



Diocesan Year of Prayer and Vocation

Saints Philip and James: Bedford

Lead us to heaven, Father: lead us to heaven

First Sunday of Advent - Year C

Psalter week 1

2nd December 2018

Parish Priest: Fr Wayne Coughlin

Deacons: Revv. Tony Quinlan, Crispin Walkling-Lea

Propers for Advent One

Entrance Antiphon

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

Responsorial Psalm

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

Gospel Acclamation

Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help.

Communion Antiphon

The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.

Confessions on Saturday:

Ss Philip & James: Fr Wayne at the Cathedral for Diocesan Mass
Holy Cross: **5:15 - 5:45pm**

Confessions may also be heard by arrangement or in need at a reasonable time.

Baptisms: by arrangement. The next baptism preparation meeting is at Holy Cross at 7:30pm on 18th December with Deacon Tony.

Weddings: at least six months' notice and with a Diocesan fee of £45.

How to ask for a Mass Intention: Email, telephone, write a letter, drop a note, beat a path to her door or send a carrier pigeon ^{letter} to Maria Quinlan, Parish Secretary at SsP&J. If you want to make an offering, that is fine; your offering is used for the mission of the parish. It is not a gift to Fr Wayne. Place any offering in an envelope and mark the envelope with your name and your named intention previously booked.

[NB] Parish Priests must offer one Mass per weekend for their parish.

Masses for Christmas

24th December - **Christmas Eve**

9:30am PJ Mass of Advent
2:30pm IRC Yarl's Wood Mass
6:00pm HC Vigil Youth Mass
9:30pm PJ Sacred Readings and Carols led by the Choir
10:00pm PJ Mass

25th December - **Christmas Day**

8:00am PJ Mass
9:15am HC Mass
11:00am PJ Mass

Cards are available in the narthex for people to keep or give away which have the times of Christmas Masses on them.

Today after the 11:00am Mass, different flavoured olive biscuits will be available during refreshments. Do come and join us and celebrate the inauguration of our Jesse Giving Tree which takes the form of a stylised olive tree.

Parents of young children: please ensure you encourage your children to come and collect a **Jesse Tree sticker set** after Mass. These have been shipped in from America where they are immensely popular with families.

Mass Intentions and Services

PJ – Ss Philip and James HC – Holy Cross SJR – St John Rigby

Sat 1 Dec
6:00pm HC

Votive Mass of Our Lady
Cait u Murchy, RIP

Sun 2 Dec
8:00am PJ
9:15am HC
11:00am PJ

First Sunday of Advent (Cycle C)
Mass for the Parish (Missa pro Populo)
Greaves family and Loveday family
Benjamin Stephen Ostley, First Birthday

Mon 3 Dec
9:30am PJ

St Francis Xavier, Priest - Memorial
Liturgy of Word and Holy Communion
after Liturgy - Adoration and Benediction

Tue 4 Dec
9:30am HC

Feria
Liturgy of Word and Holy Communion

Wed 5 Dec
9:30am PJ

St Birinus, Bishop - Memorial
Liturgy of Word and Holy Communion

Thu 6 Dec
9:30am HC

Feria
Liturgy of Word and Holy Communion

Fri 7 Dec
9:30am HC

St Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor - Memorial
Liturgy of Word and Holy Communion
after Liturgy - Adoration and Benediction
Vigil Mass for Immaculate Conception of BVM
after Mass - Adoration and Benediction

7:00pm PJ

Sat 8 Dec

Immaculate Conception of BVM - solemnity
Chief Patron of the Diocese
Liturgy of Word and Holy Communion
Margaret McAuley, RIP

9:30am PJ
6:00pm HC

Sun 9 Dec
8:00am PJ
9:15am HC
11:00am PJ

Second Sunday of Advent
Mass for the Parish (Missa pro Populo)
Holy Souls
Ian Mitchell, RIP

Morning Prayer: before the morning daily Mass or Liturgy; Monday to Saturday. There is **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, followed by Benediction** on Monday and Friday.

As today we start a new liturgical year let us take to heart this statement: "remember the past with gratitude, live the present with enthusiasm and look forward to the future with confidence". St John Paul II

Hospital Chaplain: Whilst Fr Malcolm Bull continues to recuperate, those in hospital should contact their Parish Priest for sacramental care.

