

## Sacred Heart and English Martyrs: Newsletter 201213

### 12/13th December 2020 Third Sunday of Advent B- Gaudete Sunday.

*What does 'the Lord is at hand mean'? In what sense must we understand this 'closeness' of God. The Church, illumined by the Holy Spirit, already understood at that time of the apostles and as time went on increasingly better that God's closeness is not a question of space and time but rather of love: love brings people together! This coming Christmas will remind us of this fundamental truth of our faith and in front of the manger we shall be able to savour Christian joy contemplating in the newborn Jesus the Face of God who made himself close to us out of love. Pope Benedict XVI.*

**Entrance Antiphon:** Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.

**First Reading;** Isaiah 61: 1-2,10-11.

I exult for joy in the Lord.

**Psalms Response:** Luke 1: My soul rejoices in my God.

**Second Reading:** A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians.

May you all be kept safe, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of the Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation:**

Alleluia, alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord has been given to me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor. Alleluia!

**Gospel:** John 1;6-8,19-28

There stands among you-unknown to you- the one who is coming after me.

### Public Worship- December 2020

Weekend Masses: Sacred Heart Saturday 5pm and Sunday 9.30am

English Martyrs Sunday 11 am.

Sacred Heart Saturday 5pm Mass is recorded and available later in evening on YouTube  
Sacred Heart Bilton

Weekday Mass every day is Recorded and available on YouTube Sacred Heart Bilton.

Sacred Heart Mass on Wednesday 7pm

English Martyrs Mass on Thursday 11 am followed by Exposition until 12 noon.

Church open for Private Prayer Sacred Heart Tuesday 2.30-3.30 pm

English Martyrs: Mass on Thursday 11 am then Exposition until 12 noon.

**Please do not attend any public gathering if you have any Covid symptoms.**

Observe Precautions:

Sanitise hands before and after,

Track and Trace,

Masks must be worn and observe Social Distancing,

No social contact with others before and after Mass.

**Christmas Services at Sacred Heart and English Martyrs**

Christmas Eve Masses English Martyrs 5pm

Sacred Heart 8pm

Christmas Day Masses Sacred Heart 9.30am

English Martyrs 11 am

**Capacity at both Churches per service is 60 people. This must be strictly observed.**

We have already filled half of the places for each of the Christmas Masses so please book soon to avoid disappointment.

**Those attending weekend Masses will be able to sign up to book a place at a Christmas Mass after Mass this weekend 12/13<sup>th</sup>. You may book by phone or email after this date and will go on a waiting list if necessary, first come first served. By phone or email please indicate the time and place of the Mass you want to come to and the number of people and give your contact details.**

The Christmas Eve 8pm Mass at Sacred Heart will be recorded and made available on YouTube Sacred Heart Bilton for Christmas Day. We are hoping to live stream a Christmas Mass from English Martyrs. More details later.

**Contacts :01788 813263 [sacredheart.bilton@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sacredheart.bilton@rcaob.org.uk).** Please indicate which Mass at which Church.

May the Lord be with you and bless you as the Feast of Christmas comes ever closer.