

Mass Times this Week

Sunday	10.00
Monday	07:30
Tuesday	07:30
Wednesday	09.00
Thursday	07.30
Friday	09.00
Saturday (vigil)	18.00

Homíly Notes

The verse: "Longing for light we wait in darkness" in

Bernadette Farrel's song is an idea that captures well the anticipation of consolation amidst the experiences of darkness. A longing for light can be the longing for justice and for peace that the Messiah offers.

The prophecy of Isaiah in the first reading was made to Israel in a context of exile in Babylon. People were weary with suffering, and they anticipated peace and the return to their homeland. Isaiah prophesized that the time of exile is over, and that God will make a way back home to Jerusalem across the desert. It was to be like a new exodus.

While the Roman emperors held that they had brought peace and justice through violence and coercive power, as Wright points out, the lived experience of the majority under the Roman rule at the time of Jesus was far from an experience of justice and of peace. There were widespread social tensions, experiences of failed kings and leaderships, of lost sovereignty, and of religious persecution. People longed for a religious and political renewal. It is in this context that the good news of Jesus begins with John the Baptist. John is the one to "make a straight highway for our God across the desert." The highway meant here is one that leads to hearts and minds, and one which includes repentance and renewal. It is a highway with a different vision of bringing about justice and peace to people who live in darkness of suffering and death. Through his birth, his words, deeds, and even his death and resurrection, Jesus unveils this new vision which constitutes the good news. It is this vision of Jesus that his followers continually search for and try to live by especially in troubled times. Here we may remember the document entitled *Peace on Earth* by Pope John XXIII which marks 60 years this year.

Our prayers accompany those in intense suffering and who long for the end to pain, estrangement, and violence. *Fr. Charles*

Parish of St. Vincent de Paul

Rewsletter

10th December 2023 2nd Sunday of Advent Year B



stvincent@rcaol.org.uk

FB: Vincent De Paul Church Web: http://www.stvincentsparish.org.uk/

Mass Intentions

Sat 9: Martina Stewart Sun10: Baxter Family. Mon 11: Parishioners Tues 12: Holy souls Wed 13: Kelly Holt (sick) Thur 14: James White Fri 15: Agnes M^cDonald Sat 16: Tommy, Joan, Denise, John Walsh Sun 17: Paul Nicholson RIP

11TH AND 12TH DECEMBER: FINAL NEGOTIATIONS. COP 28

(LAUDATE DEUM, 60) May those

taking part in the Conference be strategists capable of considering the common good and the future of their children, more than the short-term interests of certain countries or businesses. In this way, may they demonstrate the nobility of politics and not its shame. To the powerful, I can only repeat this question: 'What would induce anyone, at this stage, to hold on to power, only to be remembered for their inability to take action when it was urgent and necessary to do so?'''

(LAUDATO DEUM, 54) "If we are confident in the capacity of human beings to transcend their petty interests and to think in bigger terms, we can keep hoping that COP28 will allow for a decisive acceleration of energy transition, with effective commitments subject to ongoing monitoring. This Conference can represent a change of direction, showing that everything done since 1992 was in fact serious and worth the effort, or else it will be a great disappointment and jeopardise whatever good has been achieved thus far."

The Pope dared to communicate his ambitious expectations towards COP28. Hundreds of NGOs, representatives of poor countries suffering from the consequences of the climate catastrophe, and many activists from all around the world did the same. Let us join their hope and accompany these last two days of negotiations with our prayer. Not because of blind optimism, but out of lucid, active, and others-centred hope. I believe that our love and hope will bear fruit, even if the crucifixion of creation will still go on for a while. Conversion is always possible. A prophetic existence is always possible. And shouldn't the role of, us, Christians be to keep open and gently widen the possible, because we live out of faith and out of the belief that in Jesus' resurrection, the impossible once surprisingly became possible? From:

file:///C:/Users/teren/AppData/Local/Microsoft/Windows/INetCache/Content. Outlook/5PHXOVA0/EN-COP28%20Prayer%20Guide.pdf **Mass Schedule of Christmas 2023** December Saturday 23rd 6 p.m. 4th Sunday of Advent Vigil Sunday 24th 10 a.m. 4th Sunday of Advent Mass Sunday 24th 8 p.m. Christmas Vigil Mass Monday 25th 10 a.m. Christmas Dav Mass Tuesday 26th 9 a.m. Mass of St. Stephen, martyr

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Advent is a time to prepare ourselves for the coming of the Christ. We are invited to celebrate our reconciliation with each and with God in the sacrament of reconciliation.