Fr Wayne Coughlin: The Presbytery, 2 Severn Way, Bedford MK41 7BX. Tel: (01234) 352607; parishpriestbedford@gmail.com

Fr Wayne is the Diocesan Director of Missio. Missio is the Pope's official charity for overseas mission and is part of the worldwide network of Pontifical Mission Societies.

Rev. Tony Quinlan: Tel: (01234) 950453; tonyquinlan15@gmail.com (please take note of new address)

Rev. Crispin Walkling-Lea: Tel: 07941 884645; deaconcrispin@virginmedia.com

Any items for the Newsletter to the editor please. Tel: 07986 357320; charlie.stallard@gmail.com

Website is: www.sspandjbedford.org.uk and the Webmasters are Liz & Fleur Budek; info@sspandjbedford.org.uk

Parish Secretary Holy Cross, Mrs Sheila Allen (Tue & Thu): Tel: (01234) 353116; holycrosschurch896@btconnect.com

Parish Secretary Ss Philip & James, Mrs Maria Quinlan (Wednesdays: 10am-2pm) Tel: (01234) 352607; sspandjparishsecretary@gmail.com



Diocesan Year of Prayer and Vocation

As we come to the end of our Year of Prayer and Vocation we give thanks to God for all the graces this time has brought to us in our parishes and communities. May we continue to deepen both our prayer life and our commitment to serve God in his holy Church.

Bp Peter invites you to the **Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception**: Patronal Solemnity of the Diocese. It is the closing Mass for the Year of Prayer and Vocation at 11:30am in the Cathedral. The principal celebrant will be the Apostolic Nuncio, His Excellency Archbishop Edward Adams.

Rosary Link - To pray for and sustain vocations to the Sacred Priesthood

This Friday, 7th December in P&J, 7:00pm - Vigil Mass of the Immaculate Conception and then 7:45pm - Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament with the Holy Rosary followed by refreshments (for which volunteers are needed). Please attend these liturgies particularly as we support seminarians Liam and Daniel in their continued formation for the Sacred Priesthood.

The Jesse Giving Tree

A huge thank you to those people who have supported this idea. A sign will display information relating to the charitable causes we are supporting this year. Advent resources, for families, are available to loan from the church. In the narthex, there are small Jesse Giving Tree cards on the reverse of which are printed the times of Masses for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.



There is a **Jesse Tree icon** for people to have a look at and pray before, situated at the book of the Church.

Donations for our two charitable causes can be left below the tree itself (before and after Mass) and also in the marked wall-safe in the narthex (whenever the Church is open). Linked with the Jesse Giving Tree, which takes the form of a stylised olive tree, and throughout Advent, the glass-topped display case (near the image of Our Lady) will contain the following items from the Holy Land: • rosary beads made from olive wood • holding crosses made from olive wood • rosary beads made from olive stones (pits) • Christmas Tree decorations made from olive wood • olive tree leaves • olive oil.

Bp Peter is backing the "Mission Together" (Missio) campaign that monies raised at a parish's Giving Tree and Christmas Crib support the work of this charity in its 175th anniversary year. Monies raised and your prayers will make a huge difference to the many children around the world who are in desperate need. Donations offered at the Giving Tree and Christmas Tree at PJ will support this appeal (and our own youth project linked to the new, forthcoming, Catholic Youth Minister); likewise, monies collected at the Christmas Crib in HC will support the work of this papal charity and our Catholic Youth Minister

Why a stylised olive tree for the Jesse Giving Tree?

The olive tree is rich in glorious symbolism within the Sacred Scriptures and features heavily in the account of human salvation. Since the Franciscans retook possession of the small olive grove adjacent to the Church of All Nations in 1681, the community have tended to eight of the oldest olive trees in the Holy Land. Tradition, backed by modern genetic testing, holds that these gnarled trees were grafted from a single tree that was a witness to Jesus' Passion and Death. In addition to the eight original trees (in the Garden of Gethsemane) they have now been joined by a tree planted by Pope Paul VI in 1964 and a sapling planted by Pope Francis. One of the Franciscans: "The oldest of trees are a testament to Jesus' suffering". Another remarked that as they pick the olives on the furthest branches on a tree so God reaches out to us however far away we are from Him. More beautifully still a connection was made to how the olives are pressed to release the oil in the similar fashion to how Jesus was crushed for us to release His Precious Blood that we receive at Mass.

