern into action

If you can help in any way please call **David Whines on 01702 205269**. This SVP is based at Our Lady of Ransom, Rayleigh.

All this is freely available to you. Jesus is here. He is waiting patiently for you to come. To speak. To listen. To be. Just as you receive a tan from the sun, so shall you receive a glow from the Son

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Come to Him. Simply come.

**ADORATION IS 3.30-4.30PM EVERY FRIDAY AT ST TERESA'S AND FROM 3.30 – 9PM ON THE LAST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH**

### **Friendship & Fellowship Group**

For many months we have prayed for our prayer group here at St Teresa's and our first week was a testimony to the work of the Holy Spirit in guiding us in our prayer lives. We have received some wonderful messages from those who attended our first meeting and are excited about our next meeting this coming Thursday.

We are a small friendly group who meet every other Thursday 7-8.30pm in the Narthex.

Why not pop in for a drink - All very welcome (male or female).

**Our Next meeting will be on Thursday 7th December**

### **The Wellspring**

**Now open every Friday 10-4pm**

We are very excited that our wonderful tea room is back open again and Elaine and her team are very much looking forward to seeing you all. If it is a relaxing coffee and cake you need or a light lunch this is definitely the place to come. Opening Tuesdays very soon - watch this space!

## **Dates for your Diary**

### **5th December at 7.30pm - Healing Mass**



Mass with laying on of hands and the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. Come and pray for a

loved one and receive the gentle touch of Jesus's healing love.

### **12th December @ 10.30am - Mass at St Teresa's for the sick and housebound of our parish.**

Tea and cake will be served afterwards. The SVP and Legion of Mary are offering lifts to all those wishing to attend. Please call Clare on 200353, Alan on 201901 or Gerald on 207234.

## **Parish Social Events**

**How I can support my parish and have fun doing it!**

**Sat 9th Dec: Christmas**

**Mini-Market** Setting up outside St Pius X after 9.30 Mass. If you would like to help with this festive event and raise much needed funds for our parish - please speak to Heather or Tracey: 07975964726.

Christmassy donations beforehand greatly appreciated and cakes on the day most welcome.

**17th December at 5pm - Family Carol Service** followed by mulled wine and mince pies.

**24th June - Parish Summer Party** - we have a Festival Theme this Year.



### Coffee Mornings



**This Sunday** there will be a coffee morning in aid of **Motor Neurone Disease**.

Please stay and chat with friends and support Frank and Ruth as they raise money for this worthy cause.

**A rota for the new year is at the back of church. If you would like to hold a coffee morning please feel free to sign up. Thank you all so much.**

### Diocese Events

**Saturday, 9th December 2017: "STEPPING INTO ADVENT"** A day of recollection, leading up to Christmas. There will be an opportunity to hear two reflections on Advent themes, celebration of Mass using the Ordinarate Rite, confessions and adoration. 11.00am – 2.30pm, St Peter’s Catholic Church, Eastwood. Please bring a packed lunch. Fr Michael Halsall.

### News from St Teresa’s School

#### Open Morning on Thur 7th December 9.30am - 11am.

If you have a child who is looking to start school next September or have friends or family who are interested in seeing our school please feel free to come along. Guided tours will be offered by our Year 6 Prefects. We look forward to welcoming you.

#### Reverse Advent Calendar

Our Reverse Advent Calendar has started. Instead of taking something out each day we will be putting something in. We are delighted that our parish church will also be taking part and hope to provide at least 8 hampers to those most in need. If you receive a red heart during Mass this weekend we would love you to return it next week with a gift for our hamper. Please pass the heart on.

### Finance

**1st Collection 26th Nov - £859.74**  
(Includes Standing Orders of £245)  
Finances are not good. Please be as generous as you can. Thank you

#### Message from Fr Gerry



*I would like to say a very big thank you to each and every one of our Altar Servers. Since celebrating Mass Ad Orientem our servers have had to make many changes which they have learnt quickly and more importantly reverently. I am very proud of you all.*

**Weekly Prayers-***That each one of us may know more deeply the love God has for us, and that we may have the courage to share His love.*

**Sunday:** The Sick: Jules McFadden, Joyce Hall, Renate Butler, Angela Read, Jonathan Somervell, Lily-Rose Robinson, Andrew Stevens. The people of the Middle East and especially our Christian brothers and sisters.

**Monday:** The Sick: Marguerite Jakes, Brian Meyers, Louise Knight, Elaine Liddon, Cory Lees, Anthony George, Christopher Carr & Mary Smith Those who are moving into Notes and Elizabeth Gardens. Those who live in Pollards Close, Great Eastern Road, Heycroft Road, The Acorns & Wedgwood Way.

**Tuesday:** The Sick: Mary Reilly, Joe Nagle, Georgina Cook, Pat Murray, Christina Thomas, Eve Stocks, Jim Beck, Julia Lamb, Sarah Knight, Edward Cunado, Chris Godfrey. For the people of Hockley SS Peter & Paul and their Minister Fr Kenneth Havey.

**Wednesday:** Kevin Cosset, Gabriella Prideaux, Alan Gunn, Liam Hanna, Emily

Gough, Ethan Adlum, William McArthur, Margaret Hennessy, Sarah Fisher, Marjorie Jay, Jeannette Oatley. For the Queen and her ministers, that they may govern us wisely.

**Thursday:** The Sick: Theresa Igoe, Ron & Jackie Gravestock, John Vasey, Baby David, Mary Norris, Vera Moore, Sheila Van de Vyver, Len Smith, Sarah Jane Jackson, Ava Hallmark. The Farming Community. Our Student Priests: Rick, Patrick, David, Gary, Michael, Adrian, Paschal, Eamonn, Alexander, Tony, Damien & Jonathan.

**Friday:** The recently departed: Mary Waller, Nora Fitzgerald, Janet Simmons. Those whose anniversaries fall this week: Maggie Caudy, Henry Paton, Christina Tuohy, Harry Lench, Edward Gough, Alfred Brown, Katie Bowler & Lillian Trinder.

**Saturday:** The Sick: Ian Chandler, Bartly Igoe, Andy Dawes, Padraig Evers, Oliver Kelly, Helen Clapp, Terry Purton, Gareth Lewis, Vicki Robinson, Samantha Robinson, Sianne Robinson.

|      |    |                  |                                      |  |       |
|------|----|------------------|--------------------------------------|--|-------|
| Sat  | 2  | 5.30pm           | First Sunday of Advent               | Diane Tilbrook RIP                     | DT    |
| Sun  | 3  | 9.00am St Pius X |                                      | Jean King RIP                          | CC    |
|      |    | 10.30am          |                                      | Ints Fr David Pearce on his Ordination | FRG   |
| Mon  | 4  | No Mass Today    |                                      |  |       |
| Tues | 5  | 7.30pm           |                                      | Healing Mass                           |       |
| Wed  | 6  | 9.30am           |                                      | Bob Hillier RIP                        | MH    |
| Thur | 7  | No Mass Today    | S Ambrose, Bp, D                     |  |       |
| Fri  | 8  | 9.30am           | The Immaculate Conception of the BVM | Raymond Bradley RIP                    | DT    |
| Sat  | 9  | 9.30am St Pius X |                                      | Canon Louis Thomas (Westminster) RIP   | PAC T |
| Sat  | 9  | 5.30pm           |                                      | Walter Xerri RIP                       | T& TS |
| Sun  | 10 | 9.00am St Pius X | Second Sunday of Advent              | Pro Populo                             |       |
|      |    | 10.30am          |                                      | Ints Suzanne Henry                     | BS    |