



St. Alban's Parish Newsletter
 Cameron Street, Splott, Cardiff, CF24 2NX Tel. 029 20463219
Fr. Philip Scanlan , **Fr. Michael McCarthy**
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A Parish of the Archdiocese of Cardiff. A Registered Charity (No. 242380)
 Served by Rosminians

Safeguarding Representative: Maggie Suller Tel. 07899748377



22nd December to 30th December

Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudate Sunday)

MASS INTENTIONS

| | |
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| Sat. 22nd December 12.00pm to 12.30pm 6.00pm Mass | 3rd Week of Advent Confessions Maggie and Christie Keane |
| Sun. 23rd December 10.00am Mass | Fourth Sunday of Advent David Symons |
| Mon. 24th December 8.30am to 9.30am 9.30am Mass 5.30pm-6.00pm 6.00pm Mass | The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ – Christmas Vigil Adoration, in St. Joseph's Chapel For all Parishioners Carols Harlow, Meighan and Bury Families also Catherine Britton |
| Tues. 25th December 10.00am Mass | The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ For All Parishioners |
| Wed. 26th December 10.00am Mass | St. Stephen, The First Martyr Pauline Hawkins |
| Thurs. 27th December 10.00am Mass | St. John, Apostle and Evangelist Guiseppe Bencasa |
| Friday 28th December 8.30am to 9.30am 9.30am Mass | The Holy Innocents, Martyrs Adoration in St. Joseph's Chapel GE Peter and Chris Searle |
| Sat. 29th December 12.00pm to 12.30pm 6.00pm Mass | Fifth Day within the Octave of Christmas Confessions Jean and Peter Webb |
| Sun. 30th December 10.00am Mass | The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph Kitty Flynn and family |

What's on this Week

| WHAT | WHEN | WHERE |
|--------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Legion of Mary | Monday, 7.30pm | In the Presbytery |
| Divine Mercy Group | Tuesday 12.15pm | In the Presbytery |
| | | |

DID IT REALLY HAPPEN?

This is a question which we must all ask ourselves. If we don't ask this question, there is a real possibility that our Christmas and it's external festivities will be simply the recall of a story which might or might not be true. Did it really happen as we are told that, on a night some 2000 years ago, a child was born in a small town called Bethlehem and whose birth was surrounded by some strange signs and events which were remembered some thirty years later when those who witnessed these events began to hear rumours that a man born at about that time was now doing and saying extraordinary things – healing the sick, raising the dead, forgiving sin and promising a place in the mysterious Kingdom which He would rule and by which he would change the lives of individuals but also transform the whole world. But is it true? If it is true, then it becomes the most momentous event in the whole of human history and we have been given the privilege of a glimpse into its mysterious meaning and power.

Anniversaries

John Cook, James Brooks, James Britton, Mary Eccles, Margaret Riordan, Michael Brown, William Stallard, William Legge, Sandra Walentin, Joan Conway, Catherine James, Pauline Collier, Sheila Heath, Charles Brice, Margaret Thomas, Francis Thomas, Gerald Goodall, Mary Gee, George Houlston, Christopher Brown, Catherine Whelan, Alice Edwards.

Our Sick

Ethan Chichester, Christian Babu, Pat Xuereb, Colin, Shirley & Michael Kingston, Audrey Bodenham, Paul O'Brien, Gareth and Ethan Woodberry, Don & Dorothy James, Barbara Hurley, Michael McCauliffe, Beatrice Rajanayagam, Elle Fine, Jack O'Leary, Iris Murphy, Dennis Caine, Elizabeth Sitole.
 To add to this Sick List please leave names in the Sacristy, or at back of Church.

Christmas is a time to give **THANKS to God** for the gift of our Faith, but also to **THANK** those wonderful people of this parish who give so much time and effort to support the life of our Community, especially at this time of year. We recall the Quiz Night, the Mass for the Beareaved, the trip to Worcester, the wonderful carols evening by the St. Alban's Band and the children of our Primary School and the singers of the Tenovus Cancer Care group. We don't forget the Advent Mass and their Carol concert celebrated by the children. All of these events require a great commitment of time and skill by so many people and we must remember that when we hold an evening of thanks for ALL our volunteers in late January. No names given, but God knows who they are and how they give so much to Him in the life of the Church.

