



1st Sunday of Advent

1st December 2024

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MASS TIMES AT CLONARD

Public Mass & Masses via Webcam

Sunday (Vigil Sat- 7.30pm), 7.00am, 9.30am, 11.00am, and 12.30pm.
Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri.
7.00am, 9.30am and 6.15pm.
Thursday (Novena) 7.00am, 9.30am, 6.15pm and 8.00pm.
Saturday 7.00am, 9.30am & 12.00 Noon.



We thank you for last week's collection which came to £3,381
The Bishop's collection will be included today.
Also for your kind donations, online and by post.

Clonard Annual Christmas Carol Service is this Sunday 8th December at 6pm, with Clonard Choir & Clonard Folk Choir. The congregation is invited to bring gifts of toys, games, toiletries, etc., (**no perishables please**) to be left at the Crib and distributed to those in need by SVP.



Feast of The Immaculate Conception will be held on Monday 9th December

Mass times: 7.00am. 9.30am & 6.15pm.

NO VIGIL MASS ON SUNDAY 8TH DECEMBER

SHRINE FOR THE DEAD

We ask you to collect the Memoriam Cards, Photos, etc. that you left for the November Shrine.

They are available on the tables at the front of St Joseph's altar.

This Sunday's Scripture Readings:

Jeremiah 33:14-16 will make a virtuous Branch grow for David.

1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2 May you be blameless when our Lord Jesus Christ comes again.

Luke 21:25-28,34-36 That day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap.

THRIVE NOT JUST SURVIVE

As we embark on the journey of Advent, today's Gospel from Luke offers a profound reflection on vigilance and hope. The passage speaks of cosmic signs and earthly distress, urging us to stay awake and pray, for the coming of the Son of Man is near.

In our contemporary world, we face numerous challenges—climate crises, social unrest, and personal struggles—that can feel like the darkness described in the Gospel. Yet, Advent calls us to journey through this darkness with faith, moving towards the light of Bethlehem. This journey is not just about preparing for Christmas but about recognizing Christ's presence in our daily lives and the hope He brings.

The first Sunday of Advent marks the beginning of this sacred journey. It is a time to reflect on our lives and the world around us, to see where we need God's light to shine. The theme of journeying through darkness to the light of Bethlehem is particularly relevant today. It reminds us that even in the midst of our darkest moments, there is a promise of light and redemption.

Luke's Gospel encourages us to be vigilant, to avoid being weighed down by the anxieties and distractions of life. In a world that often feels chaotic and overwhelming, finding moments of stillness and prayer is crucial. These moments allow us to reconnect with God, to find peace in His presence, and to gain the strength to face our challenges with hope.

As we light the first candle on the Advent wreath, let it symbolise our commitment to this journey. Let it remind us that even in the darkest times, the light of Christ is always with us, guiding us and giving us hope. This Advent, let us embrace the call to vigilance and prayer, trusting that God's promises are true and that His love will sustain us through all trials.

May Advent be a time of deep reflection, renewed hope, and joyful anticipation of the coming of our Savior, as we journey through darkness to the light of Bethlehem.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2024

If you wish to donate there are **SVDP blue envelopes** at the back of the Church which you can take away and bring back to us.

Any donations are greatly appreciated and will help those families in need in this area. Please place the envelope in the box at the back of the Church. **SVP special collection at all Masses Sunday, 8th December.**

Many families will face impossible choices this Christmas.



CLONARD SAFEGUARDING COMMITTEE NOTICE

The **Clonard Safeguarding Committee** meets regularly to monitor and review the implementation of Policies and procedures. Further information and our safeguarding policy are available on our website <https://www.clonard.com/safeguarding/>