



PARISH OF OUR LADY QUEEN OF MARTYRS

Reg. Charity 242380

Parish House : 01432 265177

Rev. Dom Matthew Carney OSB.

Parish Website: www.olqmhereford.org.uk

Parish email: olqm@talktalk.net

Our Lady's Primary School: 01432 274814

1st Sunday of Advent – Year C - 29th November 2015.

Entrance Antiphon - "To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you I have trusted; let me never come to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame."

Responsorial psalm - "To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul."

Gospel Acclamation - "Alleluia, alleluia! Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help. Alleluia."

Communion Antiphon – "The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase."
FROM FR. MATTHEW.

Today we begin the holy season of Advent, when we prepare to remember Our Lords first coming as a child in Bethlehem and also look forward to his return in glory on the last day. To help us in our preparation there will be exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and confessions being heard each Wednesday of Advent from 6-7pm in Church. Advent books, calendars and magazines continue to be available at the back of church; all free. With the Year of Mercy beginning on 8th December why not make a confession this advent, normal times on Saturday and on those Wednesday evenings. The new Parish Mass Books are in use from today, donated in memory of Pat King and Henry Balestra, may they rest in peace. The readings for today can be found on page 82. Handouts with the mass readings in the Polish language continue to be available at the back of Church, there are also small mass books. Special worksheets for children are also available in church today, taking the theme of the Sunday readings. After the 9.30am mass today 31 children enrolled on the 1st Holy Communion course, will be having their 2nd session of preparation immediately after mass in the parish hall.

GOSPEL REFLECTION – "HEADS UP!"

Every Advent, the Liturgy of the Word gives our sense of time a reorientation. There's a deliberate tension in the next four weeks' readings - between promise and fulfilment, expectation and deliverance, between looking forward and looking back. In today's First Reading, the prophet Jeremiah focuses our gaze on the promise God made to David, some 1,000 years before Christ. God says through the prophet that He will fulfil this promise by raising up a "just shoot," a righteous offspring of David, who will rule Israel in justice. Today's Psalm, too, sounds the theme of Israel's ancient expectation: "Guide me in Your truth and teach Me. For You are God my Saviour and for You I will wait all day." We look back on Israel's desire and anticipation knowing that God has already made good on those promises by sending His only Son into the world. Jesus is the "just shoot," the God and Saviour for Whom Israel was waiting. Knowing that He is a God who keeps His promises lends grave urgency to the words of Jesus in today's Gospel. Urging us to keep watch for His return in glory, He draws on Old Testament images of chaos and instability – turmoil in the heavens; roaring seas (see [Isaiah 5:30](#); [17:12](#)); distress among the nations (see [Isaiah 8:22/14:25](#)) and terrified people (see [Isaiah 13:6-11](#)). He evokes the prophet Daniel's image of the Son of Man coming on a cloud of glory to describe His return as a "theophany," a manifestation of God (see [Daniel 7:13-14](#)). Many will cower and be literally scared to death. But Jesus says we should greet the end-times with heads raised high, confident that God keeps His promises, that our "redemption is at hand," that "the kingdom of God is near" (see [Luke 21:31](#))

Dates for Your Diary

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

TOTE Numbers for week 8 were 4, 3, 22, 32 40 - no winners .

Prize money for week 9 is £300.00, and 5 numbers to be drawn

Second Collection – FLOWERS and DECORATIONS for XMAS.

Tuesday devotions: Divine Mercy Chaplet and Novena before Mass and the mysteries of light of the Rosary after mass.

CHILDRENS CHRISTMAS NATIVITY – 6.30pm MASS CHRISTMAS EVE. The first mass of Xmas will be at 6.30pm on Christmas Eve, and the children's liturgy group will be preparing for this mass through Advent. All children of any age are welcome to come and join us to play a part in the mass, they don't have to be regulars at the children's liturgy to get involved. Practices will be taking place after the 9.30mass today 29th November and on 6th, 13th and 20th December, those involved need to come to at least 2 of these rehearsals.

1st HOLY COMMUNION COURSE – *Continues today with a session of preparation after the 9.30 mass, and then next Saturday 5th December at 2.00pm in church.*

POOR CLARE CAROL SERVICE – SUNDAY 13th DECEMBER – 3.30pm. All welcome. Preceded by evening prayer at 3.00pm, refreshments to follow.

“COME and SEE.” Advent day retreat led by Fr. Andrew at Belmont on Saturday 5th December, 10-4pm. See poster at back of Church. Parishioners will be interested to hear that Fr. Andrew will be looking after the parish of Our Lady and St. Joseph in Alcester, Warwickshire from next month through till March. It is a parish in the care of the Douai monastic community.

CHURCH READERS TRAINING. All parish readers are invited to attend one of the following sessions being run by Fr. Matthew, Saturday 12th December at 2.00pm or Tuesday 15th December at 6.00pm. The sessions will last about one hour, will be held in the chapel of Our lady in Church, and will involve some revision and directions on being readers in church.

“THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU.” CONFESSIONS AND EXPOSITION – *Each Wednesday of Advent from 6.00pm in Church, beginning this Wednesday.*

SVP. There will be a meeting on Friday 11th December at 6.15pm in Church, to discuss the possibility of re-starting the St. Vincent de Paul society in the parish. It is envisaged that if there is enough interest there will be monthly meetings of members on a Friday evening before the evening mass and will largely be concerned with the arrangements for visiting the sick and housebound members of the parish.

PARISH WEBSITE – *The parish website now includes Fr. Matthews Sunday sermons and also hopefully, recordings of the Sunday services which can be listened to. If the technology works!!*

SCRIPTURE STUDY GROUP. This week the group meets on Wednesday at 7.00pm. We are making use of a resources called “The Wednesday Word.” This provides reflections on the Sunday readings, it can be accessed at www.wednesdayword.org

PARISH PILGRIMAGE *Thanks to those who have expressed an interest in the Lourdes pilgrimage next year. The dates for the pilgrimage will be from Friday 12th- Friday 19th August, flying from Manchester. Booking forms are available at the back of Church, could all those interested please take one; there is plenty of room for anyone else who is interested. Return forms to Fr. Matthew ASAP. The cost would be approx £660 staying in a 3 star hotel, full board and programme etc, single supplements extra. Led by Fr. Matthew. Organised by Tangey Tours.*

Christmas Party: Advance notice to save the date for our annual parish party on Sunday 13th December. Details to follow nearer the date, but yes, we will be singing!

1st Sunday of Advent – Year C Psalter I

Today: Sunday 29th November – 1st Sunday of Advent.

9:30 am Karolina Busco & Nov Lists.

11:30 am .Special Intention and Nov Lists.

6.30pm John Young and Nov Lists.

Monday 30th November 9.30 am Mass
& Nov Lists

Tuesday 1st 7.00pm Mass (Rosary 7.30) Maureen Greene.

Wednesday 2nd December 9.30 am Mass. Sick of the parish.

6.00 – 6.50pm Exposition and Confessions in Church.

7.00pm Scripture Study Group in presbytery.

Thursday, 3rd 9.30 am Mass – Vocations (Catenian intention.)

Friday 4th 7.00pm Mass. Forgotten Holy Souls.

Saturday 5th – Memoria of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

10.00am Exposition, Confessions and Benediction.

11.00am Mass

Sunday 6th Decemberr – 2nd Sunday of Advent.

9:30am Philip Wetz

11:30 am Alice Jones

3.30pm Exposition and Benediction.

6.30pm People of the Parish.

Rota Schedule for 29th November – 5th December 2015

Flower Arrangers. None needed.

Cleaners: Volunteers for new rota please!

Ushers: 9:30am..Mr and Mrs Scanlon.

11:30am John McGowan and Jo Kelly.

6:30pm.Volunteers please.

Readers: 9:30am. Celia Sharland .

11:00am..M. Brown.

6.30pm. G. McAteer.

Eucharistic Ministers:

9.30am. Helen Fishlock, Celia Sharland & Tim Bray.

11.30am.Kathy Davis, Denise Lissaman & John McGowan.

6.30pm. Chris Milsom.

Altar Linen: See Rota on Church notice board.

Counting Richard, Rebecca and Kathy.

Polish Information:

Następna Msza Św w języku polskim odbędzie się w niedzielę, 27 grudnia o godz 16:00

Finance:

Sunday 15th November 1st Coll £315.73 2nd Coll £216.13

G.A. £159.60

Please pray for the Sick, especially Bernard Mulloy, Ann Morris, Brian Morris, Alice Jones, Sue Watkins, Shelaigh Fawcett, Dymphna & John O'Neil, Andrew Walker, Sylvia Jones, Eva Zakrzewska, Pat Franklyn, Anna Foggo, Katie Richardson, Agnes McGowan, Michael Morris Rita O'Leary, Pat Spence, Joshua Isada, Joan Berry, Neil Hillyer, and all in our prayer book. Also Fr. Luke who recently suffered a small stroke

The recently dead – Joseph Mayers, who died recently in a road traffic accident

Those whose anniversary falls in December - 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, Henry Grafen, Monica Thompson and Helena Grabowska

SCRIPTURE READINGS for next Sunday, the 2nd Sunday of Advent – Jeremiah 3: 14-16, 1Thess 3: 12-4:2, Luke 21: 25-28, 34-36.

CHURCH SHOP – Lots of Xmas cards and gifts are available in the Church.

ALPHA COURSE - Got questions about Life - Try Alpha at St. Francis Xavier's every Wednesday at 7pm, starting 2nd December. All Welcome. Free. alpha@sfxhereford.org.uk

HELP NEEDED – More help is needed on many of the rotas for various ministries and parish works, in particular for writing the Sunday bidding prayers, church cleaning and counting the Sunday collection; please let Fr. Matthew know if you can help.

Christmas Decorations: Are you replacing any decorations this year? Do you have any spare baubles, tinsel etc that we can use to decorate the hall? Please leave in the narthex or call Lindsay on 07832 694284 (But please, no more trees!)