



# St. Edward's Church newsletter



DECEMBER 2016 & JANUARY 2017 – Let us reflect on the true significance of Christmas and enter into Advent with a loving heart and open mind to the coming of Christ and welcome Him into our lives. Join us for the Advent Bible Study Course, the Christmas Family Service with Nativity on Sunday December 11<sup>th</sup> and the Sunday Evening Carol Service on December 18<sup>th</sup>.

## SERVICES

**A Sung Eucharist is celebrated every Sunday at 10:30 a.m.**  
**All denominations are welcome to receive the Blessed Sacrament.**

**Sunday School** takes a break after the Nativity Play on December 11<sup>th</sup>. We re-open in 2017 with the Family Service on January 8<sup>th</sup> followed by a lesson on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Mid-Week Service:** Unless announced to the contrary, there will be a short service of Holy Communion (said) every Wednesday in the side chapel at 10:30 a.m. All Welcome.

## EVENTS

### DECEMBER

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> Parola, Musica, Silenzio At 12:15 p.m. short lunch-break pause for Ecumenical prayers at Chiesa dell'Immacolato, Lugano  
 St. Edward's Gift Day 10:30 a.m.  
 Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> Christmas Family Service with children's Nativity Play 4 p.m.  
 Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> Luce di Betlemme Ecumenical Service at Chiesa S. Carlo, Via Nassa, Lugano 5:30 p.m.  
 Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> Nine Lessons & Carols Service in Candlelight 6 p.m.  
 Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> Sung Eucharist with Carols for the Nativity of our Lord

### JANUARY

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> Evensong Service for Christian Unity hosted at St. Edward's with the Ecumenical Council of Canton Ticino

### Sunday Afternoon Christmas Family Service

11<sup>th</sup> December 4 p.m.  
 With the  
 Children's Nativity Play

This Service is for all the family,  
 young and old.



### Candlelit Carol Service 18<sup>th</sup> December 6 p.m.

Traditional Service of Nine Lessons and  
 Carols in a candlelit setting

*Do come and join us for  
 Christmas refreshments served in Casa  
 Benson after both of these special  
 celebrations as we await*

**Sunday Morning 25<sup>th</sup>  
 Christmas Day  
 Sung Eucharist & Carols  
 for the  
 Nativity of our Lord**



### GIFT DAY APPEAL

4<sup>th</sup> December

Gift Days have always been significant  
 times when our Lord has confirmed His  
 plans and vision for His church by  
 providing for its financial needs.

**We are making this Appeal to ask for  
 your prayers and donations**

This is an exciting and challenging  
 time for everyone at St Edward's and it  
 would be fantastic to start off next year  
 free from a current projected budget  
 deficit as this would then allow us to  
 focus entirely on other key aspects of  
 ministry, in particular outreach.

**Please use this Gift Day to thank God  
 for all He gives to you, including this  
 beautiful place to worship in.**

Donations can be made with Special  
 Envelopes or using the Pink Payment  
 Slips or directly via Bank transfer. The  
 Account details can be found on our  
 website [www.stedwards.ch](http://www.stedwards.ch) click on  
 the 'About us' tab and then funding.

**Thank You**

## Chaplain's Message



Dear Friends,

Go into most shops in December and you cannot help but notice that their shelves are stuffed with their idea of the *perfect* Christmas gifts for the people you love. You may even be one of the growing numbers of people who dread the frenzied madness of the pre-Christmas rush. If so then it doesn't have to be this way, and hopefully the holy season of Advent can be seen as an opportunity to have a major rethink about the real significance of Christmas.

So much of today's commercial world encourages us to look after number one. What's in it for me? What do I get out of this or that? Never mind anyone else. But is that what really matters in life? We all need others, and if we need others then, shouldn't we look out for others, and strive to see a bigger picture than our tiny piece of it.

To help prepare us spiritually for the great festival of Christmas, I shall be leading an Advent study course entitled, *Advent Conspiracy*, that encourages us to make Christmas what it really should be – a joyous celebration of Jesus' birth that enriches our hearts and the world around us, not a retail circus that depletes our wallets and deflates our spirits. Everyone is welcome to attend any of the three sessions, further details of which can be found in this edition.

