



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 1st 2024

1st Reading: **Jeremiah 33:14-16**

Psalm: **24(25):4-5,8-9,10,14**

2nd Reading: **1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2**

Gospel: **Luke 21:25-28,34-36**

“Beware that your hearts do not become drowsy from carousing and drunkenness and the anxieties of daily life, and that day catch you by surprise like a trap. For that day will assault everyone who lives on the face of the earth. Be vigilant at all times and pray that you have the strength to escape the tribulations that are imminent and to stand before the Son of Man.”

Luke 21:34-36

“That day.” These two words are spoken twice in the passage above. **To which day is our Lord referring?** Clearly, He is referring primarily to the day of our final judgment and is warning us to make sure we are prepared for it in case it were to come at an unexpected moment. **So how do we prepare?**

Animals have the natural gift of instinct. They know how to survive, how to reproduce, how to gather food and how to avoid danger. They know this because God has implanted this knowledge within them. By this natural gift of instinct, they know what to do and what to avoid.

We, as humans, also have basic natural instincts. But our natural instincts are only sufficient to help us accomplish that which the animals accomplish. Therefore, if we are to gain an even greater knowledge and are to know how to properly prepare ourselves spiritually for the sudden and unexpected coming of Christ, then we need more.

The way we most properly prepare is through a special grace by which God reveals Himself and His will to our human reason. When that happens, we will know the best way to be fully prepared for **“that day”** the moment it comes. Perhaps one of the best ways to describe this ability is by describing it as a **“supernatural instinct.”** When our natural instincts become open to grace, and when the information on which we base our daily decisions in life comes to us by an ongoing and personal revelation from God through the infused gift of faith, then we will find that we simply know what to do and what to avoid. By analogy, just as a bird knows to fly south for the winter or a salmon knows to return to its place of birth to lay its eggs, so we will **“know”** within our spirit how to best serve the will of God and, thus, be most fully prepared for His imminent return.

“Supernatural instinct” is nothing other than us allowing the grace of God to enter our lives so as to take control of everything we do and to lead us into the fulfillment of the perfect and glorious will of God. When that happens, we can be certain that we are perpetually prepared for all that comes and will never be caught by surprise like a trap.

Reflect, today, upon whether you are daily led by the knowledge of God’s will alive within you as a supernatural instinct. If this language seems foreign to you, then perhaps it is a time to ponder the question

“Why?”

Why aren’t you led by God’s grace through an ongoing gift of supernatural knowledge of His will?

And if this language does resonate within you, then spend time pondering this gift and being grateful for the way that God has truly taken over your day-to-day life.

My revealing Lord, I pray that I will always know Your will and be led only by Your gentle but unmistakable promptings of grace. Please lead me, dear Lord, so that I will be perpetually prepared for Your glorious and final coming the moment it arrives. Jesus, I trust in You

Parish of Blessed Hugh Faringdon & Buckland First Sunday of Advent – DECEMBER 1st 2024

North Downs Pastoral Area

Diocese of Portsmouth

Parish Priest: Revd Claro Conde

email: conde@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Telephone: 01367 358895

Website: www.blessedhugh.org.uk Acts 9:26-31

1 Coxwell Road, Faringdon, SN7 7EB

Parish email:

Parish of Blessed Hugh Faringdon & Buckland



Ministries

Bible Studies - Dr. Neill Taylor & Paul Padley & Team

Family & Youth Catechesis (Confirmation) - Mrs.

Helena & Emmanuel Boakye & Team

Children Catechesis (Children’s Liturgy & FHC) -

Mrs. Kathleen Thomas & Team

Evangelization Catechesis (Adult Evening Studies) -

Dr JP Crilly & Team

Administrator & Maintenance - Andrew Chell

Office Secretary - Nerisa Gomez

Finance - Lorraine Brabin,

PPC & Youth & Children - Kathleen Thomas,

Safeguarding - Mary Hughes

PRAYING THE READINGS AT HOME

1st Reading: **Jeremiah 33:14-16**

Psalm: **24(25):4-5,8-9,10,14**

2nd Reading: **1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2**

Gospel: **Luke 21:25-28,34-36**

Mass Setting: MASS FOR THE CITY
No Gloria in Advent. Children 762

During lighting of candle: Kindle a Flame (Iona).

Entrance: 316 Hark! a herald voice is calling

Psalm: 24(25):4-5,8-9,10,14

To you o Lord I lift my Soul, I trust in you my God

Offertory: 751 You are the light
Communion: 897 Wait for the Lord
Recessional: 221 Come, prepare the way

Sunday Mass is at 10am.

You can follow Fr. Claro’s daily international Masses from his home on Facebook Live here: <https://facebook.com/claro.conde>

His current schedule (subject to change) is:

7 am Regular Daily Masses Monday to Sunday.

6 pm Masses on Wednesdays and Sundays.

On the first Wednesday of each month:

6 pm Mass in the church (Our Mother of Perpetual Help).

