

## Diary

**Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> to Sunday, 25<sup>th</sup> January, 2015: Brave of Heart** – a weekend retreat for men at Cor et Lumen Christi, Wigton, CA7 9HU – for more information or to book, go to [www.coretlumenchristi.org.uk](http://www.coretlumenchristi.org.uk) or e-mail [stcuthberts@coretlumenchristi.org.uk](mailto:stcuthberts@coretlumenchristi.org.uk)

**9<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> May, 2015: A Pilgrimage to Medjugorje led by Sister Philomena Dunning.** The cost of the pilgrimage is £439 on a half-board basis and sharing a room. For more details, refer to the poster in the church porch.

### *Flowers for Christmas*

As always, those who decorate our church with flowers will be pulling out all the stops for Christmas. To help them put on a worthy display, contributions towards the cost of flowers would be most welcome. Please put your donations in the slot marked "flowers" at the back of church. Thank you.

### *Christmas Cards*

Several people have left Christmas cards on the table at the back of church. Please check through them to see if there are any for you and take them home with you! Thank you!



### *Evening Prayer for Christmastide*

### *Evening Prayer of the Church*

will be celebrated here at **4 p.m.** on

**Christmas Eve, Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> December**

**New Year's Eve, (Mary, Mother of God) Wednesday, 31<sup>st</sup> December**

**the Feast of the Epiphany, Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> January**

**the Baptism of the Lord, Sunday, 11<sup>th</sup> January**

On the two Sundays, there will also be Adoration of the Holy Eucharist & Benediction.

Welcome families and friends to St Mary's: join us in the Millennium Room for refreshment and community social time after 10.30 a.m. Mass.



## *St. Mary's, Fleetwood*

Presbytery: 34, Kemp Street, Fleetwood FY7 6JX

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website: [www.stmarys-fleetwood.org.uk](http://www.stmarys-fleetwood.org.uk)

Parish Priest: **Fr. Michael Murphy**

Deacon: **Rev. Bill Wright**

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Sunday Mass 8.30 a.m. & 10.30 a.m.

Weekdays except Mondays: 9:45 a.m. Morning Prayer, 10 a.m. Mass

Tuesday: 6:40 p.m. Rosary, 7 p.m. Mass

Mondays: 9:45 a.m. Morning Prayer, 10 a.m. Celebration of the Word

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession): Saturday 10:30-11 a.m.

Adoration of the Holy Eucharist : Saturday 10:30-11 a.m.

## Fourth Sunday of Advent 21<sup>st</sup> December, 2014

### *Christmas Mass Times*

As last year, the Christmas Mass times will be: **Christmas Midnight** preceded by carols from 11.30 p.m.; the **Dawn Mass of Christmas** at 8.30 a.m. and the **Day Mass of Christmas** at 10.30 a.m.

This is a return to the tradition which originated in Rome in the sixth century, **Midnight Mass** was celebrated in the Basilica of St. Mary Major for the papal household. The **Dawn Mass** was celebrated for the diplomatic corps, especially the ambassador representing the Emperor who, by then, resided in Constantinople. A "**popular**" Mass was celebrated later in the day at St. Peter's Basilica for the people of Rome.

**Please could I encourage children to come to the 10.30 a.m. Mass on Christmas Day?** They will be very welcome and are invited to bring one of their toys with them (*preferably something small and not too noisy!!*).

Sadly, in the last thirty years or so, the provision of Vigil Masses on Christmas Eve has decimated the attendances on Christmas Day itself. This means that, in a generation, we have destroyed a tradition that goes back for 1,500 years! "Well done us"!!! Or, as an eminent liturgist friend of mine said, "There's got to be something wrong, Michael, when more Catholics go to Mass on Christmas Eve than on Christmas Day." Think about it!

On a practical note, if you are coming to Midnight Mass and have spare seats in your car, please could you sign the list at the back of church? On the other hand, if you want to come to Midnight Mass but need a lift to church, please sign the list for this at the back of church.

*Father Michael*



*Liturgies for the week 21<sup>st</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> December, 2014*

