

# SAINT HELEN'S PARISH THE SEASON OF ADVENT+CHRISTMAS

## ADVENT 1

2<sup>nd</sup> December 2018



## YOUR LIBERATION IS AT HAND!

### THE WORD THIS WEEK

'The joyful hope and promise of last week, of the King who is to Come, is repeated and reinforced as we move into the season of Advent – 'Coming'. The prophet encourages the people to look forward to a saving Messiah who will restore them and restore their integrity, make them true to who they are. Saint Paul has experienced that change and renewal, and now looks forward and prepares us for the second Coming, as Jesus himself does at the end of the Gospel of Saint Luke. If we listen, watch, prepare, and practice integrity, we too will be able to survive and stand with confidence, liberated, upright, to greet him when he comes.  
Come, Lord Jesus, come!

### TODAY'S SCRIPTURE: (Psalter: Week 1)

#### **Jeremiah 23: 14 – 16.**

*I will make a virtuous Branch grow for David.*

Response: **Psalm 24.**

Lord, make me know your ways.  
Lord, teach me your paths.  
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:  
for you are God my saviour.

The Lord is good and upright.  
He shows the path to those who stray,  
he guides the humble in the right path;  
he teaches his way to the poor.

His ways are faithfulness and love  
for those who keep his covenant and will.  
The Lord's friendship is for those who revere him;  
to them he reveals his covenant.

#### **1 Thessalonians 3: 12 – 4: 2.**

*May the Lord confirm your hearts in holiness when Christ comes.*

*Acclamation for the Gospel:*  
Alleluia, Alleluia. Alleluia!  
Let us see, O Lord, your mercy  
and give us your saving help.  
Alleluia, Alleluia. Alleluia!

#### **Luke 21: 25 – 28, 34 – 36.**

*Your liberation is near at hand,*

**Prayer of the Faithful:** R/. Come, Lord Jesus, come.

ADVENT  
Get Ready  
He is coming!

ADVENT  
time to  
come to





## MASS AND SERVICES DURING THE WEEK:

Sat 1 <sup>st</sup> December	6.30pm	<b>1<sup>st</sup> SUNDAY of ADVENT</b> People of the Parish
Sun 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	10.30am	<b>1<sup>st</sup> SUNDAY of ADVENT</b> Margherita Antoniazzi (R+GF)
Mon 3 <sup>rd</sup> December	6.45pm 7.00pm	<b>Saint Francis Xavier</b> , Priest Evening Prayer of the Church Kitty (M)
Tues 4 <sup>th</sup> December	9.45am 10.00am	Morning Prayer of the Church Maria Rossi (LA)
Wed 5 <sup>th</sup> December	9.45am 10.00am	Morning Prayer of the Church Chow Sun Kiu (YY) Adoration 2 to 4 pm & 6 to 8 pm
Thurs 6 <sup>th</sup> December	9.45am 10.00am	Morning Prayer of the Church Private Intention (MJ)
Fri 7 <sup>th</sup> December	9.45am 10.00am	<b>Saint Ambrose</b> , Bishop + Doctor of the Church Morning Prayer of the Church Desmond Jones (P+PJ)
Sat 8 <sup>th</sup> December	am 5.45 – 6.15pm  6.30pm	<b>The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b> The Sacrament of Reconciliation <b>2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY of ADVENT</b> Ted Rogers (Walsh Family)
Sun 9 <sup>th</sup> December	10.30am	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY of ADVENT</b> People of the Parish



Christ is coming

ADVENT  
Christ is coming

ADVENT  
Get Ready  
He is coming!



## THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

**Saturday 5.45pm to 6.15pm**, or at any time by arrangement with the priest.

## CELEBRATING STEPS ALONG THE JOURNEY OF FAITH

CATECHESIS



**BAPTISM PREPARATION:** To join in the next **Parish Preparation for Parents**, please take the (green) form 'Your Child and Baptism' available in the porch, fill it in and return it to Father. Thank you.