Bible Study

We have a Bible Study, reflecting on the coming Sunday Mass Readings, with Fr Claro on Zoom on Mondays from 8 – 9 pm. To join please use the link on the Parish website home page.

First Sunday of Advent – DECEMBER 1st 2024

1st December 1st Sunday of Advent

A new edition of the Lectionary, the book which contains the readings which are proclaimed at Mass, will come into use in England and Wales in Advent 2024. The new edition uses the English Standard Version- Catholic Edition for the readings and the Abbey Psalms and Canticles for the Responsorial Psalms. (Catholic Bishops Conference of England and Wales). You can order from the Mustard Seed c/o Karen Vogt or the Redemptorist Publications at www.rpbooks.co.uk

PASTORAL AREA: 12th December Saturday 7pm for Pastoral Area Reconciliation Service at English Martyrs 15 Manor Cres, Didcot OX11 7AJ

Open Kitchen this winter to open just once a month. This will be on the second Friday of the month. Dates are, December 13th, (2025) January 10th, February 14th, March 14th.

SEE: Minutes of Finance and PPC Meetings at our parish website. Churches Together in Faringdon (CTiF) minutes of meeting.

SEE: Documents on the Diocesan 10-year Plan at our Parish Website.

CARMELITE SPIRITUALITY at BOARS HILL in OXFORD. See: <https://mailchi.mp/oxcacs/carmelite-connection-september-edition-13414906?e=35d59b227a>

ONE MONTH TO STOP ASSISTED SUICIDE!

The most vulnerable in our society are at risk. MPs will vote on whether to introduce an extreme assisted suicide law on 29 November. To protect the vulnerable from this radical law change, contact your MP and ask them to vote NO. Take action now - it only takes 30 seconds to contact your MP using the tool here:

www.righttolife.org.uk/mpcontactnow

Christmas Crib Collection (Bishop Philip Egan)

I have asked that crib offerings from Christmas be donated this year to the Knights of the Holy Sepulchre.



Faringdon Singers Christmas Concert
FREE ENTRY
Receiving collection: SANCTUARY FARINGDON (asylum seekers & refugees)
in the Catholic Church of Blessed Hugh Faringdon
Sunday 8th December 3pm
FOLLOW THE STAR!
A Feast of Festive music to celebrate the coming of Christmas including Mendelssohn's "There Shall a Star from Jacob come forth", Celia McDowell's "Christus Natus Est" and works by Buxtehude and Rutter - with carols for choir & audience
Musical Director: Clare Woodall
Accompanist: Laurence Mann
Violins: Phillip Augar & Laurence Mann
Hot Punch & Stollen!
For more information and for help with wheelchairs please contact Karen Vogt on 01367-24707

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First Sunday of Advent – DECEMBER 1st 2024**

Engaged Couples Breakfast – Saturday 8th February 2025

For parishioners who will be getting married in 2025, please would you give them the attached invitation from me? I will be hosting a St. Valentine's Day Breakfast for our engaged couples on Saturday 8th February 2025, at the Cathedral. Deacon Peter Silsbury is kindly making the arrangements. I hope that, if possible, you might attend with your couples, as we gather with other couples from around the Diocese.

Feast of Christ the King- parish shared lunch Thank You

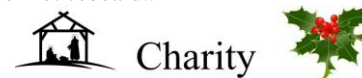
Thank you to everyone who attended the shared lunch, who made food, set up, tidied up, and did the washing up. A full parish effort that led to a great full parish experience. The few visitors we had from All Saints' (who were made most welcome) were very impressed.

Christmas Schedule

24th December TUESDAY 6pm VIGIL MASS (Blessed Hugh Faringdon RC Church at Faringdon SN7 7JE)
25th December Christmas Day, WEDNESDAY 9am CHRISTMAS DAY MASS (Blessed Hugh Faringdon RC Church Marlborough St.

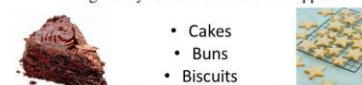
Saturday 14th December- CAFOD Advent cake sale

On Saturday 14th December we will be holding our annual cake sale to raise money for CAFOD's Advent appeal. As usual, donations of homemade goods (cakes, bread, biscuits etc) and volunteers to help out on the day required. Please let JP Crilly know if you can help, or put your name on the sign-up sheets in the entrance hall or noticeboard..

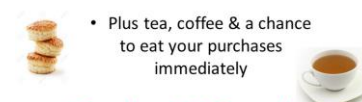


Charity Cake Sale

raising money for CAFOD's Advent Appeal



- Cakes
- Buns
- Biscuits
- & other baked goods



- Plus tea, coffee & a chance to eat your purchases immediately

Saturday 14th December 10.30-13.00

Parish Hall
Blessed Hugh Faringdon Catholic Church
Marlborough Street
Faringdon
SN7 7JE