<b>Fourth Sunday of Advent</b>	8.30 a.m.	deceased members of Muscroft family
	10.30 a.m.	The People of the Parish
	<b>4 p.m.</b>	<b>Advent Evening Prayer, Adoration &amp; Benediction</b>
<b>Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> December</b>	10 a.m.	Richard Hearty <i>Anniversary</i> (M.H.)
<b>Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December</b>	7 p.m.	Jim McCann <i>R.I.P.</i> (B.M.)
<b>Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> December CHRISTMAS EVE</b>	10 a.m.	Patrick, Margaret & Pat McGinley (D. & K.)
	<b>4 p.m. 11.30 p.m. 12 midnight</b>	<b>Evening Prayer 1 of Christmas Carols</b> followed by <b>Midnight Mass</b> <i>Jack Wilding Anniversary</i> (J.W.)
<b>Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> December CHRISTMAS DAY</b>	8.30 a.m.	<b>Dawn Mass of Christmas</b> The People of the Parish
	10.30 a.m.	<b>Festive Mass of Christmas Day</b> <i>Eveline Wilding Anniversary</i> (J.W.)
<b>Friday (26<sup>th</sup>) ST. STEPHEN</b>	10 a.m.	Joseph, Catherine & Joseph Donnelly <i>Anniversary</i> (K.T.)
<b>Saturday (27<sup>th</sup>) ST. JOHN Feast of the HOLY FAMILY</b>	10 a.m.	Arthur & Margaret Smith (A. & M.)
	8.30 a.m.	The People of the Parish
	10.30 a.m.	Hannah Mitchell <i>Anniversary</i> (P. & D.F.)

*Please remember in your prayers*



» **all the sick**, especially Peggie Ball, Pastor Steve Bond, Deborah Carr, Fred Chew, Roy Clarke, Patsy Coll, Marianne Delaney, Laura, Joanne & Sarah Finley, Jacob Gray, Wynne Harrison (*a friend of Kathy's*), Joseph Higgins, Alison Lyon, Michael O'Sullivan, Andrew Pearson, Joe Scott, Margaret Smith, Mark Surelock, Winifred White;

» **the housebound and those in care**, especially: David Ball, Thomas Ball, Hilda Brookes, Mary Davies, John Donnelly, Florrie Garrett, Dennis Halloran, Gerry & Brenda McCaul, Sheila Mullen, Walter Myerscough, Betty Poole, Joan Rayworth, Marjorie Richardson, Doris Roberts, Monica Syms, P. Warwick and Nellie Wilson;



» **those who have died recently, especially John Ball, Eileen Mary Draper, Duncan Emmett** (*father of a friend of Kathy's*), **Jack McGinty, John McMullen** (*Margaret Pinder's brother*), and **those whose anniversaries are this coming week**: Stephen Ball, Barbara Dickins, Joseph Donnelly, Katie Gilchrist, Annie Hallworth, Richard Hearty, Hannah Mitchell, Norman Muscroft, Jeff Roscoe, Elizabeth Russell, Mary Scott, Canon Wilfrid Watterson, Jack Hale Wilding, Mary Wilding, Bridgit Withey.

*Red Mission Boxes*

Please note, Anne Duxbury & Audrey Armour will be collecting the boxes after Sunday Masses in January. Please remember to bring them to church with you.

**Next Sunday's Gospel  
for the Feast of the Holy Family (28<sup>th</sup> December)**

**Luke 2 : 22-40 the Presentation in the Temple**

The story of the Presentation of the child Jesus in the Temple is dominated by Simeon's welcome, 'a light to enlighten the gentiles and the glory of your people Israel', and by his warning to Mary, 'a sword will pierce your heart'. Simeon reiterates the angel's promise that the child would fulfil the destiny of Israel and Israel's task to the nations. Much like any family life, the promised future included the delights of the growing, developing child, and the background fear that the great destiny of each child may include sorrow and even heart-break. How much did Mary and Joseph know about the precious child they were nurturing? As he grew to independence did he become more loving and supportive? How did his contemporaries find him? Was he a leader? Did he stand out from the pack? Each of us has a private picture of Jesus - the child, the boy, the adolescent, the young man. All we know for sure is that 'the child grew to maturity', and that Mary 'pondered all these things in her heart', while keeping in mind Simeon's welcome and warning.

**What would Mary have felt and thought as she went home from the Temple?**

**ST MARY'S 200 + CLUB WINNERS  
for 14<sup>th</sup> December**

65	H. Connor	£50
132	R. Wynn	£15

Mass Attendance: 179 (78, 101)  
 Offertory: £448.45  
 Candles: £115.30  
 Books & Papers: £5.73  
 Flowers: £74.96  
 World Needy: £48.43  
 Building Fund: £200  
 Building Fund in memory of Denis Lupton: £117.80

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*Week beginning 28<sup>th</sup> December*

**Church Cleaning**

*Group 2 Kathleen McGinley's group*

**Liturgy of the Word with Children**

*Children stay in church.*

**Refreshments after Mass**

*Doreen & Kathleen*

*The S.V.P. Food Bank*

Whilst you're out shopping, please spare a thought for the local families who will be short of food this Christmas. Think about buying a little bit extra and donate it to the food bank. Donations can be placed in the large box near the church door. Thank you!