

## Mass Times with Intentions

Sat	2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	6.00 pm VIGIL MASS	Special intention (De Waal)	Monmouth
Sunday		9.15 am	Les Duffield	Monmouth
3 <sup>rd</sup> December		11.00 am	People of the Parish	Ross-on-Wye
Mon	4 <sup>th</sup> Dec	9.15 am	Josephine Page <i>St John Damascene</i>	Monmouth
Tues	5 <sup>th</sup> Dec	7.00 pm	Special intention	Ross-on-Wye
Wed	6 <sup>th</sup> Dec	9.15 am	Private intention	Monmouth
Thur	7 <sup>th</sup> Dec	10.00 am	Norman & Catharine Attwood <i>St Ambrose</i>	Ross-on-Wye
Fri	8 <sup>th</sup> Dec	9.15 am	Phyllis O'Neill <i>Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	Monmouth

Saturday Morning – Mass at Usk Prison

Sunday – Second Sunday of Advent

Sat	9 <sup>th</sup> Dec	6.00 pm VIGIL MASS	People of the Parish	Monmouth
Sunday		9.15 am	Irene Derricott	Monmouth
10 <sup>th</sup> December		11.00 am	Squires Family intention	Ross-on-Wye

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Monmouth: Saturday evenings at 5.15 pm to 5.45 pm

Ross-on-Wye: Tuesday evenings at 6.15 pm to 6.45 pm  
or on request.

## St Mary's Catholic Church, Monmouth and

### St. Frances of Rome, Ross-on-Wye

(Parish of the Archdiocese of Cardiff Registered No: 242380)

Parish Priest: Fr. Nicholas James

email: monrossrc@gmail.com

Phone: (01600) 712029

<http://monmouthandrosscatholicchurches.uk>

## First Sunday of Advent

3 December 2017

The Church calls this mystery to mind each year to stir us to renew constantly our memory of the great love God has shown us. This commemoration teaches us that our Saviour came not only for the benefit of the people of his own time. His goodness is still there for us to share in. But, for our part, through faith and the sacraments we must lay hold on the grace he won for us and live by it in obedience to him. The Church wants us to understand that as he came once into the world in the flesh, so now, if we remove all barriers, he is ready to come to us again at any minute or hour, to make his home spiritually within us in all his grace.

Like a devoted mother, keenly concerned for our salvation, the Church uses the rites of this season, its hymns, songs and other utterances of the Holy Spirit to teach us a lesson. She shows us how to receive this great gift of God with thankfulness and how to be enriched by its possession. She teaches us that our hearts should be as prepared now for the coming of Christ our Lord as if he were still to come into the world. The Fathers also have taught us the same lesson, giving us words and examples from the Old Testament to imitate.

St Charles Borromeo

## Monmouth Collections

Gift Aid	Loose Plate	Comboni Missionaries	100 Club
£172.00	£307.73	£226.73	£150.00

### Please remember in your prayers:

Joan Humphreys, James Boyle, Simon McGrath, Billy Mann, Sheila MacEwan, Jill Lloyd, Harry Bradbear, Esther Gallagher, Bernadette Price, Liam O'Keefe, Bill Rowan, Margaret Kelly, Mary Iles, Tessa Kemp, Arthur & Angela Barge, Duncan Wills and all members of our parish who are sick. Please remember also all those whose anniversaries occur about this time.

**\*\* R.I.P. TERRY TREGASKIS:** Requiem Mass, Tue 12 December at 1.00 pm (Monmouth)

**Next Sat & Sun 9/10 December:** Collection for "Sick & retired Clergy Welfare Fund."

### ADVENT

**WALK WITH ME:** Our watchwords for Advent are: Watching, Waiting, Hearing, Hoping, Seeing and Believing. They are repeated time and again in our prayers and hymns for this season, as well as in the beautiful prophecies of the Old Testament. These words reach their climax in the response of Mary who pondered and treasured these things, storing them up in her heart. The Christian life teaches that no time is wasted when we serve God; our service of God is the sanctification of time.

The **Walk with Me** meditations offer us the time and space to do these things. Why not sit quietly with *Walk with Me* for a few minutes each day? Why not give a copy to a friend, relative or work colleague?

### Message from the SVP: THE ADVENT TWIG

As usual, with the start of Advent, the familiar SVP "Twig" appears at the back of church, with labels hanging from its bare branches. Each label carries a request for a Christmas present. Most of these are for some Christmas treats for hard-up families in Monmouth. If you would like to be involved, this is how it works:

You take a label from the Twig; buy and wrap whatever is requested; ATTACH THE LABEL TO THE PARCEL (vitally important!); then put it under the Twig, by WEDNESDAY 13th DECEMBER. The SVP will then make sure that the parcels reach their destinations. If you choose to provide Christmas treats, please could you make sure they fit into a shoe-box-sized container (a small one for a small family, a large for

a large etc.). There's a good supply of empty shoe-boxes behind the confessional! Thank you very much indeed.

**AUTUMN FAYRE UPDATE** - As a result of the Wine or Water competition over last weekend, the proceeds have now risen to £1498, a most encouraging amount.

The Social & Fundraising Committee is running a raffle entitled '**Everyone's a winner**' (a raffle of chocolate left over from the Chocolate Tombola) on Sunday morning. Tickets are £1, and everyone who buys a ticket will receive a prize of chocolate. Please join us after Mass for coffee and to take part in the raffle.

**LIVESIMPLY** – Thank you for your support for the LiveSimply stall at the Fayre and for the Far Hill Flowers demonstration on Wednesday. Thanks to your generosity our parishes can twin another four toilets for people living in desperate poverty.

**ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL events:** *Infants' Nativity* at the school on 11th December 2pm; *Juniors' Carol Concert:* in the church - 12th December 6.30pm. *End of term Mass:* in the church on 14th December at 10am. Parishioners are warmly invited to attend.

### CHILDREN'S CAROLS AT GIBRALTAR HOUSE – 10 DECEMBER at 3 p.m.

The children of the parish will be singing carols for the residents of Gibraltar House on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> at 3.00pm. Due to space constraints, it will not be possible for parishioners to attend (unless visiting residents of GH at the time – please do so if you know anybody there!) but all children are warmly invited to take part. Rehearsal after Mass on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> and possibly a second one the following week, if required. The carol-singing is expected to last 30-45 mins.

**LIVESIMPLY: Thursday 14 December** in the parish room in Ross. Group meeting starts at 6.30 pm followed by Praying Simply workshop at 7 pm. Everyone most welcome.

**COFFEE MORNING: Saturday 16 December** - at St. Thomas Church Hall (Ty Price) 10 am – 12 noon in aid of LLamau. Donations of cakes welcome. Contact Kath Beavis or Mary Boase for more information.

Date	Eucharistic Minister	Reader	Welcomer
25 <sup>th</sup> Nov 26 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Glyn Jones Ali Szwagrzak	Anne May Children's Mass	Mr & Mrs Keyton Martina Davies
2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec 3 <sup>rd</sup> Dec	Liz Alford Richard Tonkin	Martin Milling Roger Ruston	Mrs Elizabeth Allcock Mary Boase

