



St. Alban's Parish Newsletter
 Cameron Street, Splott, Cardiff, CF24 2NX Tel. 029 20463219
Fr. Philip Scanlan , Fr. Michael McCarthy

A Parish of the Archdiocese of Cardiff. A Registered Charity (No. 242380)
 Served by Rosminians

Safeguarding Representative: Maggie Suller Tel. 07899748377



9th December to 17th December

2nd Week of Advent

MASS INTENTIONS

What's on this Week

Sat. 9th December 11.30 to 12.30pm 12.00 to 12.30pm 6.00pm Mass	St Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin Advent Penitential Service Confessions Michael & Theresa Collins
Sun. 10th December 10.00am Mass 3.00pm	2nd Sunday of Advent Rodrigues Family Intention LOM Benediction
Mon. 11th December 6.00pm – 7.00pm 1.00pm Requiem Mass 7.00pm Mass	St. Damasus I, Pope Adoration in St. Joseph's Chapel David Bateman Philip Rajanayagam
Tues. 12th December 9.30am Mass	Our Lady of Guadalupe Tony Maunder
Wed. 13th December 11.00am Funeral Service 7.00pm Mass	St. Lucy, Virgin & Martyr Eunice Savoury Angela Thomas
Thurs. 14th December 9.30am Mass	St. John of the Cross, Priest & Doctor of the Church Colin Grislock
Friday 15th December 8.30 am to 9.30am 9.30 am Mass	2nd Week of Advent Adoration in St. Joseph's Chapel Michael Browne
Sat. 16th December 12.00pm to 12.30pm 6.00pm Mass	2nd Week of Advent Confessions Maggie & Chistine Keane
Sun. 17th December 10.00am Mass	3rd Sunday of Advent, Gaudete Sunday Page Family Intention

WHAT	WHEN	WHERE
Parish Quiz Night	Saturday after Mass	In the Hall
Legion of Mary Benediction	Sunday 3.00pm	In the Church
Legion of Mary	Monday 7.30pm	In the Presbytery
Union of Catholic Mothers	Monday 7.30pm	In the Presbytery
Divine Mercy Group	Tuesday 7.00pm	In the Presbytery
Our Faith, Step by Step	After Mass Wednesday	In the Chapel
Parish Social & Christmas Draw	Sat. 16 th December After Mass	In the Hall

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Last Friday we celebrated the solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of Our Lady. As Christmas draws nearer, it is worth pondering on the real meaning and consequences of this mystery.

The Creation narrative at the beginning of Genesis tells us that all of God's Creation was good and that human beings were the summit of that creation because they enjoyed an extra gift of free-will which enabled them to relate to the Creator in intimate love and obedience. That relationship was expressed by the words "God walked with Adam in the cool of the evening". Then came disaster when, in some way, man used that gift of freewill to rebel and to reject God's total dominion over everything of the man's life and existence. Adam and Eve were ejected from the garden, which meant that the intimate and unique relationship had come to an end and they could never restore it. Then came the promise – that at some time in the future someone would come, the only one who could make it possible once again for human beings to enjoy the relationship of the Garden, and even more. That One who would come was to be the child of a woman. Throughout its history the people of Israel had waited for the coming of that child and the divine gift which He would bring. Then a young Jewish woman was made to understand that she was to be the long-awaited mother of the Messiah. To accept and embrace the awesome privilege and responsibility of this vocation, Mary had to be in a relationship with God way above all others. She had to be free from the sin of Eden, she had to be immaculate. Thus could she respond: 'Be it done unto me according to your will.'

Our Sick Ethan Chichester, Lesley Barnett, Bernard Toft, Maria Jones, Colin Kingston, Gareth & Ethan Woodberry, Christian Babu, Val Kenealy, Pat Xuereb, David Burns, Jacob Meighan, Julie Cale, Henry Burns, Tina, Tracey & Chloe Price, Anna Sueref, Pat Kiiver, John Cowhey, Jack O'Leary, Mike McCauliffe, Sheila Downey, Daniel Young, Shelagh O'Donoghue, Barbara Murphy, David Jones, Paul Burns, Barbara Hurley, Patrick O'Rourke, Audrey Bodenham.