**CONFIRMATION** next year? Please pick up an orange registration form from the porch.

**JOINING THE CHURCH AS AN ADULT:** To learn more about the Catholic Faith, please come along to the Hall every second Thursday at 7.30pm for '**Catholicism, an introduction**'. Next session **this Thursday**. **Come and see!**

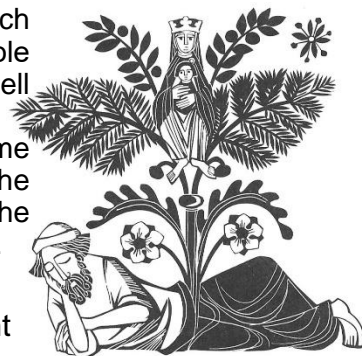
SHARING FAITH

**Bereaved? BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT** provides a safe place to enable you to come to terms with your grief. One-to-one and group support available. For details contact 02920 863450.



SAINT ANTHONY OF PADUA

**The Jesse Tree** represents the family tree of Jesus Christ. Each ornament represents a story from the Bible that tells about God's people before Jesus was born. Each Story shows God's salvation plan and tell how He guided humanity to prepare for the coming of the Messiah. The tradition of the Jesse Tree dates back to the middle ages. The name "Jesse Tree" comes from Isaiah 11:1, "Then a shoot will spring from the stem of Jesse, and a branch from his roots will bear fruit." Jesse is the father of King David. The saviour was to come from David's family line.



**PILGRIMAGE TO PADUA AND VERONA**, to visit Saint Anthony and the medieval Friars in Padua, and the early Christians and Romeo and Juliet for the romantic) in Verona: 25<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> September 2019, £889. For details, and to book, please talk to Angela Jones or Father John.



**ADVENT – HE IS COMING!** The season of joyful hurrying and preparation of our hearts and lives for Jesus to be born in us again, and the start of a whole new year of following him and getting to know him better with the inspiration of the wonderful stories of Saint Luke. It's all starting up again – Stay awake, in eager and joyful expectation!



**The Advent 'WALK with ME'** is on sale in the porch today, £1.

**The Jesse Tree** is back: As we begin a new season and a new year, 'the shoot sprung from the root of Jesse' reminds us of the Jewish ancestry of Jesus. Sunday by Sunday we bring symbols of the many men and women of the Old Testament waiting for and preparing the coming of the Messiah. This is Jesus' 'family tree', his family story which prepares us and increases our desire for the hope and promise of a new beginning, restored integrity. As we rehearse the story of God's People gradually learning to know and respond to God, we recognise our own gradual waiting on his word and growing in his love, and we pray for Christ to break into our lives anew.



**THE MINISTERS OF THE WORD ('Readers')** are asked to come together on the evening of Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December. Those who wish to continue in the ministry and develop it will then be commissioned at Mass next weekend, Bible Sunday.

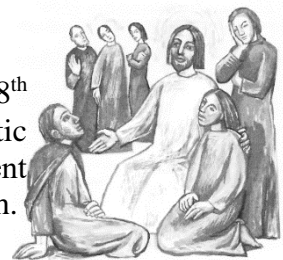
**GETTING TO GRIPS WITH SCRIPTURE:** Kate Duffin's short exposition of the 'Themes of the Old Testament' concludes this Wednesday evening 7.30pm in the Hall, looking at **the Prophets**.



**THE JOURNEY OF FAITH** continues on Thursday, 7.30pm, in the small meeting room, for all who want to explore and enjoy the many facets of our fascinating faith story and accompany new Christians and new Catholics as they delve into it with their questions. All are welcome.

**A FEAST FOR ADVENT:** The 'Senior Citizens' Christmas party will be on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> December (Feast of the Immaculate Conception). If you wish to attend, please take and complete a request form from the porch and return it a.s.a.p. to book your place.

**'Venite ADOREMUS' Retreat,** Saint David's Catholic College, Cardiff, 8<sup>th</sup> December: An invitation to all. Following the success of the Adoremus Eucharistic Congress, the Archdiocese invites everyone to a 'Venite Adoremus Retreat' during Advent as a preparation for Christmas. For details and to book, please see the notice in the porch.



**THE NIGHT SHELTER:** We are still looking for volunteers for the Sunday night shift here, particularly Women (3 people per shift, a watching brief with the guests asleep and you home in bed before the guests wake up). Also help please for Tuesday evening/Wednesday morning at Saint Andrew Penyrheol for the first 3 weeks of January. If you can help on either of these please contact Cliff Bray, cliffsan@sky.com / 07533082601. Thank you.

