



## PARISH OF OUR LADY QUEEN OF MARTYRS

Reg. Charity 242380

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**Our Lady's Primary School:** 01432 274814

### First Sunday of Advent, Year B – 30 November 2014

**Entrance:** *To you I lift up my soul, O my God. In you I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame*

**Responsorial psalm:** *God of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us and shall be saved*

**Gospel:** *Alleluia, alleluia! Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help Alleluia!*

**Communion:** *The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase*

#### From Archbishop George Stack

The First Sunday of Advent begins a new year with the expectation and hope which always mark new beginnings. The four Sundays of Advent are an invitation to us to prepare ourselves once more for the coming of our Saviour Jesus Christ which we celebrate at Christmas. Beginnings and endings are part of the rhythm and pattern of every life. As we mark the times and seasons and the cycle of our own lives, it is good to look back and see how far we have journeyed individually and as a community in the last year. At the same time look forward to what lies ahead. The English poet T. S. Eliot put it well when he wrote:



*What we call the beginning is often the end.  
And to make an end is to make a beginning.  
The end is where we start from.  
We shall not cease from exploration.  
And the end of our exploring  
Will be to arrive where we started  
And know the place for the first time.*

The recent Synod on Marriage and Family Life held in Rome explored ways in which members of families, young and old, can be inspired, supported and guided to a closer relationship with each other and, through each other, with the God who creates and sustains the human family. Many initiatives exist in this Diocese for youngsters to develop the life of faith. Our Catholic schools. The Catholic chaplaincies in our universities. The Youth 2000 retreats and the Welsh National Pilgrimage to Lourdes. I wish to invite young people from the Diocese to join me at World Youth Day in Krakow, Poland, in 2016. Pope Francis will host this international gathering inaugurated by Pope St. John Paul II. Places have already been booked for young people from the Diocese of Cardiff. Our seminarians are working hard to arrange a fruitful and life enhancing program for those who decide to come. I would ask parishes to think about nominating prospective pilgrims who can join in this extraordinary opportunity.

At the conclusion of the Eucharistic Prayer during Mass the priest says *"Through Him, and with Him and in Him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour is yours Almighty Father, for ever and ever. Amen"*. The second century saint, Irenaeus, wrote *"The Glory of God is humanity fully alive"*. Jesus Christ our Lord, our King, our Saviour and our Brother not only shows us what it means to be "fully alive" but enables us to be so.

With every blessing for the season of Advent,  
+ George Stack, Archbishop of Cardiff

## Dates for Your Diary

Please come along and enjoy tea and coffee in the parish room after the Sunday morning Masses

**The numbers drawn week 11 were 41 3 23 40 and 49**  
**No winner**  
**Prize money for week 12 is £475.00, and five numbers drawn**

Second collection: is for the parish redecoration fund

Nativity at the 6.30pm Mass on Christmas Eve: we start practicing for this after the 9.30am Mass today, and for the following 3 Sundays. If your children would like to take part in the nativity, at the 6.30pm Mass on Christmas Eve, please can they (and you) stay behind after Mass today for the first practice. It is important that children taking part in the nativity or readings are able to come along to at least 3 of the practices

Advent Film Night: the Deanery presents an opportunity to see the acclaimed film, *The Mission*. At St. Mary's School, Lugwardine, today; meet at 6pm in the Chapel, then at Lugwardine Court. PG rated film. Free admission, tea/coffee and a chat

Tuesday devotions: Divine Mercy chaplet before Mass and the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary afterwards

Bible Study: this week after the Tuesday evening Mass, in the parish house. All welcome

Confirmation Course: we are currently reviewing the Confirmation Course that we deliver in the Deanery and in our individual Parishes, and are looking at other courses that have been developed recently. It will take time to do this properly and so we are planning to start the course later next year, leading to Confirmation in the summer term of 2016. If any prospective candidates (currently Year 9 or above) have any questions about this, there will be a short meeting on Wednesday 3rd December at 7pm in the Parish Room, or they can contact Fran Keogh on 01432 840847 or speak to Fr Cenydd

Holy Mass at Tintern Abbey: on Saturday 6th December 2014 at 10am, followed in Tintern Village Hall by refreshments and a talk by Fr Thomas Dunton CSJ - *The Immaculate Conception – a mystery of mercy for a confused world*. 1pm soup lunch, bring your own sandwiches if you wish; coffee and tea provided. Cost £5 (on the day)

Venite Adoramus: as we prepare to meet the Christ Child who comes as a light to the world, take time to reflect on the mystery of the God who was pleased to dwell with us. Belmont Abbey, Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> December, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm – a day retreat led by Fr. Andrew Berry. See poster for details

