

FISHER HOUSE



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

SUNDAY 29 NOVEMBER – 1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Masses will reopen to the public on Wednesday.

See our [Facebook Page](#) to follow the livestreams.

Saturday 28	1.05pm	Mass	<i>Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday</i>
SUNDAY 29			
	11.00am	Mass	English
Monday 30	1.05pm	Mass	<i>St Andrew, Apostle</i>
Tuesday 1 Dec.	1.05pm	Mass	
Wednesday 2	1.05pm	Mass	
Thursday 3	1.05pm	Mass	<i>St Francis Xavier, Priest</i>
Friday 4	1.05pm 3pm-6pm 7.30pm	Mass Eucharistic Adoration Advent Service	
Saturday 5	1.05pm	Mass	<i>Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday</i>

EVENTS CALENDAR

Sunday 29	12.00pm	Fisher Friends Virtual Coffee. Join using this link or the Meeting ID: 959 7606 2043.
	8.00pm	Doctrinal Formation Group will meet online. Contact Fr Robert (rwv1001).
Monday 30	7.30pm	Rosary group will meet online. Contact Prakash (pt403).
Tuesday 1 Dec.	7.00pm	Apologia: Fr Toby Lees OP will talk about the forgotten sin of acedia. See notices below for details.
Wednesday 2	7.00pm	Postdocs will meet online. Contact Kotryna (kb449).
Thursday 3	6.30pm	Benson Club will meet to discuss the poetry of Elizabeth Jennings. Contact Paul (pn303).
Friday 4	7.30pm	Advent Service in the chapel, comprising music, readings, poetry and reflections.
Every day	9am to 6pm	Chapel open for private prayer. Please leave a kneeler on the floor when you leave, whether or not you have used one.

NOTICES

PUBLIC MASSES

Fisher House will reopen to the public on Wednesday. All masses and other services will happen in person from this date. Livestreams will continue as well. Unfortunately the library and Fisher Room will remain closed.

ALL SOULS PRAYER REQUESTS

In what remains of this month of November, we pray for the Holy Souls. Please email to Paul (pn303) the names of those you wish to be prayed for. They will be remembered at all Masses in November.

APOLOGIA: Better the devil you know: an introduction to the noonday demon of acedia.

For our final Apologia of the term, join Fr Toby Lees OP as he introduces the often forgotten and misunderstood vice of acedia, looking at the writings of Evagrius, Cassian and Aquinas. You might not have heard of it, but you may well recognise the symptoms when you hear them!

Meeting ID: 936 5145 6011 Passcode: 910317

SVP GIVING TREE

The SVP is running its annual giving tree this term where members of the parish can buy gifts for the homeless. If you visit [the website](#), you will find some ideas for gifts to give. This year we have added an option to order the gift online, so you don't even need to leave your room to donate! If you have any queries, please feel free to contact Nikhil (naa49).

FILM COMPETITION – HUMAN TRAFFICKING

As part of BAFTA's festival to mark European anti-Human Trafficking Day, RENATE is inviting 16-24 year-olds to join in their mission by making a short film about human trafficking. First prize £2000! Details [here](#).

REFLECTION

Concentrating on Christ

A few years ago, some cognitive scientists came up with an experiment called the invisible gorilla test. In the experiment, the test subject is shown a video in which there are 3 people dressed in white, 3 people dressed in black, and each group is passing a basketball among themselves. The objective for the test subject is to count how many times the people in white pass the ball to each other. Now most people are perfectly capable of doing this task and can come up with the correct answer of 15 passes. However, it turns out that around 50% of the people who watch the video fail to notice that halfway through it, a person dressed as a gorilla casually walks into centre view, beats his chest a few times and then casually walks off. The point of the experiment is to demonstrate that there's a lot going on around us which we fail to notice, especially if we're engaged in some specific task. No doubt, if the experimenters had told the test subjects to be also on the lookout for gorillas, the results would have been rather different. In an artificial test environment, not noticing a person dressed as a gorilla is of little consequence. In real life, however, it is very important that we are alert to such things.

Now in today's Gospel, Jesus tells his disciples to be on their guard and stay awake. But we should also pay attention to the manner of our wakefulness. We are staying awake for a particular purpose. Jesus gives us the example of a master who will return to his house at an unpredictable time. We are thus called to be ready for Our Lord's return in glory.

The example of the invisible gorilla test is a reminder that as human beings, there is only so much we can concentrate on. If we become too absorbed in daily tasks and worldly ambitions, we may find ourselves entirely unprepared on our Lord's arrival. Let us therefore pray that this Advent may be a time of spiritual preparation, that we may be ready and waiting for Our Lord's return in glory.

Fr Robert

MASS TEXTS

SUNDAY 29 NOVEMBER YEAR B — 1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

THE GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God,
Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 63:16–17, 64:1, 3–8

You, Lord, yourself are our Father,
'Our Redeemer' is your ancient name.
Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways
and harden our hearts against fearing you?
Return, for the sake of your servants,
the tribes of your inheritance.
Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come down!
– at your Presence the mountains would melt.
No ear has heard,
no eye has seen
any god but you act like this
for those who trust him.
You guide those who act with integrity
and keep your ways in mind.
You were angry when we were sinners;
we had long been rebels against you.
We were all like men unclean,
all that integrity of ours like filthy clothing.

We have all withered like leaves
and our sins blew us away like the wind.
No one invoked your name
or roused himself to catch hold of you.
For you hid your face from us
and gave us up to the power of our sins.
And yet, Lord, you are our Father;
we the clay, you the potter,
we are all the work of your hand.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 79 (80)

℟: God of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.

1. O shepherd of Israel, hear us,
shine forth from your cherubim throne.
O Lord, rouse up your might,
O Lord, come to our help. ℟
2. God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted. ℟
3. May your hand be on the man you have chosen,
the man you have given your strength.
And we shall never forsake you again;
give us life that we may call upon your name. ℟

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 1:3–9

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

I never stop thanking God for all the graces you have received through Jesus Christ. I thank him that you have been enriched in so many ways, especially in your teachers and preachers; the witness to Christ has indeed been strong among you so that you will not be

without any of the gifts of the Spirit while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed; and he will keep you steady and without blame until the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, because God by calling you has joined you to his Son, Jesus Christ; and God is faithful.

The word of the Lord.

ALLELUIA

Alleluia, alleluia!

Let us see, O Lord, your mercy
and give us your saving help.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mark 13:33–37

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!’

The Gospel of the Lord.

THE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right

hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.