

SAINT HELEN'S PARISH THE SEASON OF ADVENT+CHRISTMAS

ADVENT 4

23rd December 2018



Yes, Blessed is She who Believed!

THE WORD THIS WEEK

We started Advent with an encounter, and end it with two women meeting, and two unborn babies; two histories, two whole cultures, calls, and covenants. The prophet Micah looks forward to a birth which will bring the old to newness and make peace where trouble and abandonment ruled. The Letter to the Hebrews also sees a new beginning, a new way: Rather than us trying to manipulate God with our laws and sacrifices, Jesus will save us by the doing of God's will. The old is to be continued, renewed, and completed, in Christ.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE: (Psalter: Week 4)

Micah 5: 1 – 4.

Out of you will be born the one who is to rule over Israel.

Response: **Psalm 79.**

O shepherd of Israel, hear us,
shine forth from your cherubim throne.
O Lord, rouse up your might,
O Lord, come to our help.

God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted.

May your hand be on the man you have chosen,
the man you have given your strength.
And we shall never forsake you again:
give us life that we may call upon your name.

Hebrews 10: 5 – 10.

Here I am! I am coming to obey your will.

Acclamation for the Gospel:

Alleluia, Alleluia. Alleluia!
I am the handmaid of the Lord;
Let what you have said be done to me.,
Alleluia, Alleluia. Alleluia!

Luke 1: 39 – 44.

Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord!







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



WISHING

A HAPPY AND A HOLY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OUR READERS

MASS AND SERVICES DURING THE WEEK:

Sat 22 nd December	6.30pm	4th SUNDAY of Advent For the People of the Parish	
Sun 23 rd December	10.30am	4th SUNDAY of Advent Carmel Thomas (TT)	
Mon 24 th December	9.45am 10.00am	Morning Prayer of the Church Alan Watt (AH + AJ)	
The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ			
	6.00pm	Carols	
	6.30pm	Vigil Mass (for Our Families)	
	11.40pm	Carols and Readings	
	12midnight	Midnight Mass (The people of the Parish)	
Tues 25 th December	10.30am	Day Mass (Private Intention)	
Wed 26 th December	10.00am	SAINT STEPHEN , The First Martyr for the Altar Servers	
Thurs 27 th December	9.45am 10.00am	SAINT JOHN , Apostle and Evangelist Morning Prayer of the Church for the Ministers of the Parish	
Fri 28 th December	9.45am 10.00am	THE HOLY INNOCENTS , Martyrs Morning Prayer of the Church Alison McKercher (BJ)	
Sat 29 th December	5.45 – 6.15pm	The Sacrament of Reconciliation THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH for the People of the Parish	
Sun 30 th December	10.30am 2.00pm	THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH Renee + Peter Kelly (FK) Baptism of Senan Austin and Lily Franklin	

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.

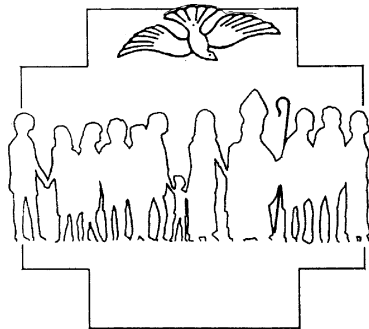
THE FAMILIES PLANNING TO PREPARE FOR COMMUNION

are invited to meet for a first time on Tuesday 15th January: Book the date!



CONFIRMATION next year? Please pick up an orange registration form from the porch and bring your parents to the introduction to preparing on Wednesday 30th January 7.00pm

JOINING THE CHURCH AS AN ADULT: To learn more about the Catholic Faith, please come along to the Hall every second Thursday for '**Catholicism, an introduction**'. Next session Thursday 3rd January. **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.



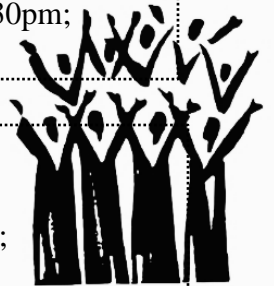
THE BIG CLEAN: Sunday afternoon, 1pm: All Church Cleaners, and as many helpers as possible, please. And after that, the Flower Arrangers, and helpers, will come in for **THE** equally **BIG DECORATE.**



“What Time Is Midnight Mass?”

Christmas Mass will be at:

6.30pm on the 24th, the Evening Mass of Christmas, with carols from 6pm;
12 midnight, the Christmas Mass in the Night, with carols and readings from 11.30pm;
 and **10.30am** on the 25th, Christmas Day Mass.



MINISTRIES for CHRISTMASS:

6.30: Welcomers: Cecelia Wyatt, Mavis Bevan, Johanna Greenaway, Hilary Newton.