Anniversaries Ethel McDonald, Peter Kenefick, Pauline Walsh, Mary Hounsell, Michael Browne, Christine O'Sullivan, Honora Gooding, William Morgan, Joseph Galea, Christopher Long, Mary Williams, John Wilson, Patrick O'Donovan, Margaret Keane, John Fitzgerald, Mary Finn, Stephen Goulding, Jean Ellery, Mary Chichester, James Sullivan.

Church Offerings 2nd & 3rd December

Offertory Collection - £672.46
 Of which £316.50 was Gift Aided

This **Sunday, 10th December** the Legion of Mary will hold their December Function. There will be Benediction at 3.00pm, followed by refreshments in the hall. All are welcome to join us.

The retiring collections this weekend is for the Sick and retired Priests of the Archdiocese. This Fund is vital to provide the health care and housing of many of the Priests who are retired or unable to carry on the daily work of running our Parishes. This need is a continual draw on the financial resources of the Archdiocese as it involves the costly provision of medical care and also sometimes alternative accommodation for retired Priests. Please help!

Lately dead

Please remember in your prayers;

David Bateman, Eunice Savoury and Sarah Frampton, who have died recently

David's Requiem Mass is on Monday December 11th at 1pm.

Eunice's Funeral Service is on Wednesday 13th December at 11pm.

Parish Christmas Social

On Saturday 16th December there will be the Christmas Prize Draw and Race Night. Also, for those who wish, we will be ordering food from the chip shop. If you want food Please see Tina to place your order. All Welcome!

Parish Christmas Raffle Tickets are on sale after the weekend Masses. Prize donations can be left in the Sacristy or the Presbytery.

On **December 15th** at St. Mary's, Canton, a concert by the **Welsh Camerata Singers** of Advent Latin liturgical music will start at 8.00pm, and tickets at the door cost £12.

ADVENT ITEMS

Some little ways in which we can make Advent a real preparation for the awesome mystery of Christmas:

1. Send only Christmas cards which show the real meaning of Christmas;
2. Set up a small crib at home, especially where there are young children;
3. Establish the habit of daily prayers at the crib by and for the children;
4. Use the 'Come back to Me' cards which will be available in the Parish to send to those neighbours or relatives who have not been to church for some time and invite them to come (possibly with you) to one of the Christmas Masses.
5. Ask yourself what kind of present can you give to Jesus on His birthday.

Retiring Collections this weekend

Gift Aid envelopes will be available at the back of the Church for these collections after both Masses to support the sick and retired Priests in our Diocese.

200Club Prize Winners, November Draw

1 st	No.	114	S. Kingston	£50.00
2 nd	No.	181	Julia Upcott	£25.00
3 rd	No.	162	Phyllis Clarke	£15.00

A Catholic family and a Protestant family went on holiday together to the South of France. As the beach was secluded and the weather warm, they allowed the Catholic boy and Protestant girl to go swimming without any costumes. When they came out of the water the little boy was beaming and said: "we've had a lovely time, and now we know the difference between Catholics and Protestants."

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"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, either alone or with us (!) to the advent Penitential celebration of Confession on December 9th from 11.30 to 12.30pm or to one of the Advent Masses, but especially at Christmas when Masses will be:

Saturday December 23rd at 6.00pm

Sunday December 24th at 10.00am and 6.00pm (the first Mass of Christmas Day)

Monday December 25th at 10.00am

Tuesday December 26th at 10.00am

Invitation cards to send are available at the back of the church.

Contact Details

St. Peter's Catholic Church 029 20483394
(stpeterscardiff@gmail.com)

St. Joseph's Catholic Church 029 20411819
(saintjosephs@ntlworld.com)

St. Alban's Catholic Church 02920463219
(newsalbans@gmail.com)

St. Alban's Primary School

Mona Place, Tremorfa

Cardiff CF24 2TG

Tel. 029 20462915

(stalbansprm@cardiff.gov.uk)

Corpus Christi High School

Pontprennau

Tel 029 20751893

St. Illtyd's Catholic High School

Newport Road, Rumney

Cardiff CF3 1XQ

Tel. 029 20778174

St. David's Catholic Sixth Form College

Ty Gwyn Road, Penylan

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