



Parish of St. Vincent de Paul

Newsletter

17th December 2023
GAUDETE SUNDAY
Year B



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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

Homily Notes

Mary says:

“He has used the power of

his arm, he has routed the arrogant of heart.

He has pulled down princes from their thrones and raised high the lowly.

He has filled the starving with good things, sent the rich away empty.

He has come to the help of Israel his servant, mindful of his faithful love”.

The responsibility of being among the richest 10% of humanity means that we have to take these words seriously. The responsibility of being baptised into Jesus, and the concerns of our faith in Christ, mean that we have a duty also to ensure that the other 90% live in peace, experience justice, learn to manage their lives through education, have access to medical and mental care, eat sufficiently and can pass on their own faith to their children.

Pope Francis reminds us: “With Christ joy is constantly born anew. I wish to encourage the Christian faithful to embark upon a new chapter of evangelization marked by this joy, while pointing out new paths for the Church’s journey in years to come”. Ten years after he wrote these words, we are beginning to realise their implications through the work of the world wide synod and our own synod 2020.

The Christian church is not about maintaining traditions – whether they be of liturgy, or doctrine, or even the buildings we use. The Christian faith is about making the pathways straight, bringing justice to the poor, facing up to the abusers of power and position, exposing the corruption that exploits the weak and the dependent. This is the way of Christ who is our supreme example. We follow his way. We follow his light and with him we bring about the kingdom of God.

Terry

Mass Intentions

Sat 16: Tommy, Joan, Denise, John Walsh

Sun 17: Paul Nicholson RIP

Mon 18: Parishioners

Tues 19:

Wed 20: Lesley Carruthers

Thur 21:

Fri 22: Joan Smith

Sat 23: Deceased Priest &

Parishioners (Flowers)

Sun 24: William Flatley

800 years of the Christmas Crib

This is taken from Redemptorist Publications
<https://www.rpbooks.co.uk/800-years-of-the-christmas-crib>

“As Christmas 1223 approached, St Francis of Assisi remembered his pilgrimage to the Holy Land and knew that most of his contemporaries could never visit Bethlehem or realistically imagine the Nativity. Artists who attempted to paint the scene engaged the mind and heart but couldn’t offer the touch, smell and sounds needed to recreate the birth of Jesus.

Francis knew that the stable was associated with an inn and was possibly one of many hillside caves close to Bethlehem. At the time, he was staying just outside Greccio, a small town sixty miles south of Assisi and surrounded by the beautiful hills and valleys of Umbria. The town is very hot in summer and piercingly, bitterly cold in winter. If he could find a suitable cave for recreating the Nativity, the people of Greccio could experience the similar low temperatures of a Bethlehem winter’s night. Like Joseph and Mary, they would also feel grateful for any shelter they could find and for a small fire which brought warmth and light into the cave’s darkness.

Francis placed an ox and ass beside the manger, a logical step if Jesus was born in a stable: in Italy, as in Palestine, families lived alongside their beasts and depended on their bodily warmth for extra heating when temperatures dropped. There was, therefore, nothing particularly unusual in placing animals around the manger – and so Francis recreated the Nativity in the first-ever Christmas Crib, 800 years ago this Christmas.”

The Missionaries of Africa wish all our parish members who are travelling home or on holiday a very safe journey and a most blessed and happy Christmas. We look forward to seeing you on your return to the parish in the New Year.

Parish Notice Board

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 Day 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 Availability of confession. in the church.

All are welcome and you leave at your leisure.

Sacrament of Reconciliation by appointment

Pope Francis "I continue to follow the conflict in Israel and Palestine with much worry and pain' I renew my call for an immediate humanitarian ceasefire: there is so much suffering there."

"I encourage all parties involved to resume negotiations and call on everyone to make an urgent commitment to get humanitarian aid to the people of Gaza."

CAFOD

CHRISTMAS FUN RUN

Wednesday 27th December

Register from 10am onwards with Family and friends at the Mystery, Wavertree Athletics Centre, Liverpool L15 4LE

We really do need **EUCCHARISTIC 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 10th December

Envelopes: £ 28.00

Plate: £190.94

Many thanks to you all.

FACILITATION TRAINING

The Pastoral Development Team at the Archdiocesan Centre are now offering training for people in our parishes who lead groups.

Whether they are for praying, liturgy, or volunteering this 2-hour workshop will provide an opportunity to come together to discuss the format of your group and share new ideas to support the facilitation of your group.

interested, please contact
e.parsons@rcaol.org.uk

Care for our Common Home: Christmas Gifts

If you're still looking for Christmas gift ideas, CAFOD and Oxfam (Bold Street) have many great world gifts which you can buy for friends and family: these start at £5 and all will go to help our brothers and sisters in less wealthy countries.

Christmas at St. Anne's Overbury Str.

Saturday 5.30 p.m. Mass

Sunday 10.30 a.m. Mass

6.00 p.m. First Mass for Christmas

Monday Christmas Day

10.30 a.m. Mass

Christmas at the Catholic Cathedral

Sun. 24th

3pm First Vespers of Christmas and Blessing of the Crib

6pm Christmas Vigil Mass

11.30pm Midnight Mass Radio 4

Mon 25th Christmas Day 9am Mass

Lottery Results – 10th December

01 02 04 06 07 08

PRAYER INTENTIONS

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 TUIE, 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: Marie WOOSEY

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