

Parish of Our Lady and St David, Cwmbran

(Registered Charity No. 242380)

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15th December 2013

3rd Sunday of Advent Year A (Gaudete Sunday)

Psalter Week 3

Advent Hymn (Tune: Away on a manger)

(To be sung during the lighting of the candle)

A candle is burning, a candle of Joy;
 A candle to welcome brave Mary's new boy.
 Our hearts fill with wonder and eyes light and glow
 As Joy brightens winter like sunshine on snow.



Our Parish Liturgy and Devotions This Week

Morning Prayer: Tues, Wed & Thurs 9.10am, Fri: 9.40am Evening Prayer: Fri 4.40pm

Saturday	4.30pm	St David's	Rose and Jack Clifford (MW)
	6.00pm	Our Lady's	Settimio (Tom) Tritardli
Sunday	9.30am	Our Lady's	Thanksgiving Golden Wedding
	11.15am	St David's	Denis Donoghue (VD)
Monday	9.30am	Abbey	People of the Parish
Tuesday	9.30am	St David's	Mary and Fred Strutt (MM)
Wednesday	9.30am	Our Lady's	Pieto Cordani (TC)
Thursday	9.30am	St David's	Maureen Joyce's Intentions (MG)
Friday	9am -5pm	Our Lady's	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
	10.00am	Our Lady's	Nicola Lavalle (MN)
Saturday	12-12.30	Our Lady's	Sacrament of Reconciliation
	3.45-4.15	St David's	Sacrament of Reconciliation
	4.30pm	St David's	Tom Jordan (MB)
	6.00pm	Our Lady's	Pat and Ken Harnett (LA)
Sunday	9.30am	Our Lady's	Brian Draisey (RD)
	11.15am	St David's	Elsie and Jack Coombes(R&GJ)

Are you the one who is to come, or have we got to wait for someone else?

In many ways the readings this Sunday are simply a continuation of last week – Isaiah gives us more details about the work of the Messiah, and Paul invites us to continue to be patient until the Lord's Coming. What is slightly different is the voice of John the Baptist this week: last week in Matthew 3 he was proclaiming with utter confidence that "someone is coming". Now, in Matthew 11, he asks Jesus from prison: "Is it you?" For us, as we listen to these scriptures, we are being offered something very particular – the prophecies of Isaiah (and indeed the prophet John the Baptist) are pinned down firmly and securely in the person of Jesus, Son of Mary – in fact, Jesus himself, in his reply to John says as much: "I am the Messiah that Isaiah prophesied." Again we are invited to hold the images of the prophecies in our minds until Christmas, when we can look on the child in the manger and say "We know who this is: it is the promised Messiah – God who comes to save us!"

TEA, COFFEE, BISCUITS and a CHAT in St Anne's room after 9.30am Mass today and every Sunday

First Reading: Isaiah 35: 1-6, 10

Res: Come, Lord, and save us.

Second Reading: James 5: 7-10

Gospel Reading: Matthew 11:2-11

Today at the 9.30am Mass, we celebrate a Family Advent Mass with the pupils and staff of Our Lady of the Angels School

Advent: Sacrament of Reconciliation

On Wednesday 18th December from 7pm-8pm Father Michael Cronin will be at Our Lady's Church to hear confessions

HCPT Group 97 is a local group who takes children to Lourdes at Easter. We will be selling raffle tickets outside Mass this weekend for our Christmas Grand Draw. All monies raised will go towards our 2014 pilgrimage. Thank you for your support.

Congratulations to John and Alma Berry who celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary today.

What's on this week at Our Lady's

Tuesday: 2pm Social Club
Wednesday: 8pm UCM
8pm Choir Practice

Your giving to your Parish: many thanks

Gift Aid	£420.70
Non Gift Aid	£676.68
Gift Aid Standing Order	£117.12
Total giving this week	£1214.50

WALK WITH ME Booklet £1.00

A Journey of Prayer for Advent and Christmastide 2013 now on sale £1 each. Please buy one for someone you know to be a "Resting Catholic."

Directory & Year Books £2.60

The Archdiocesan directory and year books are now available.

Parish Diaries. £1.00

Available from the back of the Church

First Reconciliation will be celebrated on 14th March 2014

The first class for parents and children will take place on Monday, 27th January 2014 in St Anne's room at Our Lady of the Angels Church at 5.30pm. Forms are available from Our Lady of the Angels School and St David's School and for children who attend Non-Catholic Schools forms are available from Canon John

First Holy Communion

The first class will take place on Monday, 24th March 2014 in St Anne's room, Our Lady of the Angels Church at 5.30pm. First Holy Communion will be celebrated at Our Lady's on Saturday, 10th May 2014 at 10am and at St David's on Saturday, 17th May at 10am

Interested in Becoming a Catholic?

The group continues to meet in St Anne's room at Our Lady's Church on Thursdays at 8.00pm for anyone interested in joining the Catholic Church. Please come along if you want to know more about the Faith

Christmas Prize Draw tickets are on sale this weekend at St David's Church. Lots of prizes including M&S Hampers, champagne, pressure cooker and many more!

What's on this week at St David's

Tuesday: 10am Divine Mercy Devotions
Wednesday: 10am Choir Practice
Thursday: 10am Legion of Mary

Advent to Christmas

Christmas Eve: St David's 6pm
Our Lady's 9pm
Christmas Day: Our Lady's 9am
St David's 10.30am

St Alban's R.C. High School 50th Anniversary

You are warmly invited St Alban's R.C. High School School Carol Service at St Gabriel's Church, Old Cwmbran on Wednesday December 17th at 7:00 all are welcome

Engaged Encounter (EE) weekend

Which will be held in Bristol (Emmaus Centre) on 1st and 2nd February 2014. An EE Weekend is the ideal way for engaged couples to prepare for their marriage in the Catholic Church. More details and booking form can be found on our website here:

<http://wwme.org.uk/engaged-encounter/>

Marriage Encounter Weekend:

It will be held in Emmaus centre, Bristol on 7th – 9th March 2014. This is an opportunity for married couples to enjoy quality time away from the distractions of jobs, children and interruptions. The focus of the weekend is on your own relationship and you do not have to share any personal details with others. Weekends are catholic in origin but all married couples of any or no faith are welcome. If you want to book, please visit the website:

<http://wwme.org.uk/>

Youth 2000 New Year Retreat:
Home Coming

29th Dec 2013 – 1st Jan 2014. Open to all aged 16-35. See poster for details

Parish Directory

PAC Chairman: Mrs. Paddy Landers 01633 868352
Head teacher: Mrs. Sheelagh McCool
Our Lady of the Angels School Tel: 01633 484673
Head teacher: Mr. John Healey
St David's School Tel: 01633 482580
Safeguarding: Paul Williams 01633 770349
John Metcalfe 07977108478