

Diary

Tuesday 15th December : Clergy Deanery Conference Christmas lunch at Sacred Heart, Thornton.

Wednesday 16th December: St. Mary's School Carol Service at 6 p.m. in church. ALL WELCOME !

Friday 18th December : UNDERSTANDING OUR FAITH

Recently a couple of people have spoken to me, wanting to know more about the Catholic Faith and perhaps becoming members of the Church. So, continuing this coming Friday, there will be another of discussion and reflection on different aspects of the Catholic Faith. If you are interested in learning more about it, you will be very welcome. Practising Catholics, non-practising Catholics and newcomers to the Faith are ALL WELCOME at 4.00p.m. in the presbytery on Friday. The session will last about an hour and a half.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES: After discussion at the last two Parish Pastoral Council Meetings, it was decided for this year to try the following:

Christmas Eve: Children's and Family Mass at 6p.m., preceded by carols at 5.30p.m.; **Midnight Mass** ; and on **Christmas Day** at 9.30a.m. Mass on **Boxing Day** (Saturday, 26th December) and on **New Year's Day** will be at 12 noon.

Christmas Flowers : Donations towards the cost of flowers in church for Christmas would be very much appreciated. Please hand them in to Bill or Michael. Thanks.

ST MARY'S 200 + CLUB WINNERS

For 6th December 2015

No. 111 Mrs. N. Rathbone £ 50
No. 8 Mrs. Anne Thompson £ 15

LAST SUNDAY

Mass Attendance: 188
8:30 – 73
10:30 – 115

Offertory: £ 455.69
Candles: £ 96.34
Books/Papers: £ 13.51
St. Anthony:
Flowers:
World Needy: £ 55.23

PARISH MASS BOOK + YEAR C

Volume 1 – Pg. 87

Week beginning 20th December

Church Cleaning

Children's Liturgy
L. Reader & A. Morgan

Refreshments after Mass
Kath & Maureen



St. Mary's, Fleetwood

Presbytery: 34 Kemp Street, Fleetwood, FY7 6JX.

Telephone: 01253 873331

Email: parish@stmarys-fleetwood.org.uk

Web: www.stmarys-fleetwood.org.uk

Priest: Fr. Michael Murphy

Deacon: Rev. Bill Wright

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.**

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

13TH DECEMBER 2015

**Almighty God, you sent your Son into the world where
the wheat must be
winnowed from the chaff and evil clings even to what
is good.**

**Let the fire of your Spirit purge us of greed and
deceit, so that, purified, we may find our peace in
you and you may delight in us.**

**Grant this through him whose coming is certain, whose
day draws near: your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who
lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy
Spirit, God for ever and ever.**

**Welcome families and friends to St Mary's. Join us in the Millennium Room
for refreshment and community social time after 10.30am Mass.**

SUNDAY 13 th December	8.30 a.m.	People of the Parish
	10.30 a.m. 4.00 p.m.	Dennis Taylor R.I.P. (B.B.) Advent Evening Prayer, Adoration & Benediction
MONDAY 14 th St. John of the Cross	10 a.m.	Celebration of the Word
TUESDAY 15 th	7 p.m.	Florence Clarke R.I.P.
WEDNESDAY 16 th	10 a.m.	Beryl Skitterall R.I.P. (A.S.)
	12.30 p.m.	Funeral Mass of Norah Heaney
THURSDAY 17 th	10 a.m.	Mary Price (A.A.)
FRIDAY 18 th	10 a.m.	Deceased Members of the Armour Family (A.A.)
SATURDAY 19 th	10 a.m.	Alice & Roland Murray (A. & R.M.)
	4.00p.m.	Marriage :Clair White & Dean Stockell
NEXT SUNDAY 20 th December	8.30 a.m.	People of the Parish
	10.30 a.m. 4.00p.m.	Advent Evening Prayer, Adoration & Benediction

Please remember in your prayers

» **all the sick**, especially Pastor Steve Bond, Elsie Clapp, Roy Clarke, Patsy Coll, Catherine Dale, Marianne Delaney, Marion Gerrard, Brenda Gray, Jacob Gray, Marion Hartley, Joseph Higgins, June Jagger, Alison Lyon, Gerry McCaul, Michael O'Sullivan, Mary Schon, Joe Scott, Margaret Smith, Mark Surelock, Carl Tomlinson, Winifred White, Baby Zephen (Mumbai).

» **the housebound and those in care**, especially: David Ball, Peggie Ball, Thomas Ball, Bessie Burns, Mary Davies, John Donnelly, Florrie Garrett, Brenda McCaul, Walter Myerscough, Marjorie Richardson, Doris Roberts, Monica Syms, P. Warwick and Nellie Wilson.

» **those who have died recently**: Norah Heaney, Veronica Rickman, Thomas Houton, **and also those whose anniversaries are this coming week**: Josephine Sparks, Margaret Ann Kennedy, Margaret Hearty, Mary Winifred Bistow, Florence Gater, Ernest Carr, Donald Currie, Nancy Blair, Robert Joseph Winstanley, Anne Wilson, David H. Bamber, Holly Gray, George Green, John Wright, Richard Greer, Frank O'Donnell, Kathleen Oldfield, Alan Thompson.

THE WORD AHEAD - Next Sunday's Gospel

Read The Gospel for Sunday 20th December 2015
Luke 1: 39-44 The Visitation

Reflect After spending a few minutes considering this Gospel, continue by reading Fr Henry Wansbrough's reflection.

Luke's account of the birth and infancy of Jesus is built on the comparison and contrast between the two stories of John the Baptist and Jesus: the annunciation to the parents, the birth of each child, the joy on earth and in heaven, the circumcision, the growth of the child. In each incident John is shown to be great, but Jesus greater still. Only in the incident narrated in today's gospel do the two families meet, the two stories cross. We see the two mothers together, marvelling at the destiny of their children. The journey from Nazareth to even the nearest of the towns in the hill country of Judah (traditionally Elizabeth's home is located at Ain Karim, now on the outskirts of Jerusalem) would have been arduous, a week's walk for a fit young woman. This special exertion and generosity shows Mary's love and care for her elderly relative, as well as the natural excitement of the two in sharing their motherhood. Luke has already told us that Mary was filled with the Holy Spirit. Now Elizabeth too is filled with the Holy Spirit as they participate in and exchange the praise of God for the gift of their children.

Is there anyone I know to whom a visit would bring special joy during Christmastide?

Dom Henry Wansbrough

The Sacrament of Confirmation: Bishop Michael is coming to St. Mary's to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation for both Fleetwood parishes on Tuesday, 24th May, 2016, at 7.00p.m. Any child or youngster of secondary school age can put themselves forward to receive the sacrament. Any adult who has not been confirmed will also be welcome to prepare to receive the sacrament. Would **all** prospective candidates please put their **request in writing** to Fr. Michael, along with relevant contact details? Thank you.

N.B. About this time last year I received written requests from the following: Emily Bowman, Imogen Reader, Danny & Anita Morgan, Phoebe Paul, Eliza and Abbie Webster. I will presume that these candidates are still interested, unless I hear otherwise. Thanks !

Red Mill Hill Mission Boxes: Just to remind you, please to bring your boxes for emptying after either Sunday Mass in January. Thank you, Audrey and Anne.

CONGRATULATIONS to Clair White and Dean Stockell who are to be married in our Church this coming Saturday.

Cake Sale today after both Masses to raise funds for World Youth Day