

All Saints' North Hillingdon

1st Dec 2024

1st Sunday of Advent



Christmas is coming! The decorations are out, we've baked the cake, are ordering presents and the turkey, and have started listening to Christmas carols. But what about our hearts? Our gospel passage calls us to live with alertness and spiritual preparedness. While the passage speaks of cosmic signs and the end times, its core message is about staying watchful and faithful. This means living with a sense of urgency and purpose, focusing on spiritual growth rather than being distracted by the world. Before Christmas, when we're often caught up in materialism and busyness, this passage invites us to reflect on the deeper meaning of Christ's coming. We are encouraged to seek God's strength through prayer, stay grounded in faith, and make room for His presence in our lives. As we prepare to celebrate Christmas, we should be mindful that the hope Christ brings is not just for the future, but for how we live today, ready for His return and seeking His peace in our hearts today.

HYMNS AT 10 O'CLOCK

Gathering	7	Hills of the North, rejoice
Advent	3	Angel Voices v1 only
Gradual	11	O come, O come, Emn'l 1,6,7
Offertory	56	Songs of thankfulness
Comm'n	178	Tis good, Lord, to be here
Sending	9	Lo He comes with clouds

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Wed 10am Eucharistic Service in Church	10:30 Cake, Coffee and Chat in Hall
Christmas Services:	
Sun 15 th Dec 5pm - Carol Service	
Sun 22 nd Dec 5pm - Christingle	
Tue 24 th Dec 11:15pm - Midnight Mass	
Wed 25 th Dec 10am - Christmas Day	

GIVING/ BOILER UPDATE

Our 40-year-old boiler is no longer serviceable and needs replacing, cost around £30,000. It would warm our hearts and bodies if you would consider increasing your weekly offering, or giving a one-off donation to:

"All Saints Church Hillingdon Parish Church"

Sort Code: 20-89-16 a/c number: 00107344

(please fill in a gift-aid form so we can re-claim tax)

DONATIONS WANTED; Boxes at rear of church

The Food Bank welcomes all donations e.g: Cereal, tins (soup, meat, veg, fruit), pasta, rice, tea, coffee, Biscuits and UHT milk.

THIS WEEK'S INTERCESSIONS: We lift up to the Lord those who have asked for our prayers;

Mark Callaghan, Michael Worrell, Simon Matthews, David Rance, the Hamlin family, Hazel & Helen Parris, John Clarke, Mabel and Tony Poon-Jones, James Wills, Linette & Barry Coombs, Lyn Prior, Lynn Taylor. May they know his grace, strength, blessing, healing and salvation.

†

We remember the anniversaries of those whose have died around this time:

Peter Holgate, Alfred Clark, Edwin Tatton, Brenda Rachele, Rita Pettien, Randolph John Clarke.

Call for MAGAZINE EDITORS and CONTENT

We are still looking for a permanent editor for the church magazine, so if anyone feels inspired to edit or contribute articles, let us know.

VISITS / HOME COMMUNION

If you know of anyone who needs a visit, home communion or prayer, please let me know; Rev Ulric Gerry 01895 262024 ulricgerry@icloud.com

SOCIAL ACTION: email our MP e.g rural affairs or cost of energy? danny.beales.mp@parliament.uk

Parish Website:

www.allsaintsnorthhilligdon.co.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ASHillingdon



COLLECT

Almighty God,
give us grace to cast away the works
of darkness
and to put on the armour of light,
now in the time of this mortal life,
in which your Son Jesus Christ
came to us in great humility;
that on the last day,
when he shall come again in his
glorious majesty to judge the
living and the dead,
we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who is alive and reigns
with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 33:14-16

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfil the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

PSALM Psalm 25:1-9

R Remember, Lord, your compassion and love.

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;
O my God, in you I trust;
let me not be put to shame;
let not my enemies triumph over me.
Let none who look to you be put to shame,
but let the treacherous be shamed
and frustrated. **R**

Make me to know your ways, O Lord,
and teach me your paths.

Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation;
for you have I hoped all the day long.
Remember, Lord, your compassion
and love,
for they are from everlasting. **R**

Remember not the sins of my youth
or my transgressions,
but think on me in your goodness,
O Lord,
according to your steadfast love.
Gracious and upright is the Lord;
therefore shall he teach sinners in the
way. **R**

He will guide the humble in doing
right
and teach his way to the lowly.
All the paths of the Lord are mercy
and truth
to those who keep his covenant and
his testimonies. **R**

SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 3:9-end

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

GOSPEL Luke 21:25-36

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Jesus said to his disciples: "There will be signs in the sun, the moon,

and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

POST COMMUNION

O Lord our God,
make us watchful and keep us faithful
as we await the coming of your Son
our Lord;
that, when he shall appear,
he may not find us sleeping in sin
but active in his service
and joyful in his praise;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



Re - mem - ber, Lord, your com - pas - sion and love.