Advance notice for the new year:

It has been suggested that early in January we should begin a weekly provision of an RCIA course, which is for anyone who might be thinking of becoming a Catholic, or is just curious, or who might only want to deepen their own awareness of the Catholic life and Faith. If you know of anyone who might be interested in such a weekly informal get-together (but with no commitment to become a Catholic) keep an eye open in the newsletter for details of dates, time and place when we shall start the meetings, probably in the second week of January.

Church Offerings 15th and 16th December

Offertory Collection:- £693.60
 Of which:- £249.35 was Gift Aided

CHRISTMAS WITNESS

Can we bear Witness by only sending cards which show the Religious meaning of Christmas AND ask at the Post Office for Christmas stamps.

Fr. Philip and **Fr. Michael** wish to extend to **ALL** Parishioners our heartfelt greetings and best wishes that your Christmas may be truly blessed with peace and unity and that the New Year will likewise be blessed with happiness and good health. We look forward also to seeing you and yours as we celebrate in the Church the coming of God made Man.

ADVENT PRAYERS A book of Advent prayers and reflections is available to buy (cost £1.00) at the shop in the church porch and is highly recommended by the Welsh Bishops.

PRISON VISITORS

Anyone who might be interested in finding out about this small group of Parishioners who attend the Prison Mass every Friday, please have a word with Fr. Philip. We need some more to make up this group which attends the 3pm Mass and then chats with the 'residents', getting to know them and give whatever encouragement they can. This is a very good sign of the Church's care for all God's children, wherever they are or whoever they are.

Please remember to check the times of Masses over Christmas and the New Year.

MASS TIMES at CHRISTMAS & THE NEW YEAR

Monday Dec. 24th The First Mass of Christmas at 6pm
Tuesday Dec 25th Christmas Day, Mass at 10.00am
Wednesday. Dec 26th Boxing Day, Mass at 10.00am.
Monday Dec. 31st, New Years Eve. Mass at 7.00pm
Tuesday January 1st, New Years Day, Mass at 10.00am
Wednesday Jan. 2nd, Mass at 7.00pm

Family Prayer Group

The Family Prayer Group will **NOT** meet next Monday Their meetings will restart in the New Year.

Collections over the Christmas period

Saturday 22nd and Sunday 23rd December – Normal collections

Monday 24th and Tuesday 25th December – The collection on these days will be your Christmas offerings to the Clergy (Institute of Charity – Rosminian Order)

If you are a tax payer and would like to Gift-Aid your offering, please take one of the white Institute of Charity envelopes. Complete the details and sign the envelope declaration and put it in the collection box.

Parishioners who are in the St. Alban's Gift-Aid Scheme have been given a white Institute of Charity envelope in their envelope pack.

If you pay into the Scheme by standing order, please use one of the white envelopes for your offerings.

Cheques should be made payable to:
"St. Alban's Parish – Cardiff"

A.P.F. RED MISSIO BOXES

The red 'Missio' Boxes are now due to be emptied, so could all those who have a box please leave them in the Presbytery. The empty boxes can be collected from the Church Shop the following Saturday/Sunday. Many thanks to those who have taken a box. Anyone who needs a box collected please ring Peter on 20216481. Please make sure that your address is on the form on the bottom of the box.

Recently Dead

Gerald Verallo, Requiem on Wednesday Jan. 3rd at 12.45pm

Also **Fr. John Owen**, Archdiocesan Priest, **Helen Vickery** and **Anthony Millar**, details to follow
May they rest in peace.

200 Club Winners – November 2018 Draw

| | | | |
|-----------------|---------|-----------------|-----|
| 1st. | No 171 | Pat Xuereb | £50 |
| 2 nd | No. 7 | Collin Kingston | £25 |
| 3 rd | No. 188 | Verna Jeffries | £15 |

Poinsetta flowers can be brought into the Sacristy this Saturday and Sunday .

PILGRIMAGE TO GARABANDAL has been arranged for next year, May 5th -9th. Cost is £449.00 and a deposit of £150 is required to start. For details and for booking please ring Philip Illsley on 01443 203 305.

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
(stalbandsprm@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
Cardiff CF23 5QD
Tel. 029 20498555

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