



St Joseph's Parish Newsletter

St Joseph's Presbytery, New Zealand Road, Gabalfa, Cardiff, CF14 3BR
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Fr Ambrose G Maliakkal, Br Brian Butler,
Deacon Rev Mark Howe



A Parish of the Archdiocese of Cardiff. A Registered Charity (No. 242380). Served by Rosminians
Safeguarding Representatives – Paul Moruzzi – 20223782, Alma Marlow - 20754417

16th – 24th December 2017

3rd Sunday of Advent - Year B

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

"Let us remember that we are placed in this world for a brief space so that we may procure for ourselves an eternal abode."

Mass Intentions / Adoration / Sacraments

Sat 16th Dec 6 pm – VIGIL	Molly & Steve Rose RIP (<i>D Jones</i>)
Sun 17th Dec 9.15 am 11 am	3rd Sunday of Advent - Gaudete Rosaria Spiteri RIP (<i>Dominic Spiteri</i>) All Parishioners/ Christopher Whelan RIP (<i>Family</i>)
Mon 18th Dec 9.15 am 12.15 pm	Faithful Departed (<i>Ansamma George</i>) Funeral Service – Rosario Scaccia
Tues 19th Dec 9.15 am	Daniel & Christina Donovan RIP (<i>Carolyn Donovan</i>)
Wed 20th Dec 9.15 am 9.45 – 3.30 pm	Cherian Kottapalli RIP (<i>George J Family</i>) Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Thurs 21st Dec 9.15 am 7 pm	<i>St Peter Canisius, Priest & Doctor of the Church</i> Bishop Antonio Riboldi Faithful Departed (<i>D Hennelly</i>)
Fri 22nd Dec 9.15 am	Int. of Josphine Hackett (<i>K Capel</i>)
Sat 23rd Dec 9.15 am 12 Noon – 12.45pm 6 pm – VIGIL	<i>St John of Kanty, Priest</i> James Mahoney RIP (<i>Veronica Mahoney</i>) Sacrament of Reconciliation All Parishioners / Chris Babu (<i>Well-being</i>) (<i>Family</i>)
Sun 24th Dec 9.15 am 11 am 6 pm 11.45 pm	4th Sunday of Advent - Gaudete Expectant Mothers Giya George (<i>Birthday</i>) Vigil Mass of Christmas Midnight Mass (<i>Carols from 11.15 pm</i>)
Monday 25th December 10 am	The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ

Please pray for those who have died:

Rosario Scaccia and John Manley

And those who are ill:

Colin Sangster, Charlie Coray, Peter Cule, Christin Babu, Lyla O'Brien, Pam Deane, Maria Khan, Patrick Rickard, Amie Lucas, Martin Connor, Lok Mai, Baby Dylan Collins, Margaret Lench, Frs John Owen; Michael Cronin; Mark Rowles.

CHURCH COLLECTION

Week Ending 10th December

Attendance – 320

Gift Aid - £328.00; Non-Gift Aid - £287.70

Sick & Retired Clergy Fund - £437.43

Poinsettias for the Christmas Altar

If you would like to give a poinsettia in memory of a loved one for Christmas please bring it to Church, with a gift card stating the person(s) to be remembered, after 21st December.



Responsorial Psalm

My soul rejoices in my God.

Advent:

The Church's new year (Cycle B)

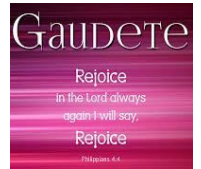
In Advent we look forward to the coming of the Christ Child at Christmas and the Second coming of Jesus in glory



During Advent and Christmastide, we are asked to pray especially for these intentions:
Openness to the Word of God;
Migrants and Refugees; Expectant Mothers

Gaudete Sunday

Gaudete means "rejoice". Today we light the pink candle and the clergy wear rose-coloured vestments to emphasise our joy that Christmas is near. This day reminds us of the joy that is to come and serves, amid this season of penance, as a 'break' when we recall the hope we have because of the coming of Our Lord Jesus.



Bambinelli Sunday

(Gaudete Sunday) 17th December
For the past several decades, each year on Gaudete Sunday, the Third Sunday of the Advent, children (and adults) bring their Baby Jesus figures from the crib at their homes to St Peter's Square where the Pope will bless both the people and the figurines during the Angelus.



This year we will celebrate 'Bambinelli Sunday' at our 9.15am Mass on Sunday.

Carols by Candlelight

We will be having a service of carols and readings here at Saint Joseph's on this **Sunday 17th December** at 5 pm, followed by refreshments in the meeting room.



A great event to bring friends and family along to, even if they are not churchgoers. All welcome.

