

# St Mary's Catholic Church, Monmouth

St. Frances of Rome, Ross-on-Wye

Parish Priest: Fr. Nicholas James

email: [monrossrc@gmail.com](mailto:monrossrc@gmail.com)

Tel: (01600) 712029

<http://monmouthandrosscatholicchurches.uk>

*Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe – 25 November 2018*

Jesus' closest disciples had difficulty grasping this double view of the kingdom. After his death and resurrection, when they understood at last that the Messiah had come not as a conquering king but as one clothed in humility and weakness, even then one thought obsessed them: "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" No doubt they were thinking of a visible kingdom to replace the rule of Rome. Jesus brushed aside the question and commanded them to carry word of him to the ends of the earth. That is when, to their amazement, he ascended out of sight and when, a few moments later, the angels explained, "This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, *will come back* in the same way you have seen him go into heaven." The kind of kingdom they yearned for would indeed come, but not yet.

I must confess that for many years I avoided thinking about the Second Coming of Jesus – partly, I am sure, as a reaction to the prophecy mania of my childhood church. The doctrine seemed an embarrassment, the kind of talk that attracted people who believed in flying saucers. I still have little certainty about details of the Second Coming, but I now see it as the necessary culmination of the kingdom of God. To the degree that the church loses faith in Christ's return and contents itself to be a comfortable part of this world and not the advance guard of a kingdom from another world, to that degree we risk losing faith in a sovereign God. God put his reputation on the line. The New Testament points to a time when "every knee should bow... and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord." Obviously, that has not yet happened. Several decades after Easter, the apostle Paul spoke of the whole creation groaning in labour pains for a redemption not yet realized. Jesus' first coming did not solve the problems of planet earth, rather it presented a vision of God's kingdom to help break the earthly spell of delusion. Only at Christ's second coming will the kingdom of God appear in all its fullness.

Philip Yancey

## Mass Times & Intentions

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE  25 <sup>th</sup> November		Vigil Mass 6.00 pm	Allcock & Houser families	Monmouth
		9.15 am	Mary Wyliss	Monmouth
		11.00 am	People of the Parish	Ross-on-Wye
Monday	26 <sup>th</sup>	9.15 am	James family	Monmouth
Tuesday	27 <sup>th</sup>	7.00 pm	Bill Harris	Ross-on-Wye
Wednesday	28 <sup>th</sup>	9.15 am	Holy Souls	Monmouth
Thursday	29 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 am	Charles Lumb	Ross-on-Wye
Friday	30 <sup>th</sup>	9.15 am	Brady family (deceased) <i>St Andrew</i>	Monmouth
Saturday morning Mass at Usk Prison				
<b>Sacrament of Reconciliation</b>				
Monmouth: Saturday evenings at 5.15 pm to 5.45 pm Ross-on-Wye: Tuesday evenings at 6.15 pm to 6.45 pm				
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT  2 <sup>nd</sup> December		Vigil Mass Saturday 6.00 pm	People of the Parish	Monmouth
		9.15 am	Sheila Garton	Monmouth
		11.00 am	Private intention	Ross-on-Wye
Contributions to the newsletter to: <a href="mailto:stmarysrc.editor@gmail.com">stmarysrc.editor@gmail.com</a> by 12 noon Thursday please <a href="mailto:stfrances.editor@gmail.com">stfrances.editor@gmail.com</a> (St Frances of Rome, Ross-on-Wye)				

*Monmouth Collections*

<b>Gift Aid</b>	<b>Loose Plate</b>
<b>£162.00</b>	<b>£296.62</b>

**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, Arthur & Angela Barge, Duncan Wills, Nigel Poole, Olivia Sherrington, Rachael Peters and all members of our parish who are sick.

Please remember also all those whose anniversaries occur about this time.

**GRAND ADVENT DRAW:** The draw will take place after Mass on December 2<sup>nd</sup>. A complete list of prizes can be viewed in the Church Porch. All counterfoils/money should have been returned by this weekend; any counterfoils that are received by Friday, November 30<sup>th</sup> at the latest will be included in the draw. Thank you for your support and co-operation.

**ADVENT** “Advent has a two-fold character, for it is a time of preparation for the Solemnities of Christmas, in which the First Coming of the Son of God to humanity is remembered, and likewise a time when, by remembrance of this, minds and hearts are led to look forward to Christ’s Second Coming at the end of time. For these two reasons, Advent is a period of devout and expectant delight.”

General Instruction of the Roman Missal.

**During Advent there will be two `Holy Hours`**

Ross: Tuesday, 11 December from 7.30-8.30 pm  
 Monmouth: Wednesday, 19 December from 9.45-11.00 am

Also, each week there will be an **Advent Service of the Word:**

Ross: Thursday, 6 December from 12 noon – 1.00 pm  
 Monmouth: Wednesday, 12 December at 7 pm  
 Ross: Thursday, 20 December from 12 noon - 1.00 pm

**PRAYER FOR SCHOOLS MONMOUTH:** Wednesday 28 November at 7 pm in Monmouth Boys School Chapel, Monmouth. All welcome.

**CHRISTMAS WINE TASTING:** On Friday 7<sup>th</sup> Dec, Tom Innes from Fingal Rock will host a wine tasting in the parish rooms. The wines will be different to those tasted in previous years but will be suitable for the festive season. The tasting will start at 7.30pm and the cost is £10, to include all wine plus nibbles. If you are interested, please sign the list at the back of the church as we need 20 people to make this viable.

**VENITE ADOREMUS RETREAT: 8 December:** St David’s Catholic College, Cardiff CF23 5QD from 10.30 am to 3pm. If you would like a lift - or if you can offer a lift - please contact Stephen & Janet Baker 01989 565027.

**LEPROSY MISSION:** Please keep your used stamps coming in as it is so important for their work. Thank you.

**SOCIAL & FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE:** We are looking for new members to join the existing Committee. There is a continuing need to generate income and fresh ideas to achieve this objective are always welcome. If you can spare a little time and feel that you can contribute to the Committee’s work, (the Committee meets about five times a year) please contact Fr Nick, or contact me directly on (01989) 770330. Peter Field, Acting Chairman.

**MONMOUTH HOMELESSNESS CHARITY:** If you are interested in helping please contact Mike Brain [mikebrain1@aol.com](mailto:mikebrain1@aol.com) for further details.

**WORLD GIFT** catalogues are available at the back of church. World Gifts are provided by CAFOD. CAFOD works with partners in some of the poorest communities in the world, listening to their needs and helping them to find their own solutions. World Gifts are a range of virtual charity gifts that will delight the people you give them to and help transform the lives of poor communities and families in developing countries.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Eucharistic Minister</i>	<i>Reader</i>	<i>Welcomer</i>
<i>24 November</i>	<i>Anne Dunne</i>	<i>Brian Jones</i>	<i>Shelagh Adams</i>
<i>25 November</i>	<i>Robert Derricott</i>	<i>Peter Field</i>	<i>Fay McGrath</i>
<i>1 December</i>	<i>Peter Field</i>	<i>Glyn Jones</i>	<i>Mrs Pat Munday</i>
<i>2 December</i>	<i>Lynne Derricott</i>	<i>Children’s Mass</i>	<i>Wilf &amp; Pat Tamplin</i>

