



Parish of St. Vincent de Paul

# Newsletter

4<sup>th</sup> December 2022

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent

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## Mass Intentions

Sat 3: Shelly & Sheila Glanville  
 Sun 4: Billy & Celia Flatley  
 Mon 5: Mary MacInnes  
 Tue 6: Camila Marques de Souza  
 Wed 7: Mary Thompson  
 Thur 8: Billy Baxter  
 Fri 9: Pauline O'Connor  
 Sat 10: Joe Eddie  
 Sun 11: Syd Bowles

## Pope to Visit RDC and S. Sudan

I write this on the Feast of St.

Francis Xavier, that indefatigable Jesuit missionary of the 16<sup>th</sup> century, who died on Shangchuan Island, off the coast of China, at the age of 46; worn out by his missionary efforts in that area of Asia. His final and lasting ambition was to bring the Good News to China.

Pope Francis is almost twice the age of Xavier, and he, too, is proving to be an indefatigable missionary. In the summer of this year, he had to call off a missionary journey to the Democratic Republic of Congo (RDC) and South Sudan, due to his poor health, crippled by arthritis and a bad back which make walking and travelling the most painful and tiring of activities. Yet, yesterday, Friday, he announced that he is to visit, as promised, those two most unstable of Africa's countries, whose people are torn apart by violence and incursions of terrorists, financed, for the most part, by greedy Western companies and criminals, who want to rob them of their precious natural resources.

Like Jesus in Saturday's Gospel story, Pope Francis wants to share God's love and compassion with the poorest of the poor and with the most vulnerable and exploited. He, along with Archbishop Welby, with whom he will visit S. Sudan, wants to bring peace and reconciliation to this people torn apart by strife. We owe him our prayer and our support.

Terry



## Regular Mass Times

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

## Homily Notes

On this second Sunday of Advent, the scriptures reveal something about Jesus's role when He comes. The first reading from Isaiah 11:1-10, tells us that Jesus will bring peace not only to human beings but also to the animal world. The wolves, lambs, panthers, calves, lions, cobras, and vipers shall experience peace. The concerns of the COP27 that has just been concluded in Egypt remind us that the animals and the wild creatures also need our spiritual attention. Some Christians who call for change of behaviour (repentance) in regard to how we relate to ecology find insights from Pope Francis in his letter *Laudato si*. What the Pope says in *Laudato si* can support the claim that Jesus came to redeem human beings and the rest of creation. There are interesting sections on this in *Laudato si* such as *The message of each creature in the harmony of creation* (pg. 61 -65), and *Sacramental sign and the celebration of rest* (pg. 168- 171).

In the Gospel (Mathew 3:1-12) John the Baptist, appears in a symbolic space, the wilderness, and his prophetic life and actions draw people from Jerusalem, Judea, and from the Jordan district to him for repentance. About Jesus' role, John assumes that Jesus will be a fierce judge who will separate the good from the bad, and who will burn the bad people in a fire that will never go out. In this regard, Jesus' actions did not correspond with John's message. Jesus was merciful towards the sinners, and he revealed to us a God who is merciful and loving. Repentance is about God who is seeking us with love and our response is meant to be one of love and not a response out of the fear of eternal fire.

Charles

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December**  
**Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception**  
 Eucharist at 6pm  
 During the Eucharist, **Silvesta Daison**, the student missionary with the Missionaries of Africa, your priests, will renew his **DECLARATION OF INTENT TO CONTINUE THE LIFE OF A MISSIONARY**.  
 This will be received by the Provincial Delegate of GB, Fr. Hugh Seenan, on behalf of the Superior General.  
 Please support Silvesta by your prayer. 🙏

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**  
 With availability of the Sacrament of Reconciliation  
**Friday 11.00am to Noon**

**Christmas Flowers and Christmas Tree**  
 Please help us decorate the church for Christmas.  
 Donations in the Flower Box, please.

**SVP Justice and Peace Group Meeting**  
 Monday 6pm 5<sup>th</sup> December in the church  
 All are welcome to join us.

