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**Newsletter for the week commencing 17th December 2023**

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B)**

**Entrance antiphon: Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.**

**First Reading: Isaiah 61; 1-2; 10-11**

**Psalm Lk 1 Response: My soul rejoices in my God.**

**Second Reading:  The first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians 5: 16-24**

**Acclamation:  Alleluia, alleluia! The spirit of the lord has been given to me.  He has sent me to bring good news to the poor.   Alleluia!**

**Gospel:  John 1: 6-8; 19-28**

**Communion antiphon:  Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear. Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.**

**Father Behr writes:**

Dear Parishioners

**Mass Times for Christmas**

Christmas Eve Vigil Mass at 6pm

Christmas Eve Mass at Night 9pm followed by parish celebration in the parish centre.

Christmas Day 10am

Christmas Day Latin Mass 12pm

**Tuesday 19 December**

O Come Emmanuel an Advent Holy Hour of Adoration from 7.30pm

A Holy Hour of Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with hymns and readings.

A great way to prepare for the feast of Christmas. There will be an opportunity for Confession.

**Extra Times for Confession**

Tuesday 19 December during the Holy Hour

Friday 22 December during the Rosary at Adoration.

Saturday 23 December from 10.30am - 11am

Saturday 23 December from 5pm-5.45pm

**Thank you for all your kind gifts and cards. I would like to wish you a very happy and blessed Christmas.**

**Fr Behr**

**Your Prayers are asked for:**

**Those recently deceased:**

**Those ill or infirm:** Peter Crinnion, Mara McDermot, June Munton, Ailish Cantwell (Jones), Sylwia Dorosz, Joe Adams, Ellie Lawrence, Patricia Hook, Josie Payne, Pat Holland and all those who are unwell and in need of our prayers.

**Those whose anniversaries of death occur at this time:**Anthony Michal Whatley, Alan James Dorey, Margaret Mary Urquhart, Alex Karras, Norah Wrigley, Joan Gray, Mary Hounsell, Joanna Powell, Edward Albert Turner, Mary Stevenson, Rosina Cordell, Richard Diedo, Liz Goodwin, Trevor Arthur Leney, Terry Schouten, Freda Budd, Bill Norman-Taylor, Whilhelmina Johanna Franklin, Jane McKinnon and Mary Elizabeth Phillips

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| **This season’s services (17th – 31st December), Feasts and Mass intentions during the week.** | |
| **Saturday 16th December**  Feria | No public Mass am                                                                                                                                              10.30 -11am Confession                                                                                                                                       6pm Vigil Mass*People of the Parish***Reader: James** |
| **Sunday 17th December**  **THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B)** | 10am Mass *Roy Sturdy RIP* **Reader: Rachel**12 Midday Traditional Latin Mass |
| **Monday 18th December**  Feria | 10am Mass *In Reparation* |
| **Tuesday 19th December**  Feria | 10am Mass  *Donor’s  Intention* |
| **Wednesday 20th December**  Feria | 10am Mass  *Paul Lefebvre RIP* |
| **Thursday 21st December**  Feria | 9am-10am Adoration  10am Mass *Holy Mass for Priests* |
| **Friday 22nd December**  Feria | 10am Mass *Daniel and Family*  10.30 – 11.30am Adoration |
| **Saturday 23rd December**  Feria | No public Mass am.  10.30 -11am Confession  6pm Vigil Mass*People of the Parish***Reader: Peter** |
| **Sunday 24th December**  **FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B)**  **- - - - - - - - - - - - - - -**  **THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD** | 10am Mass *Private Intention* **Reader: Rachel**  12 Midday Traditional Latin Mass    **6pm Vigil Mass of Christmas***Maureen McGarry RIP***Reader: Wendy**  **9pm Christmas: Midnight Mass***Oliver & Graham Prince RIP***Reader: Kathy** |
| **Monday 25th December**  **THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD** | **10am Christmas Day Mass***People of the Parish***Reader: Pat**  12 Midday Traditional Latin Mass |
| **Tuesday 26th December**  St Stephen Deacon, the first Martyr. | **No Mass** |
| **Wednesday 27th December**  St John, Apostle and Evangelist | 10am Service of the Word and Holy Communion |
| **Thursday 28th December**  The Holy Innocents, Martyrs | **No Mass** |
| **Friday 29th December**  St Thomas of Canterbury, Bishop & Martyr | **10am Mass***Holy Souls (Margaret)* |
| **Saturday 30th December**  **Sixth day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord** | No public Mass am                                                                                                                                              10.30 -11am Confession                                                                                                                                       6pm Vigil Mass*People of the Parish***Reader: James** |
| **Sunday 31st December**  **THE HOLY FAMILY of JESUS, MARY and JOSEPH** | 10am Mass *Elizabeth & John Spencer RIP* **Reader: Frances**  12 Midday Traditional Latin Mass  4pm – Vespers with Churches Together in Saint Andrew’s |
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**Confession**