The following plaques will be added to the Jesse Giving Tree:

First Sunday of Advent (violet - The Patriarchs):

The Earth - Creation	The Apple - Adam and Eve
The Ark - Noah	The Camel - Abraham
The Ram - Isaac	The Ladder - Jacob
The Coat - Joseph	

Keep **CHRIST** in **CHRISTmas**, use only religious cards and stamps.

Feast Day Mass of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Mass on Wednesday, 12th December in 7:30pm at the Shrine of Our Lady Of Guadalupe, Church of the Holy Child and St Joseph, Bedford. The Principal Celebrant: **Archbishop Edward Adams** with Bishop Peter in attendance. The Rector and Guardians of the Shrine hope you can join us.

The next meeting of the SVP will be Thursday, 13th December at 7:00pm in the Parish Room. Contact Pam on 07845 121557 for information.

ADVENT - Catholic Bishops' Liturgy Office of England and Wales:

- Advent, as a period of expectation and preparation, is closely related to, yet distinct from, Christmas for which it prepares.
- Advent has a twofold character. It is the season to prepare for Christmas, when Christ's first coming is remembered and is the season to direct the mind and heart to await Christ's Second Coming in judgement at the end of time.
- Advent is a period for devout and joyful expectation. The Christian community lives in an "interim" time between two historical events: the coming of Christ in the flesh and His coming in glory at the end of time. •Popular devotions should respect the nature and character of Advent. The anticipation of Christmas should be avoided. Songs, carols and devotions which focus on the Nativity are out of place in Advent. This is to avoid compromising the season of Advent and provides an opportunity to better indicate the distinction between the Christian observance of Christmas and the secular celebrations. •Where they are the custom, the Advent Crown and the Jesse Tree help to sustain an expectant orientation and may be associated with the celebration of Mass. •Prayer Vigils, Services of Light and the Sacrament of Reconciliation can be very effective in fostering a sense of watchfulness and prayer and in disposing the community to a more fruitful participation in the Masses and season of Advent.

Advent Reflection evening for Families and Young People at St Thomas More Catholic School on 6th December 2018 at 6:00pm. There will be an interactive talk about the recent "**Youth, Faith and Vocational Discernment Synod**" led by Neil Roseman from NYMO (Youth Department). Also present: *Good News Bookshop* from Luton. Refreshments available and all are welcome.

Children's Advent Service 9th December

At 4.00pm at HC next Sunday. Activities and opportunity for children to dress up and take part in the Christmas story. Refreshments afterwards.

Christ the King cakes

Thank you to those who baked such wonderful Christ the King cakes. The faces of children covered in chocolate and buttercream suggest they were much enjoyed by our youngest parishioners. Thank you also to those people who served the cake to the throng of young people.

Catholic Youth Minister

Thank you to everyone who offered words of encouragement and sheer delight at the news that we have secured the necessary funding to employ a Catholic Youth Minister for our community. The youth department of the Diocese (NORES) will take the lead as regards recruitment and the person's ongoing professional development. The contract will initially be for a period of two years. Please pray that the Lord will send us the most appropriate person. We extend our appreciation to Bernard Waddingham, Charles Stallard and Peter Commons who were involved in submitting our application for funding to the charitable trust run (appropriately for us) by the Sisters of the Holy Cross. **Deo gratias**

Divine Mercy Retreat, next Sunday, 9th December

Between 2:00pm and 6:00pm at the Church of the Holy Child and St Joseph, Bedford will be a Divine mercy Retreat which will include Mass, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Veneration of the Image, talks, etc... Poster in the narthex.

Catholic Truth Society (CTS)

There are new resources in the CTS stand for you to purchase. Many subjects are covered and they are all well worth a look. (Monies in the marked wall-safe.)

Security

On Wednesday evening, whilst Holy Cross Church, Hall and parish office were in use, a car was broken into and items stolen. The car was parked immediately outside the parish office. Can we therefore please encourage you be conscious of security and to not leave any items of value in your car or unattended in church.

Volunteer rotas are in folders in the narthex of the church.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:The rota for Jan-Mar 2019 is available for collection in the Rota Folder in the narthex. Ministers for the three Christmas Masses will be sorted out on the day.