Kindly also take special note of the other main events at St Edward's during December, not least our much-loved **Nativity Play on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> at 4pm** and the traditional **Service of Nine Lessons & Carols on the 18<sup>th</sup> at 6pm**. Please do your very best to be present at both these important services for St Edward's, and remember to encourage all your friends and colleagues to come.

I take this opportunity of wishing you all a holy and blessed Christmas and peace and prosperity in the coming year.

Fr Nigel

*PS. I leave you with this thought-provoking logo I found online recently. Its message speaks for itself!*



# ADVENT CONSPIRACY

## Advent Course

### Can Christmas Still Change the World?

Are you tired of how consumerism has stolen the soul of Christmas? This year, take a stand! Join the growing number of Christians who are choosing to make Christmas what it should be – a joyous celebration of Jesus' birth!

The aim of the course is to show you how to substitute consumption by practicing four simple, but powerful, countercultural concepts: Worship Fully; Spend Less; Give More & Love All.

Open to everyone in the community, this short Advent course led by Fr Nigel will be held in Casa Benson on Wednesday evenings starting at 7pm on 30<sup>th</sup> November and 7<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> of December. It is possible to attend any number of the sessions.

### Course registration by email to:

[frnigel-lugano@bluewin.ch](mailto:frnigel-lugano@bluewin.ch)

## CELEBRATING ALL SAINTS With a Quiz



Our Sunday School children quizzed the congregation with some startling facts about saints throughout the ages ... St George and the dragon wasn't one of them, although it may seem so from the photo!

Fr. Nigel then expanded on the theme with a Talk about the wonderful example so many saints have set for us, and how we can strive to follow in their footsteps.

*Heavenly Father, we give you thanks and praise for this cloud of saintly witnesses, those that have gone before us, and those who surround us now. Amen.*

### SUNDAY SCHOOL *(During the scholastic year)*

In term time Sunday School lessons **usually** take place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month during the 10:30 morning Eucharistic Service. **Please see Front Page for Sunday School dates.** All children from the age of 3 are very welcome to join **Pebbles** for our youngest members, or **Rocks** for those with more reading ability. Children are encouraged to participate in the monthly Family Service. For further info contact: Diana [dellacqua.ticino@gmail.com](mailto:dellacqua.ticino@gmail.com)

### TODDLERS CORNER

Welcome bags are available at the back of the church for the youngest children to enjoy quietly during the Service.

### SOUL CAFÉ

A welcoming place to meet together for friendship and fellowship in the relaxed atmosphere of Casa Benson. Open in December on Thursdays 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

**Please note: In January we move to Wednesday mornings. January 2017: Wednesdays 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> at the new time of 10:30 – 12.30**

For further information please contact Linda 091 605 3576

### NEWS SUBMISSION

Copy for the February edition is due 10<sup>th</sup> January. Email to [emily.lingeri@bluewin.ch](mailto:emily.lingeri@bluewin.ch)

## PAROLA MUSICA SILENZIO

UN'OASI SPIRITUALE IN PAUSA PRANZO

QUANDO  
GIOVEDÌ alle 12.15

DOVE  
Chiesa dell'Immacolata  
Via Pietro Peri - Lugano

Prodotto dalla  
Comunità di Lavoro della Chiesa cristiana nel Ticino

[WWW.CHIESECRISTIANETICINO.CH](http://WWW.CHIESECRISTIANETICINO.CH)

**20 MINUTI  
PER TE**

**GIOVEDÌ 24.11**

**GIOVEDÌ 01.12**

**GIOVEDÌ 15.12**

**GIOVEDÌ 22.12**



## ST. EDWARD'S AWAY DAY Renaissance & Classical Art Captivates Visitors



Visiting an art gallery is a great way to get out of the rut of doing the same activities for recreation. This is precisely what 17 St Edward's parishioners did on 19<sup>th</sup> November when they visited Milan's renowned Pinacoteca di Brera, home to an impressive collection of paintings by Italian masters. After a stimulating tour around the exhibition, the group rounded off their Away Day with Evening Prayer and Afternoon Tea at All Saints' Anglican Church, where they were warmly welcomed by the Archdeacon of Italy, the Ven. Vickie Sims, and members of her congregation.

### CHURCH CONTACTS

The Anglican Church of St. Edward the Confessor  
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**PARKING** is available during every Sunday morning Service inside the parking garage of the ProCrea Clinic next door to the church.

[www.stedwards.ch](http://www.stedwards.ch)