Advent Penitential Service: come and join us from 5:00 p.m. on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December for a penitential service. Priests will be available for those who wish to partake in the sacrament of reconciliation. There will also be lay people offering prayer ministry. The service will include scripture readings, music and reflections to help us on our Advent journey

Christmas Fair: Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December, 1.30pm, in the Parish Hall. Please come along and support this fund raising event, get some great value Christmas gifts, maybe win a prize, and enjoy some delicious cakes. We would be very grateful for donations of Cakes, Gifts for Christmas, good quality Bric-a-brac, Books (especially Children's books), Toys & Games in good condition, Bottles, Tombola gifts, Christmas crafts/decorations, Raffle Prizes, new or good-as-new accessories, but no jumble please. These can be brought to the Church during the week before the Fair. Any help with setting up on Friday & Saturday morning and manning stalls on Saturday afternoon would be very gratefully received. Other ideas for stalls, games, activities are also very welcome. If you would like to sign up to help there is a list at the back of the Church, or contact Fran Keogh on 01432 840847 to volunteer to help or if you have a good idea for a game/activity/stall

Advent Prayer and Carol Service: at the Poor Clare Monastery on Sunday, 14<sup>th</sup> December, from 3:00 pm. Refreshments to be served afterwards – everyone most welcome. See poster for full details

Our Lady's School: would like to invite all parishioners to our Carols around the Christmas tree on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December 9.00am in the school hall

# First Week of Advent

## Psalter week I

Today:

9:30 am Thanksgiving (AM)  
11:30 am Mulloy/Hornby family deceased  
6:30 pm

Monday 1 December 9:30 am Mass – Teresa Dzioba  
*Advent weekday*

Tuesday 2 December 7:00 pm Mass – Forgotten souls  
*Advent weekday*

Wednesday, 3 December 9:30 am Mass –  
*St Francis Xavier, Priest*

Thursday, 4 December 9:30 am Mass –  
*St John Damascene, Priest & Doctor of the Church*

Friday, 5 December 7:00 pm Mass –  
*Mass of the Dead*

Saturday, 6 December 9:30 am Confessions  
*St Nicholas, Bishop* 10:30 am Mass – Monica Thompson

Sunday, 7 December (Second Sunday of Advent, Year B)

9:30 am Rosaline Fitzgerald  
11:30 am Monica Thompson  
6:30 pm Fr Michael Evans

### Please pray for:

The sick, especially Ann Morris, Brian Morris, Alice Jones, Sue Watkins, Shelaigh Fawcett, Dymphna and John O'Neil, Andrew Walker, Sylvia Jones, Sylvia Aiello, Chris Turville, Eva Zakrzewska, Pat Franklyn, Glyn Matthews, Anna Foggo, Catherine Rollings, Katie Richardson, Agnes McGowan, Anne Jenkins and all in our prayer book

The recently dead, especially Fr. Donal Gillespie, Fr. Laurence Beer OSB, Monica Thompson and Helena Grabowska

Those whose anniversary falls in the month of December, including: Winifred Hawes, Mary Bagnall, Ellen Jennings, Margaret Coughlan, Matthew Joynt, Jamie McGoran, David Halley, Matthew Robson, Stuart Powell, Anthony Jones, Herbert Eastwood, Erica Eastwood, Mary Clinton, Florence Marsh, Ann Wilding, James Fleming, Kathleen Hatcher, Richard Price, Thomas Morgan, Ann-Marie Sully, Mary Edwards, Robert Stanness, Betty Westmoreland, Kathleen Chesterman, Louis Avenin, the Rignall Twins, James Jamfrey and Henry Grafen

A little girl was sitting on her Grandmother's knee, as she read her a bedtime story. From time to time the little girl took her eyes off the book and reached up to stroke her Grandmother's wrinkled cheeks. Then she stroked her own cheek. Finally she said. "Grandma, did God make you ". "Yes" Grandma replied. "God made me" Then the little girl asked "Did God make me?" "Yes" her Grandmother replied "God did make you" There was a pause before the little girl said "Getting better, isn't he?"

How does Moses make his tea? Hebrews it

### Rota Schedule for 5 to 11 December 2014

**Flower Arrangers:** No flowers in Advent

**Cleaners:** Volunteers

**Ushers:** 9:30am P Roberts & C Sharland

11:30am R Cotterell & Volunteer

6:30pm Volunteers

### Readers:

9:30am C Thompson

11:30am M Brown

6:30pm V Woods

### Eucharistic Ministers:

9:30am H Fishlock, R Jones, S Thompson

11:30pm J Wagner, M Davies, E Cotterell

6:30pm J Winter

**Altar Linen:** M Lynch

### Polish Information:

Następna Msza Św w języku polskim odbędzie się w niedzielę, 28 grudnia godz 16:00

### Finance:

The collection on Sunday, 23<sup>rd</sup> November raised £343.31 thank you