Fr Behr is available for Confession every Saturday from 10.30am - 11am. He is also happy to visit those who are not able to come to church.

**Children’s Liturgy**Children’s Liturgy at the 10am Mass on the first Sunday of every month. All children who have not made their First Holy Communion are welcome to attend.  The next lesson with Lorraine ison Sunday, January 7th, 2024.

**CAFOD Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal**

Donate to CAFOD’s Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal at [cafod.org.uk/ipc](https://cafod.org.uk/news/emergencies-news/israeli-palestinian-crisis-how-you-can-help) or call 0303 303 3030 to support those affected and get funds to local trusted experts in Gaza and southern Israel who have been working alongside communities helping those most in need.  Your donation will help support aid workers providing urgent humanitarian aid including food, water and emergency shelter to those in need. Thank you for your prayers.”

**Homes for Ukraine**

 A message from CARITAS SOCIAL ACTION NETWORK (CSAN). In partnership with St John of God Hospitaller Services, CSAN, an international Catholic charity with many services for the vulnerable in the UK and Ireland, are matching Ukrainian people displaced by the brutal war with people in the Catholic community willing to host them in their homes for six months. If you have room in your home and in your heart to consider welcoming a stranger displaced by war, then we’d love to hear from you. Visit <https://sjog-homesforukraine.uk/>.

**Christmas Collection**

As Christmas is on a Monday this year only the money donated at the Christmas Vigil at 6pm the First Mass of Christmas at 9pm and the Christmas morning Mass at 10am will be counted as your gift to your parish priest unless you use the Christmas envelopes.

Collection for Christmas Flowers

**This weekend** there will be a retiring collection for flowers for Christmas on Saturday and Sunday. We all appreciate the hard work and skill that goes into making our church beautiful for Our Lord.

**A request from Frances**: if you are able to do a vase arrangement for a windowsill, she would be very grateful.                                      Please let Frances know (01233 732657) beforehand if you can help.

Thank you to everyone who supported the Mistletoe Sale for CAFOD last weekend.                                                                           Thanks to your generosity we raised £82.84!

**Racial Justice Sunday 2024**.

Please **“Save this Date”, Sunday 28 January 2024.**It is the date; **Archbishop John Wilson will celebrate a Mass at St Georges Cathedral; Time 10.00am** followed by a light refreshment at the upper deck of the Amigo Hall.

**All Parishes, Schools, Chaplaincies, Institutions in the Archdiocese are kindly invited to be part of this colourful celebration** led by Archbishop John as he invites everyone to prayers and actions that will harness the richness in our diversities and route out any form of exclusion in our communities and the wider society.

**Christmas readers**

Saturday, 23rd December 6pm - Peter

Sunday 24th December   10am Fourth Sunday of Advent - Rachel

Sunday 24th December  6pm Vigil Mass of Christmas - Wendy

Sunday 24th December 9pm Midnight Mass - Kathy

Monday 25th December Christmas Day 10am - Pat