**Financial Council Meeting**  
 Mon. 5<sup>th</sup> December at 6.30pm

😊 **Sarah Benjamin** 😊  
 Thanks all the Parishioners for their cards and well wishes on the occasion of her 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

🎉 **Congratulations** 🎉  
 to **Cardinal Michael**, who has been rewarded the distinction of the **OBE** for services to Inter-religious dialogue.  
 He will be invested on **Wednesday 7th December in Windsor Castle**.  
 Let us pray in thanksgiving for all Michael has achieved for the **Kingdom of God**. 🙏

**Come Lord, come again**  
 Come Lord, your wounded world is yearning for you to come again.  
 Come Lord, your weary world is crying out for you to lift us up out of our despair, our hunger, our thirst for something better, our need for the food that will last.  
 Come Lord, come again, we need to begin again.

**ON-LINE ADVENT**  
 There are many aids on line to help us live a more reflective and meaningful ADVENT and keep our minds focused on the Christmas event.  
 The Archdiocese Pastoral Development Office offers you some reflections here:  
<https://togetherforthecommongood.co.uk/resources/synod-podcast-series>  
 Others can be found here, thanks to the Independent Catholic News:  
<https://www.indcatholicnews.com/news/45993>

*Sue Allerton/CAFOD*  
**CAFOD WORLD GIFTS**  
  
 Please don't forget that you can give gifts at Christmas that also support CAFOD's projects with people who need a "hand" to start. Take a look at their "World Gifts in Action" on their Web Site.

**ADVENT REFLECTIONS**  
**Sr Siobhan** offers on her website, [www.sistersiobhan.org](http://www.sistersiobhan.org), reflections for Advent.  
 Why not take a look?

**ADVENT EVENTS AT St VINCENT'S**

8 Dec; Feast of the Immaculate Conception and Silvesta's Missionary Promise, in church at 6pm	16 Dec: BINGO, in School Hall at 7pm
15 Dec: Carol Concert by WWDN choir 7.30pm	20 Dec: Service of Reconciliation in church at 6.30pm
16 Dec: Nativity Play with SVP Primary School, in church, 2pm	24 Dec, Saturday: Christmas Vigil Mass, 8pm
	25 Dec: Christmas Day Mass 10am

**GOSPEL POWER**  
 The Pauline Sisters offer a book of **Gospel Reflections** for the liturgical year A, 2023. Available at the church door for £6.00

**OFFERINGS 27<sup>th</sup> November**  
 Envelopes: £ 18.00  
 Plate: £ 165.50  
 😊 Thank you. 😊

**Lottery Results**  
 27<sup>th</sup> November  
**04 05 06 09 10 12**

**Christmas Cards, and other new cards, are now available at the back of the church, at a good price. Don't miss out!!**

**PRAYER INTENTIONS**  
**Our Prayers are asked for the following who are sick:** Lorraine ALLEN, Natasha BAKER, Kitty BAXTER, Baby Bobby ENWRIGHT, John BRAGGER, Christopher BROWNE, Emma DOLAN, Baby Daisy Marcia DUNN, June DUNNE, Joe EDIE, Jean ENNIS, Baby FRANKIE, Irene GREEN, Mary HOWARD, Raymond JOYCE, Kai, Jane MANN, Helen MARTLEY, Eddie McKENNA, Mary MELODY, Sarah MORGAN, Margaret MUCHMORE, Cathy MURRAY, Ava RUDZINSKI, Eileen SALTERS, Jean TAYLOR, Camila WILD.,  
**Also, for the intentions of:** Kathy BANKS, Anne BAXTER, Ryan EDWARDS, Rita & Jimmy FLATLEY, GERMAINE, Beverley HARPER, Joan HART, Helen HARTLEY, Theresa HASTIE, Frances KERWIN, Ian McNICHOLAS, Ann MOORE, Susan MORSELLINO, Maureen RICE, Sarah Jane, Teresa SWIFT, David THOMAS, Cath WILSON, A Family trying to conceive.  
**And for those who have died:** Mary THOMPSON, Mary HUGHES,