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The Parish Office is open:

Tues 9:30am - 12:30pm

Wed 9:30am - 12:30pm

Fri 9:30am - 12:30pm

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Mass this Sunday: Third Sunday of Advent (A) 15th December 2019

Today's Readings

Isaiah 35:1-6. 10 The prophet looks forward to a day when those who are blind will see, those who are deaf will hear and those who are lame will "leap like a deer".

James 5:7-10 Be patient, says the writer. Take the example of a farmer waiting for the crop to ripen. Impatience will not hasten the Lord's return.

Matthew 11:2-11 In prison and nearing death, John sends messengers to ask who Jesus is; Jesus replies that John must read the signs for himself.

Mass This Week

Saturday 14th 6:30pm

Sunday 15th 9:00am

10:30am

Tuesday 17th 7:30pm Advent Weekday

Wednesday 18th 9:15am Advent Weekday

Thursday 19th 9:15am Advent Weekday

Friday 20th 9:15am Advent Weekday

Intention

For Our Parishioners

June – LF (Intention)

Patrick Herschan (Intention)

Our keeping of Christmas

Expectant Mothers

Families

Canon Louis Thomas RIP

Sacrament of Reconciliation 5:45pm or by appointment

The Sanctuary Lamp burns for the intention of L M Turi and Family

Advent Evening Prayer: 5:30pm Tuesday – Friday throughout Advent.

Last Week's Offertory This amounted to £536.65
Many thanks for all your generosity. We also receive about £600 each week in bank standing orders from parishioners. **Text Giving** If you wish to support the parish by giving £5 via your mobile 'phone, just text PARISH ROYST to 70800.

Christmas Volunteers Needed! There are always things to be done and often over Christmas the people who would normally get on and do them have got away! Please help if you can: we always need servers and welcomers and readers and Eucharistic ministers.

Rosaries there are some lovely rosaries (handmade by one of our artistic parishioners) available in the Sacristy, suggested donation of £10.

The Giving Tree again we will be collecting your gifts of suitable things for people in need locally this year. It is helpful if you could indicate (if relevant) if your gift is more suited to a man or a woman. **Please note that all gifts must be in by the end of this week in order for them to be delivered before Christmas.**

RCIA Our next session will be at 9:45am on Wednesday 18th December in the Presbytery when we are exploring the place of Mary in Catholic thinking and praying. Any more adults wishing to think through Catholic believing and belonging and maybe prepare to become Catholics are welcome.

Would you like to make your own stunning Christmas flower arrangement for your own Christmas table or to give to a loved one, friend or neighbour? If so please come to an afternoon run by our own Church flower arrangers. All instruction and equipment will be provided (containers, oasis, wire, greenery and flowers), together with a glass of prosecco (non-alcoholic alternatives will be provided). No experience necessary. Please bring any baubles (small), ribbons, candles or other decorative bits you would like. Children in year 7 and above are welcome but must be accompanied and supervised by an adult. Last years event was relaxing and very friendly and really fun. **Sunday 15th December 2 to 4pm, The Parish Hall.** £15 per person, includes a glass of prosecco and tea or coffee. There is a sign up sheet at the back of Church. For more information please contact Wanda (details on the sign up sheet at the back of Church)

Christmas Flowers There will be a second collection at all masses this weekend for the flowers in the church over the Christmas period. Thank you in advance for your contributions.

Westminster Year Book 2020 (containing the 2020 Liturgical Calendar) Copies are now available at the back of the church priced at £4.50.

St Mary's School Nativity Everyone is invited to the school's "outside" Nativity with real animals and outside sets/staging on Wednesday 18th December. The Nativity will begin at 7pm and refreshments will be available beforehand (including mulled wine). Entry will be via the school office and the doors will close promptly at 7pm. Unfortunately, anyone arriving late will not be able to gain access as the staff will all be outside. Please be aware that this is an outdoor event so please wear appropriate footwear and clothing. Please bring your own camping chair as you will be seated to watch the performance in the amphitheatre.

The Holy Father's Intention for December

The Future of the Very Young: That every country take the measures necessary to prioritize the future of the very young, especially those who are suffering.

Church Cleaning The Christmas Church clean will take place on Thursday 19th December at 10am. If you have some time to spare, your help would be greatly appreciated. All welcome.



Pilgrim Prayer for The Year of The Word

Pilgrim God, you walk alongside us and speak to us throughout the Scriptures: in the message of the prophets, the songs of David and the vision of Paul.

Your Son, Jesus Christ, listens to our hopes and fears and shows us how to live: in our love of neighbour, our desire for justice, and in our dying and rising each day.

Send us the Holy Spirit to open our hearts and minds so that we may be your witnesses throughout the world: in our protection of the vulnerable, our words and actions and in our communion with the earth.

Amen

V. Your word is our path and your truth is our light.

R. This day and every day.

Our Lady of the Annunciation pray for us.

St Matthew pray for us.

St Jerome pray for us