

10 DECEMBER 2023

Dear Friends

This Sunday we welcome the Rev'd Canon Michael Bullock who leads our Eucharist Service at 10.30, and will be with us over Advent and Epiphany.

8 December marks the Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The day celebrates Mary being conceived free from sin and stain, by her mother, St Anne and father, St Joachim. The tradition is a Roman Catholic one, generally not followed in Protestant doctrine, though some Anglo-Catholics hold the Immaculate Conception as an optional pious belief. Consequently, the day is a public holiday in Italy, but only recognised as a minor feast day in Anglicanism.



7 December is the Feast Day of St Ambrose, patron saint of Milan.

For pastoral care during the coming week, please telephone (0039) 0345 5835978 (Church mobile), (0039) 026 552258 (Priest's apartment), or email allsaintsmilanpriest@gmail.com

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Our Bishop's Advent appeal

Bishop Robert has launched the 2023 Advent Appeal which will be supporting the Anglican Communion Fund of the Archbishop of Canterbury. This fund exists to make small investments across the church; which can have great local impact. The focus of this year's work is South Asia, where the church encounters much persecution. Details are found [here](#).

As in past years, we will apply the collection at our Carol Service to this appeal, along with your specific donations. Please send these by transfer (bonifico) to the church account with reference (causale) "Bishop Advent Appeal" to All Saints' Anglican Church Milan, Unicredit, IBAN: IT 31 M 02008 01611 000100949889.

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Our programme during Advent

A wassailing weekend to mark in your diary:

16 December – **Community Carol Singing** in the church courtyard at 16.30 in support of the disabled lavatory project.

17 December – **Christmas Carol Service** at 18.30 featuring the 9 Lessons & Carols (collection to the Bishop's Advent appeal with Christmas Raffle draw afterwards).

19 December – **The Milan Singers** performing "**Merry and Bright**" - carols and Christmas songs from around the world at 20:30, for the disabled lavatory.

Advent family activities are on [our website](#).

17 to 23 December [Compline online](#) at 21:00



Christmas raffle

Tickets are €2 and come in books of 10. A list of prizes is on the Church noticeboard and include meals out, hampers, wellbeing prizes, champagne and many delicacies. You can buy tickets in Church for cash, through [this givealittle link](#), or by [bonifico](#) with causale "Raffle".

Archdeacon's Open Forum

Archdeacon David holds an Open Forum by Zoom on the second Tuesday of each month, at 15.00 (so 12 December this month). Anyone is welcome to attend. The link is [here](#).

Outcome of the Christmas Fair

The Christmas Fair was a great success, enjoyed by many and raising €7.812 for the Church. A big thank you to all who organised the event and helped before and on the day.

Links to our regular activities

Sunday evening prayer on Zoom is [here](#). **Morning prayer** is at 9.00 Monday to Friday - the link is [here](#).

Bible study in person takes place on Thursdays at 13.00 in the Church rooms. Bible study by Zoom is held on Tuesday at 6pm using the link found [here](#).

The **Jolly Club** is held on Tuesday beginning at 12.30 in the church's upstairs parish room.