Saturday 23 December

10am ; short time of reflection and prayer 10.15 am Availability of confession. in the church. All are welcome and you leave at your leisure.

Church Heating

The broken pump has been repaired and the heating is on. We hope that it will raise the temperature a few degrees!! Our intention is to run the heating from Saturday morning to Sunday evening. We will also run it for funerals and other events.

You might stay warm by wrapping up and sitting together! 3 heated cushions

are available. 管 🗱 🖑

Lottery Results – 3rd December 02 03 04 08 09 12

🙆 😹 £800.00 WINNER 😹 🥹

PRAYER INTENTIONS

p.m.FOR ALL PARISHIONERSyears Vigil MassSunday 10th December 2pm - 4pm.ChraD a.m.This will take place in the church,They

hopefully heated, and consist of a talk by one of the priests, time for silent prayer, discussion.

Parísh Notíce Board

Sacrament of Reconciliation

by appointment

ADVENT RETREAT

All parishioners are invited to use this time to look forward spiritually to Christmas.

Cardinal Michael is away until the 20th December. He wishes you a fruitful Advent

CAFOD CHRISTMAS FUN RUN Wednesday 27th December Register from 10am onwards with Family and friends at the Mystery, Wavertree

We really do need **EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS**, who can help in the distribution of the Holy Communion in church and also take communion to the sick. Please do consider if this ministry might be for you.

Some of our other needs: singers for the choir, helpers for refreshments after Mass, Mass Servers, catechists to prepare baptisms and marriages, welcomers at the door, cleaners, web site & FB & microphone and slide projector "nerds", Readers, Justice & Peace people: So much to do ...

OFFERINGS 3RD December Envelopes: £ 14.10 Plate: £183.15 Many thanks to you all.



The WWDN Choir is returning this year to give us a *Concert of Christmas songs and carols*. They were great last year; they'll be great again this year. Concert begins at 7pm, doors open 6pm. Entrance is free. Mulled Wine Date: Tuesday 12th December The heating will be on!

The funeral of VINCENT JOSEPH M^CHALE, of Toxteth, who died on 19th November 2023, aged 89 years, will take place in this church on Monday 1th December 10:00am We extend our sympathy to his surviving sister, his children and all his family. May he rest in peace.

Christmas Raffle.

Tickets are on sale. The proceeds go to fund the *Tuesday Café* welcome to our visitors. This cost the parish close on £1,000 this year. *Thank you*.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Please, don't forget the traditional Christmas Flowers Contributions. Thank you.

Volunteers needed to decorate the CRIB and the TREES, Sat. 16th. See Pat Granville

Our Prayers are asked for the following who are sick: Lorraine ALLEN, Stefan ASHTON, Natasha BAKER, Christopher BROWNE, Eleen DOLAN, Daisy Marcia DUNN, Chelsie CAMPBELL, Joe EDIE, Bobby ENWRIGHT, baby Phoebe FENNELL, Baby FRANKIE, Lenny GINLEY, Mary HOWARD, Edie JONES, Maria JUDGE, Maureen MAGUIRE, Jane MANN, May McGARRY, Eddie McKENNA, Elizabeth MORRIS, Peter O'BRIEN, Ava RUDZINSKI, Martina STEWARD, SWEENEY, Jean TAYLOR, Mary TUITE, Pauline WALSH, Joanne WILCOCK, Camila WILD **Also, for the intentions of:** Anne BAXTER, Ryan EDWARDS, Rita & Jimmy FLATLEY, Beverley HARPER, Joan HART, Theresa HASTIE, Ann MOORE, Joan MOORE, Susan MORSELLINO, MURRAY & STEVENSON Family, Skyla REID, Maureen RICE, Teresa SWIFT, Martha TAGUE, Cath WILSON,

Those who have died recently: Vincent J McHale, Paul NICHOLSON, Marie WOOSEY

Parish Bank Account: St Vincent de Paul (059). Sort Code 40-29-12 A/C Number 71544519

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