Ministers of the Word: *Isaiah 9:1-7* Barbara Jones; *Titus 2:11-14* Karen Wathan;
Intercessions Claire Kelly.

Ministers of Communion: Gina Jenkins, Tessa Jones, Stuart Davidson, Margaret Davidson,
 Joseph Caruana.

Midnight: Welcomers: Sylvia Miles, ? ? *help please!*

Ministers of the Word: *Saint Augustine* Mary Conant; *This, tonight* Bernard Jones;
Saint Bernard Geraldine Holmes.

Isaiah 9:1-7 Tom Foley; *Titus 2:11-14* Catherine Pritchard;
Intercessions ? .

Ministers of Communion: Sylvia Miles, Geraldine Holmes, Simon O’Brien,
 Terrence Miles, Mary Conant.

10.30: Welcomers: Luigi Antoniazzi, ? ? *help please.*

Ministers of the Word: *Isaiah 52: 7-10* Helen Emery; *Hebrews 1: 1-6* Terry ap Hywel;
Intercessions Brid Halloran.

Ministers of Communion: Caroline Bennett, Giovanna Fecci, Christina Ball, Sunil John,
 Graham Taylor.

MANY THANKS to all our Ministers, including also the (unnamed) Sacristans, Florists and Decorators, Counters, Cleaners, Altar Servers, Musicians, Singers, and our Master of Music, Brett Pugh.



What Shall We Do in those long and empty (twelve) days of Christmas? The Family Groups invite you to **THE CHRISTMAS TRIVIA QUIZ**, Friday 28th December, 7 for 7pm in the hall, with food to share, drinks as required – wine will be provided – and lots of pointless Christmassy nonsense to enjoy.



Prisoner of Conscience Christmas Cards: Many thanks for the excellent generous response. And thanks to Brigid and Paul Brown providing and preparing the cards and information. The ‘post box’ is still in the porch for late posting.



Secret Santa: ‘The Council would like to thank us for all for the kind donations, 47 in total, for children in care, and wish everyone a merry Christmas.’ Our thanks also to Beth O’Gorman for organising and delivering our collection.

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 | Annette Thompson | Gordon Clinch | Nick Erwin | |

SAINT HELEN'S COMMUNITY CENTRE – THIS WEEK:

Date	Time	Event
Tues 25 th December	1.00am 12 noon	Refreshments Party
Fri 28 th December	7.00pm	Christmas Trivia Quiz
Sun 30 th December	11.30am 2.30pm	Tea, Coffee, & Biscuits Baptism Party

OFFERTORY COLLECTION	16 th December 2018
Gift Aid Weekly	£ 95.00
Non Gift Aid Weekly	£ 92.40
Gift Aid Standing Orders (69)	£ 502.04
Non Gift Aid Standing Orders (10)	£ 65.00
Loose	£ 311.63
TOTAL	£1066.07 Many thanks



LOTTERY BONUS BALL CONGRATULATIONS to Frank Marks and Pino Emanuelli the winners of the Bonus Ball no. 38. A total of £79.00 was made for parish funds. **TRY YOUR LUCK AGAIN THIS WEEK.**

THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC FAITH

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

Section One: **'I Believe' – 'We Believe'**

III. The Knowledge of God According to the Church

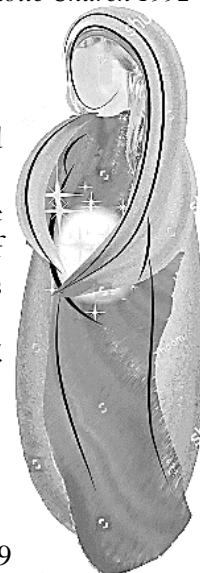
(36) 'Our holy mother, the Church, holds and teaches that God, the first principle and last end of all things, can be known with certainty from the created world by the natural light of human reason.' (Vatican Council I, *Dei Filius* 2: DS 3004; cf. 3026; Vatican Council II, *Dei Verbum* 6.) Without this capacity, man would not be able to welcome God's revelation. Man has this capacity because he is created 'in the image of God'. (Cf. *Genesis* I: 27.)

Catechism of the Catholic Church 1992

"But you too, who have heard and have believed, are blessed. Every soul who has believed both conceives and generates the Word of God and recognises his works.

Let the soul of Mary be in each one of you, to magnify the Lord. Let the spirit of Mary be in each one of you to exult in God. According to the flesh one woman is the mother of Christ, but according to faith Christ is the fruit of all people. Every soul, indeed, receives the Word of God, provided it remains unstained and free from sin."

From the commentary of Saint Ambrose on Saint Luke's Gospel.



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

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

Website Additions: Website@sthelenscaerphilly.com

Bereavement support: 20863450

Piety shop: 20862998

