

## Mass Times & Intentions

<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Dec 2017</b> <b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent</b>		Vigil Mass 6.00pm	<i>Special intention (De Waal)</i>	Monmouth
		9.15am	<i>Les Duffield</i>	Monmouth
		11.00am	<i>People of the Parish</i>	<b>Ross-on-Wye</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup></b>	9.15am	<b><i>St John Damascene</i></b> <i>Josephine Page</i>	Monmouth
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup></b>	7.00pm	<i>Special intention</i>	<b>Ross-on-Wye</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>6<sup>th</sup></b>	9.15am	<i>Private intention</i>	Monmouth
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>7<sup>th</sup></b>	10.00am	<b><i>St Ambrose</i></b> <i>Norman &amp; Catharine Attwood</i>	<b>Ross-on-Wye</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>8<sup>th</sup></b>	9.15am	<b><i>Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i></b> <i>Phyllis O'Neill</i>	Monmouth
Saturday morning Mass at Usk Prison				
<b>Sacrament of Reconciliation</b> Monmouth: Saturday: 5.15pm-5.45pm Ross-on-Wye: Tuesday: 6.15pm-6.45pm				
<b>10<sup>th</sup> Dec 2017</b> <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent</b>		Vigil Mass 6.00pm	<i>People of the Parish</i>	Monmouth
		9.15am	<i>Irene Derricott</i>	Monmouth
		11.00am	<i>Squires Family intention</i>	<b>Ross-on-Wye</b>
<b>Sunday evening Mass is celebrated regularly at Our Lady Queen of Martyrs, Hereford at 6.30pm.</b> 101 Belmont Road, Hereford HR2 7JR				
Editors: Janet & Stephen Baker - <a href="mailto:stfrances.editor@gmail.com">stfrances.editor@gmail.com</a> Please send items for the Ross newsletter by 12 noon Thursday or items for the Monmouth newsletter: <a href="mailto:stmarysrc.editor@gmail.com">stmarysrc.editor@gmail.com</a> by 12 noon Thursday				
If you wish to book the Parish Room for an event please contact Ann McKnight <a href="mailto:upperkern@gmail.com">upperkern@gmail.com</a>				

# St. Frances of Rome

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**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> 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*

HYMNS	
92	
608	
109	
721	

Offertory Totals 26 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2017				
Envelopes	Loose plate	Other	Missions	Total
£108.00	£148.29	£12.63	£314.04	£582.96

Next Sunday, 10<sup>th</sup> December, there will be a collection for the sick and retired clergy.

**SICK PARISHIONERS:** Please remember in your prayers: *Rita Katrak, Ivan Merritt, Claire Niven, Paul Bennett, Bridgit Frankland, Eileen & Roger Crosby, Joyce Wight, Margaret Collinson, Neil Hillyer, Kathy O'Connor, Mary McCrory, Fausta Scarand, Janet and Andrew Baily, Margarete Denton, John McKnight, Mike Fennesey.*

**We remember those whose anniversaries occur about this time:** *Michael Kearney, Winifred Morgan, Sheila Garton, Frances Davis.*

**Please pray:** for the happy repose of the soul of **Charles Lumb** who died recently. His funeral

service will take place at the Catholic Church of Our Lady of Lourdes, Newent on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December at 1pm.

**Padre Pio Prayer Group:** meets at 4.45pm today in the Parish Room. We pray especially for the parish, the sick and the lonely, the housebound, deceased members of our community and their families, followed by the Rosary in the church. All are welcome to join us.

**FAITH SHARING GROUP:** meets every Thursday during Advent, in the Parish Room at 12 noon. All are welcome.

### ADVENT 2017

**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?

*The booklets are available at the back of the church £1*

**Light up a Life: today, Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December at Ross Baptist Church at 6.30pm.** This is a service of prayers and readings to remember those close to us who have died.

**Carol Service at the Poor Clares, Much Birch:** Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2017. Evening prayer at 3.00pm and Carol Service at 3.30pm. Refreshments will be served after the service.

### St Joseph's School Events

- **Infants' Nativity:** at the school - 11<sup>th</sup> December 2pm;
- **Juniors' Carol Concert:** in the church - 12<sup>th</sup> December 6.30pm
- **End of term Mass:** in the church on 14<sup>th</sup> December at 10am.  
*Parishioners are warmly invited to share in these events.*

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

**Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:** The parish needs more extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion. If you are interested in this ministry, please contact Father Nick.

**100 Club winners:** £100 No. 52 Ronnie Gabb; £25 No. 80 Stephen Machin; £25 No. 34 John Munnely. Winners please collect your cheques from Aidan Browne.

**Gaudete Sunday:** 17th December, coffee and mince pies will be served in the parish room after Mass. Everyone is invited, and the second *100 Club draw* will take place.

Rotas	Readers	Extraordinary Eucharistic Ministers	Tea & Coffee
1 <sup>st</sup> of Advent 3 <sup>rd</sup> Dec 2017	Lynne	Jon, Lindsay, Maureen	Mike & Christine.
2 <sup>nd</sup> of Advent 10 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2017	Pat Burbidge	Honor, Aidan, Lynne	Josie E

**ASSISI & ROME PILGRIMAGE** likely to be September 2018, at a cost of about £865 (£190 single supplement) - If you are interested in finding out more (no commitment at this stage) please let Fr Nick know or send an email to Honor Houghton – honor.houghton@hotmail.co.uk