

Irenaeus Newsletter



**December '25
& January 26**

From the desk

The journey of life at Irenaeus continues with its ups and downs, Fr.Chris sends his apologies for not writing here, after one of his 'downs' he has had to have an operation on his knee and is out of action for a few days. Hopefully he will spring into action again in the new year, if not before.

In the mean time we have a lot happening here to carry us through this time of Advent and over Christmas. Why not join us!

If you are planning ahead we are always happy to lead retreat days and parish missions, don't hesitate to contact us.

Have a wonderful Christmas and a peace filled new year!



WHAT'S ON AT A GLANCE

CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

6:30pm Tuesday 9th December '25

SONGS WE REMEMBER

Wednesday 2pm – 4pm

Wednesday 10th December '25 with Frank Sinatra.

14th January & 28th January '26

WHAT WILL I BRING HIM?

ADVENT EVENINGS

7pm Wednesday 10th December '25

AGAPE MASS @ IRENAEUS

7pm 4th December '25 & 8th January '26

COME AND SEE

6th December '25 & 10th January '26

AFTERNOON TEA WITH FRANK SINATRA AND FRIENDS

2pm - 4pm Wednesday 10th December '25

SCRIPTURE MORNINGS ON MATTHEW'S GOSPEL

Wednesdays 10:30 - 11:45am

14th, 21st, 28th January & 5th February '26

For more information about all our events contact
jenny@irenaeus.co.uk or Tel: 0151 949 1199

THE IRENAEUS CENTRE CAROL SERVICE

WHAT A JOURNEY!



**6:30pm 9th December 2025
at the Irenaeus Centre,
Great Georges Rd
Waterloo L22 1RD**



The Irenaeus Project
the glory of God is a person fully alive

www.irenaeus.co.uk

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Moirá's Meanderings



Advent is often seen as a journey toward Christmas. As the Holy Year, described as 'a journey of hope,' comes to a close, I believe it is important to make this journey to Christmas especially meaningful. Recently, I drove to Northampton for a conference, and while travelling on the motorway, I was struck by how each person in their vehicle had their own unique reasons for their journey.

This year, Mike Anderson has written an excellent script for our Carol Service, and we are fortunate to have him and the Tongues of Fire group lead us in carols. The theme focuses on journeys, inviting us to reflect on the various paths people took to Bethlehem for Jesus's birth. Why not make your journey special by joining us on Tuesday, December 9th at 6:30pm?

When reflecting on the meaning of Christmas, Richard Rohr writes,



We must move beyond a merely sentimental understanding of Christmas as "waiting for the baby Jesus" to an adult and communal appreciation of the message of the incarnation of God in Christ. We Franciscans have always believed that *'the incarnation was already the redemption'*, because in Jesus' birth God was saying that *'it was good to be human, and God was on our side'*.

Jesus identified his own mission with what he called the coming "reign of God." We have often settled instead for the sweet coming of a baby who asked little of us in terms of surrender, encounter, mutuality, or any assent to the actual teachings of Jesus. Too much sentimentality, or juicing up of our emotions, can be a substitute for an actual relationship, as we also see in our human relationships. When we are so infatuated with the "sweetness" or "perfection" of another, we easily "fall" out of love at the first sign of their humanity. Let's not let that happen with the infinitely compelling person of Jesus!

The celebration of Christmas is not exclusively a sentimental waiting for a baby to be born. It is much more *'an asking for history to be born!'* Creation groans in its birth pains, waiting for our participation with God in its renewal (see Romans 8:20–23). We do the gospel no favour when we make Jesus, the Eternal Christ, into a perpetual baby, who asks little or no adult response from us. One even wonders what kind of mind would want to keep Jesus a baby. Maybe only one that is content with "baby Christianity."

COME AND SEE

'LORD TEACH US TO PRAY'

10:30 - 4pm

6th December '25

Keynote Speaker

Dcn John Sargent

JANUARY

10:30 - 4pm

COME AND SEE

10th January '26

Suggested donation £10

For more information

email jenny@irenaeus.co.uk

or tel: 0151 949 1199

**Bring a
packed
lunch**

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTRY TRAINING DAYS

**We will be leading a Eucharistic ministry
training day at Irenaeus on
14th March 2026**



**Parishes are invited
to book places by emailing
jenny@irenaeus.co.uk**



WHAT CAN I BRING HIM?



ADVENT EVENINGS

🕯️ 7:00 – 8:30 PM

Wednesday 26th November &
10th December 2025

At the Irenaeus Centre
Great Georges Rd
Waterloo L22 1RD



Zoom link available Contact jenny@irenaeus.co.uk



The Irenaeus Centre and St Thomas' Oratory



WARM AND COSY!

CALL IN FOR A CUPPA AND A CHAT

KEEP WARM AND ENJOY THE COMPANY

We are open 10am - 4pm Monday - Thursday

Join us for Mass 12 Noon every Wednesday

OTHER ACTIVITIES

WOMEN'S WELLBEING
Monday 12 noon – 2pm

PRAYER FOR HEALING
Mondays 2pm - 3pm

KNIT AND NATTER
Tuesday 10.30 - 12 noon

SCRIPTURE SHARING
Tuesdays 12 Noon

COUNSELLING
Wednesdays 10am - 2pm

'SONGS WE REMEMBER'
SING-A-LONG
2pm, 2nd and 4th
Wednesday of the month
(Dementia friendly)

ART AND MEDITATION
Thursdays 2-4pm



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