

# ST. ANSELM

## Proclaiming Christ in Hayes

### A very nearly...

#### Happy Christmas.

This last week of Advent can often feel a little odd, a little silly. This year especially so given where Christmas Day falls.

We get nearly a whole week of children off school and crazy Christmas shopping and online ordering. People dashing too and fro and on top of all of this the underlying doom of what COVID may deliver next.

It's not exactly the state of peaceful calm and expectation that we're encouraged to discover before Christ is born in us is it?

It takes an act of will to set aside the world and to look inward to the coming of Jesus. I say look inward because that is what is going to happen - if you allow

it - on Christmas morning.

Jesus will once again be born in you. In your heart and in your mind. He once again has an opportunity to come to you afresh.

I was reading some of Evelyn Underhill's Prayer Book this week and discovered this absolutely gem of a prayer that I think very simply brings us to the right place this week:

"Grant, oh lord, that the birth of Christ in us may be such that Christ's very spirit may come and take possession of our souls, all our faculties and powers, and be wholly united with



us forever – not fleetingly, but abidingly and with a settled peace (in like manner as the soul reposes in the body). Thus let us come to Bethlehem and ask the child Jesus to make His abode in us forever more." (Luis de Leon)

I shall be praying this each day this week as we draw closer to the birth of Jesus in each one of us (again) on Saturday.

Fr. Matthew

### Get in touch:

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Churchwardens:

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*Please let Fr. Matthew know of illness or other need as soon as possible. He is available on the above number 24/7.*

### Prayer focus

For all those making their Advent Confessions.

Have you booked yours?

### Worship focus

Please make a special effort to come to Mass on the 26th December as this will be our last service with Anthony.

## This Sunday

### Sunday 19th December

4th Sunday of Advent ●

10am - Parish Mass

*Divine Office Psalter Week 4, Year C(II)*

## Keep in Touch



twitter.com/anselmhayes



facebook.com/stanselmhayes



07537 410120 (WhatsApp & Text)

## Notices

The new giving envelopes are now ready for collection, they'll be available at the back of church on Sunday for all those who have registered. Thank you so much for your continued giving.

Don't forget we're singing for the Christmas shoppers this Saturday between 1pm & 3pm. We're also going to offer a small bric-a-brac stall and offer mince pies and leaflets for our Christmas services - do pop along and join in even if it's only for a short time.

Don't forget to book a time to make your Advent confession. Fr. Matthew hears confessions after Evening Prayer on Tuesdays or by appointment.

## Years Mind

19th December - Margaret Hemmings

20th December - John Houston, David George Loyns

21st December - Annie Bryant, Emile Charles Leopold Van Lear, Ernest Jones

22nd December - Mildred Canfield, Mary Titchmarsh, Minnie Mabel West, Kenneth Roy Tupman

23rd December - Hannah Harding, Nigel Esquick

24th December - Bernard Harper, Christopher Brown, Dorothy Edna Borrowdale

25th December - Florence Upshon, Reg Bacon, Annie Gull, Nellie Duckitt, Irene Bullock, Hazel Smith, Norma O'Brien, Christine Lewis-Hall, Patricia Fox

## Pray This Week For

The Sisters at Walsingham, Yolande DeGale, Helen Holman, Beryl Higgs, Norma Piggott, Rene Holman, June Boughton, Verity Thompson, Daniel Sibley, Wayne Campbell, Ivor, Maxine & Megan, Gary Saville, Anthony & Greta, David Millard, Caroline, Debbie Potts, H & Family, Huw and Val Jones, Pauline Wheeler, Simone, Helen & Nick, Tasmin, Gleta & Family, Cynthia, Beth.

## This week at St. Anselm

### Monday 20th December

20th December ●

Morning Prayer 9:45 | Mass 10am

10:30am - Parent and Toddler Group in Church Hall

Evening Prayer 6pm

*Prayer focus: Our online family*

### Tuesday 21st December

21st December ●

Morning Prayer 9:45 | Mass 10am

Evening Prayer 6pm

*Prayer focus: The evangelisation of England*

### Wednesday 22nd December

22nd December ●

Morning Prayer 9:45 | High Mass 10am

12pm-2pm - Foodbank & One Stop Shop

Evening Prayer & Rosary 6pm

*Prayer focus: Priests & Bishops of the Society*

### Thursday 23rd December

23rd December ●

Morning Prayer 9:45 | Mass 10am

Evening Prayer 6pm

*Prayer focus: Persecuted Christians*

### Friday 24th December

24th December ●

Morning Prayer 9:45 | Mass 10am

3pm - Crib & Carol Service

11pm - Midnight Mass

*Prayer focus: Struggling Mothers & Fathers*

### Saturday 25th December

**Christmas Day** ●

10am - Christmas Day Mass

*Prayer focus: Children around the world*

### Sunday 26th December

**The Holy Family** ●

10am - Parish Mass

*Divine Office Psalter Week 1, Year C(II)*

*Confessions are heard on Tuesday evening after Evening Prayer, or by appointment with Fr. Matthew*