There will be a retiring collection for the SVP.

The Catholic Province of Cardiff, Menevia, Wrexham & Herefordshire Directory

and Year Book 2018 is now available.

The cost of the Yearbook is £3.

There will be a retiring collection for Christmas flowers for the Church THIS weekend.



CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

A big 'Thank You' to all of you who so generously supported the Christmas raffle by donating items and buying tickets, and to those who helped sell the tickets after each mass. You raised a wonderful £408.20 for church repairs. The winners will be contacted this week, and the prizes can be collected from the presbytery.



Thank you once again for your support.

Quiz Night

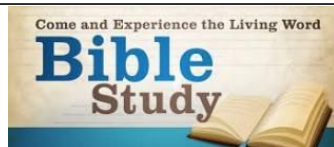
Many thanks to all those parishioners who were able to support the recent quiz night.



£125 was raised for parish buildings projects.

A special word of thanks to **Tony & Jane Duffy** who, once again, provided an interesting & stimulating evening's entertainments. Thanks also to **Coleen Norman** for the excellent refreshments. A most enjoyable evening.

There will be no Bible Study for the next two Thursdays



BIG CHRISTMAS CLEAN-UP

Please could anyone who is free on Thursday, 21st December, after 9.15 am Mass come and help to make our church beautiful for Christmas? Even if you only have half an hour to spare, that would be a great help. Thank you! **ALL WELCOME!**



Don't forget to take your free copy of our Diocesan newspaper "Catholic People" as you leave church today.

Catholic People Pick up your **FREE** copy today

A Party for Senior Parishioners

On Friday 22nd of December, St. David's Catholic Sixth Form College invite senior parishioners to a Community Mass and Christmas Celebration at the College from **12 noon till 3 pm**. After Mass there is a buffet, a full entertainment programme with prizes and small gifts, where young and old enjoy each other's company. Please let Fr. Ambrose know if you would like to go as names need to be sent in advance.

Christmas ALONE

Some people will observe Christmas alone this year, not seeing anyone nor talking with anyone. This fact means that we can possibly transform this situation - if we know of anyone nearby in this situation can we knock the door to see if they are well or if they need food, if they need someone to speak to. In this way we can bring the light of Christmas into lives that might otherwise be lonely and depressed.

Mass in Welsh for Christmas

A Vigil Mass will be celebrated in Welsh on Christmas Eve at 4.30pm at St. Teilo's, Whitchurch (CF14 1AD). All welcome. "O denwch ac addolwn." Croeso cynnes i bawb.

"COME BACK TO ME"

We all know of baptised Catholics who, for one reason or another, have abandoned or just drifted away from Mass, the Church and even from God. That so many are in this situation is a tragedy, since it means that so many people no longer have that sense of belonging - whether that is to God or to the Church or to the Parish community where they live. During this Advent, all of us in our Parish are asked to extend to anyone in this situation an invitation which comes from Jesus Himself "Come back to Me with all your heart; do not be afraid". In extending this invitation, we remain uncritical and non-judgemental but openly rejoice for anyone who responds to His words and returns to share with us the joy of Christmas and the continuing awareness that we have come home.

Let us invite them to come to one of the Advent Masses, but especially at Christmas when Masses will be as follows:

Christmas Eve: 6 pm - Vigil Mass
11.45 pm - Midnight Mass begins
(Carols from 11.15 pm)

Christmas Day: 10 am

Do I have to go to Mass twice on Christmas Eve this year?

Christmas Eve falls on the 4th Sunday of Advent this year. What does that mean for Mass attendance?

The Liturgy Office of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales says that you *cannot* fulfil both the Sunday and Christmas obligations in just one Mass.

Advent 4 / Christmas Day Mass combinations:

- Option 1:**
Sunday morning + Christmas Day
- Option 2:**
Sunday morning + Sunday evening vigil
- Option 3:**
Saturday evening vigil + Sunday evening vigil
- Option 4:**
Saturday evening vigil + Christmas Day

Christmas Offerings

The collection on Sunday 24th and Monday 25th will be for the support of the work of the Rosminians.

If you are a tax payer and would like your offering to be Gift Aided please use a 'Rosminian' gift aid envelope at the back of the Church. Please complete the details and sign the declaration. And if you would like to make your offerings by cheque please make it payable to the '**Institute of Charity**'. Thank you.

Christmas Crib Offerings

The Crib offerings this year will be sent to support Welfare Charities for children in Wales which help children at risk and in need of physical, emotional and spiritual support.

For those parishioners who will be away next weekend



We wish you all a Happy and Holy Christmas and a Blessed New Year.

Fr Ambrose, Br Brian, Deacon Mark