**PARISH PRAYER LIST:** In our prayers we are asked to pray for all who are sick or housebound, and those who care for them, including:

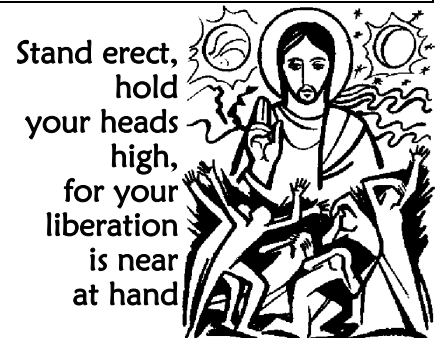
- |                  |                |                  |                |               |
|------------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Pamela Griffiths | Teresa Meade   | Sheila Harris    | Graham Jenkins | Sandra Bray   |
| Lloyd Jones      | John Maguire   | Cecelia Mawby    | Pat Emanuelli  | David Mabey   |
| Dorothy Warmsley | Isobel Cummins | Pauline Richards | Margaret Jones | Claris Howell |
| Carol Morrissey  | Tess Thomas    | Martyn Western   | Bill Morrissey | Bob Walton    |
| Yvonne Grandon   | Gordon Clinch  | Annette Thompson |                | Frank Doherty |

## SAINT HELEN'S COMMUNITY CENTRE – THIS WEEK:

**ADVENT**  
**ADVENT**  
 Joyful Fast  
 Time of Hope

Date	Time	Event
Mon 3 <sup>rd</sup> December	9.30am 7.30pm	Parents & Toddlers S.V.P. (s.m.r.)
Tues 4 <sup>th</sup> December	10.30am 7.00pm	Music Appreciation The Ministers of the Word (in church)
Wed 5 <sup>th</sup> December	9.30am 7.30pm	Parents & Toddlers Themes of the Old Testament - Prophets
Thurs 6 <sup>th</sup> December	2.00pm – 4.00pm 6.15pm 7.30pm	Sunshine Club Youth Club Journey of Faith
Fri 7 <sup>th</sup> December	1.00pm	History Group
Sat 8 <sup>th</sup> December	9.30am – 12.30pm	Dance
Sun 9 <sup>th</sup> December	11.30am	Tea, Coffee, & Biscuits

OFFERTORY COLLECTION	25 <sup>th</sup> November 2018
Gift Aid Weekly	£ 112.00
Non Gift Aid Weekly	£ 86.15
Gift Aid Standing Orders (69)	£ 502.04
Non Gift Aid Standing Orders (10)	£ 65.00
Loose	£ 306.65
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£1071.84 Many thanks</b>
Sick and Retired Clergy	£ 428.10



**LOTTERY BONUS BALL CONGRATULATIONS** to Cecilia Mawby and Frank Marks, the winners of the Bonus Ball no. 38. A total of £84.00 was made for parish funds. **TRY YOUR LUCK AGAIN THIS WEEK.**

**The COLLECTION for the S.V.P.** (society of Saint Vincent de Paul) for Christmas hampers and gifts for families in need will be taken after Mass this weekend. Please be Generous (as you always are).

**THANK YOU** for the great number of excellent gifts brought over the past two weeks in response to the appeal for new toys for the 'Secret Santa' Appeal.

### THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC FAITH

#### Part One: THE PROFESSION OF FAITH.

#### Section One: 'I Believe' – 'We Believe' II. Ways of Coming to Know God

(33) The *human person*: With his openness to truth and beauty, his sense of moral goodness, his freedom and the voice of his conscience, with his longings for the infinite and for happiness, man questions himself about God's existence. In all this he discerns signs of his spiritual soul. The soul, the "seed of eternity we bear in ourselves, irreducible to the merely material" (GS 18: 1; cf. 12: 2.), can have its origin only in God.

*Catechism of the Catholic Church 1992.*

#### Parish Directory

**Priest:** Revd. John Kelly 20883192;

**Safeguarding Officer:** 20864112

**Music:** 07971848734.

**Cafod:** 20861930

**Saint Helen's School:** 20852532

**Newsletter items:** 20883192

**Parish@sthelenscaerphilly.com**

**Website Additions:** Website@sthelenscaerphilly.com

**Chair of Parish Council:** 20860919

**SVP:** 20883462

**Hall:** 20883192

**Marriage Care:** appointments@marriagecare.co.uk

**Cardinal Newman School:** 01443 494110

**Calendar Additions:** calendar@sthelenscaerphilly.com

**www.sthelenscaerphilly.com**

**Bereavement support:** 20863450

**Piety shop:** 20862998

