

**ADVENT FRIDAY MORNINGS
EXPOSITION & BENEDICTION**

This Friday (13th) There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction after the 10 am Mass. Please take the opportunity to pray before the Blessed Sacrament and reflect upon Matthew's Gospel.

**NEXT PARISH MEETING IN HALL
ON SUNDAY 12TH. JANUARY
AFTER THE MASS. WHY NOT JOIN
IN WITH THE
ORGANISATION OF YOUR PARISH?**

**Joint Christmas Fair with
School & Church this**

**Friday 13th. December in
school at 3.15 pm**

**The parish is running the
Bottle Tombola so we will
need donations of bottles
and help setting up and
running it on the day.**

**MASS ATTENDANCE IN THE MONTH
OF NOVEMBER 2019**

2/3	83	9/10	103
16/17	104	23/24	210

**ADVANCE NOTICE
"SPECIAL"CHURCH CLEANING
FOR CHRISTMAS**

**Wednesday 18th December after
mass**

EXTRA PAIRS OF HANDS REQUIRED

"Many hands make light work"

ALSO

**Donations for Christmas flowers
will be gratefully received.**

MARRIAGE MATTERS

(www.twoononeflesh.org.uk) Second Sunday of Advent (Isaiah 11:1-10 Romans 15:4-9 Matthew 3:1-12) Advent – a new beginning for us?

Today, Isaiah talks about trust and Matthew focuses on forgiveness. Advent is the opportunity to discover new ways to help our partner to trust us and to share themselves. Our prayer can be that we drop our defences, become more vulnerable and have the courage to open ourselves to be able to really listen, to share and to change.



COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICES

Wednesday 18th. December at Our Lady of the Angels 7 pm

Thursday 19th December at St. Maries Rugby 7 pm

**The total collections for the four weeks
of November.**

Total Collection £1281.08



OFFICIAL PRAYER FOR THE YEAR

**Living God, you walk alongside us and
speak to us through Scripture.**

**Your Son, Jesus Christ, listens to our
hopes and fears and shows us how to
live for one another.**

**Send us the Holy Spirit to open our
hearts and minds so that we may be
your witnesses throughout the world.
AMEN.**

**Our Lady of the Annunciation pray for us
St. Matthew pray for us
St. Jerome pray for us.**

*"Everyone should carry a small Bible or
pocket edition of the Gospels and should
find at least a few minutes every day to
read the word of God." (Pope Francis, 2014)*

There are several copies of Matthews Gospel (From Advent we are in Year A and this is the year of Matthew's Gospel). Please take a free copy of the Gospel but carry it with you and find a few minutes each day and encounter the joy of the Gospel for yourself.

**MEN'S BREAKFAST ON MONDAY
A.M. & LADIES AFTERNOON TEA
ON MONDAY P.M.**



**Prayer for the
Sick & Housebound**

May the Communion we share today with the members of our parish family who are at home or in hospital, remind us to live for one another and give them a sense of belonging to our family and to this celebration.

The sick... please pray for the sick and housebound in particular Sandra, Grace, Val and John who all need our prayers at this time.

Love

John the Baptist appeared; he proclaimed this message 'Repent, for the kingdom of Heaven is close at hand.' (Matthew 3: 1-2.)

Merciful God,

**You sent John the Baptist to preach
repentance.**

**Forgive us for the times when we have done
wrong.**

**When we have hurt other people and
damaged our earth.**

**Lead us to make a change, to live differently,
preparing a way and making your paths
straight. Amen.**

**Song as we light Advent Wreath candles
(Tune—Away in a Manger)**

**A candle is burning, a flame warm and bright;
A candle of hope in the darkness of night;
We pray that the lamb with the lion shall lie;
Prepare ye the way, for God's justice.**

Reflection

The Adventurous Messenger

Before the motorways a journey took ages with twists and turns, corners and hills. Now much has been made straight.

John's message was about making straight paths in the heart and in our lives, that we could live where words and actions match; where kindness matches convictions.

The Messenger

John was an adventurer, look how he lived. John the Baptist was a man on one mission - to be the messenger of the one he did not know. His life had a vision and a purpose like when we are really committed to people or to causes or to the poor or peace in the world. John was the man of the desert food and desert dress; he took time out to find what was the biggest thing in life, and then kept following it, often not knowing where it would go.

The human heart is complicated and we know that. We need that one who will invade our hearts with love, with forgiveness and guide us himself in ways that are straight and whose hand will guide us when we need it. God's guiding is gentle. John found that Jesus was a gentler guide, no name-calling, no bringing the axe to the tree. But calling each of us his friend, and nourishing the tree rather than cutting it down.



Jesus would melt the snow to make a path, not hack at it and destroy it in the process. Melted snow means the snow is gone, hacked snow never goes fully! Our hearts can be melted by the love of God and love of others.

Lord God, make our hearts like yours.



THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (Yr A)

VIGIL MASS

7th DECEMBER 2019

4.00 pm

SUNDAY MASS

8th DECEMBER 2019

9.30 am



MASS THIS WEEK

Sunday	8th	2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT	Mass 9.30 am Terence & Gwen Mackie RIP
Monday	9th	IMMACULATE CONCEPTION	OF THE BVM
			MASS 10am Rita Wright RIP
Tuesday	10th	2nd Tuesday in Advent	Mass 10am Julian & Elizabeth Bath RIP
Wednesday	11th	2nd Wednesday of Advent	(children from school in Mass 10am) Int Staff and pupils of our Primary school
Thursday	12th	2nd Thursday of Advent	Mass 10 am Bannigan & Mullaney families
Friday	13th	St. Lucy, V. Mr.	Mass 10 am Those with mental illness.
Saturday	14th	2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT	Vigil Mass 4 pm Mgr. Paul Watson RIP



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION Fr. Paul will be in the confessional Saturday 11.30 to 12 noon during Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Confessions before the Vigil mass between 3.30– 3.50 pm. At other times by arrangement. If you can't manage a Saturday then ask Fr. Paul.

Next Week—THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (YEAR A)

VIGIL MASS (14th) 4.00 pm SUNDAY (15th December) MASS 9.30 am



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