

Diary

Fridays at 4p.m. "Understanding our Faith" meeting in the presbytery. All welcome.

Cardinal Allen Senior Citizens' Christmas Party – will be held this coming Tuesday, 13th December, in the school hall at 1.30p.m.

Tuesday, 20th December - St. Mary's School Carol Service, 6p.m. in church.

THURSDAY, 22ND DECEMBER – Christmas Church Cleaning

It would be nice to give the church an extra clean just before Christmas. If you have time to spare on Thursday 22nd December, your help would be greatly appreciated. We will clean after the 10 o'clock Mass.

A Pilgrimage to Medjugorje with St. Clare's Parish, Fulwood, Preston, from 22nd to 29th August 2017. Cost: £580 (sharing a room) or £690 (single room). For more details see the poster in the porch or ring the group leader, Rev. B. Loveland, on 01539 563391.



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

11th December 2016

God of glory and compassion, at your touch the wilderness blossoms, broken lives are made whole, and fearful hearts grow strong in faith.

Open your eyes to your presence and awaken our hearts to sing your praise. To all who long for your Son's return grant perseverance and patience, that we may announce in word and deed the good news of the kingdom.

We ask 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.

ST MARY'S 200 + CLUB WINNERS

For 4th December 2016

No.153 Winifred Wright £ 50

No. 72 Helen Blade £ 15

LAST SUNDAY

Mass Attendance: 178

8:30 – 75

10:30 – 103

Offertory: £ 424.28

Candles: £ 86.02

Books/Papers:

St. Anthony: £ 13.45

Building Fund: £ 10.21

World Needy: £ 26.29

PARISH MASS BOOK + YEAR A

Volume 1 – Pg. 88

Week beginning 18th December

Church Cleaning

Children's Liturgy

No group

Refreshments after Mass

Doreen & Kathleen

Sunday 11th December Third Sunday of Advent	8.30 a.m.	People of the Parish
	10.30 a.m. 4 p.m.	Marion Hartley Evening Prayer and Benediction
MONDAY 12th	10.00 a.m.	Celebration of the Word
TUESDAY 13th St. Lucy	7.00 p.m.	Bernard & Kathleen Hearty (M.J.M.)
WEDNESDAY 14th St. John of the Cross	10.00 a.m.	Marion Hartley (I.R.)
THURSDAY 15th	10.00 a.m.	Sr. Mary Campion C.P. (M.I.)
FRIDAY 16th	10.00 a.m.	Beryl Skitterall Wedding Anniversary Memories (A.S.)
SATURDAY 17th	10.00 a.m.	Margaret & Arthur Smith (A.&M.)
Next Sunday 18th December Fourth Sunday of Advent	8.30 a.m.	Joe McCann (B.McC.)
	10.30 a.m. 4 p.m.	People of the Parish Evening Prayer and Benediction

Please remember in your prayers



»**all the sick**, especially: Elsie Clapp, Patsy Coll, Catherine Dale, Marianne Delaney, Teresa Drake, Sarah Finley, Marion Gerrard, Jacob Gray, Veronica Greer, Joseph Higgins, Mary Holden, June Jagger, Rosemary Lovatt, Alison Lyon, Gerry McCaul, Michael O'Sullivan, Trevor Sandford, Mary Schon, Joe Scott, Mark Surelock, Winifred White, Baby Zephen (Mumbai)

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



>>**those who have died recently**: Paul Bywater, Patsy Briggs, Mary Buckley, Marjorie Cliff, John Clifford, John Davies, Maria Leadbetter, Charlotte Porter

and also those whose anniversaries are this coming week: Joseph Drury, Josephine Sparks, Margaret Ann Kennedy, Jacqueline Mary Lawn, Margaret Hearty, Hamish Stephen Duncan, Mary Winifred Bistow, Florence Gater, Ernest Carr, Donald Currie, Nancy Blair, Phylis Anne Magnusson, Robert Joseph Winstanley, Anne Wilson, David H. Bamber, Holly Gray

THE WORD AHEAD - Next Sunday's Gospel

Read **The Gospel for Sunday 16th December 2016 (Matthew 1:18-24) Emmanuel**

*Matthew begins his Gospel about the birth of Jesus with a long and elaborately formal genealogy of Joseph. But Jesus is the son of Mary, not of Joseph! The whole point of this story is that Joseph is not the genealogical father of Jesus, but adopts Jesus into his line, the line of King David. At first Joseph is hesitant to do so, presumably thinking that he is unworthy to acknowledge the child as his own, and unworthy to bond with Mary who is with child by the Holy Spirit. But the angel insists that only Joseph can do this job ('Do not be afraid,' he says). As soon as the child is born, he is given the name Jesus, and is given it by Joseph. It is the father's prerogative to name a son, and by so doing Joseph takes the child as his own. We hear little more of Joseph, but what a joy it must have been to have Jesus as a son! What a relationship there must have been! What responsibility too! When Jesus calls God his 'Father', he is using something of the concept of 'father' which must have been formed in his mind by his adoptive father, Joseph, the perfect ideal of the loving parent. **Why is it important that Jesus should be adopted into David's line? What sort of father would Joseph have been, and what can we learn from him?***

Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB

Current Parish Pastoral Council Minutes will be displayed at the back of church.

200 CLUB - In recent years membership of the 200 Club has fallen, and it is felt that the amount of prize money needs to be reduced, as from January 2017. Please consider joining the 200 Club if you are not already a member. It costs £1 weekly. There is a minimum of £65 prize money each week. **JUST A REMINDER TO THOSE MEMBERS WHO PAY ANNUALLY - YOUR SUBSCRIPTION IS DUE IN JANUARY. THANK YOU.**

Any donations towards the cost of **flowers for Church Decoration for Christmas** would be greatly appreciated. Please give donation to Fr. Michael or Bill. Thank you.

Bill's Christmas cards are on sale at the back of church.