



Our Lady of Perpetual Succour

Churchdown Gloucester

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Sunday 27th November 2016 – FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sun. 27 Nov	8.30 a.m. Mass: People of the Parish 10.30 a.m. Mass: Bernadette Cuffe (Anniv) 4.00 p.m. Evening Prayer and Benediction COFFEE CLUB after 10.30 a.m. Mass every Sunday	DPL: Devizes Immaculate Conception with Lavington
Mon. 28 Nov	9.00 a.m. Morning Prayer 9.15 a.m. Mass: Vocations to the priesthood & consecrated life	<i>Weekday of Advent</i>
Tues. 29Nov	9.00 a.m. Morning Prayer 9.15 a.m. Mass: Peace in Syria	<i>Weekday of Advent</i>
Wed. 30 Nov	7.00 p.m. Exposition and Rosary 7.30 p.m. Mass: All Souls	<i>Feast of St. Andrew</i>
Thur. 1 Dec	9.00 a.m. Morning Prayer 9.15 a.m. Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion	<i>Memorial of St. Alexander Briant</i>
Fri. 2 Dec	9.00 a.m. Morning Prayer 9.15 a.m. Mass: Kathleen Ensko (Ints)and John Doyle (Ints)	<i>Weekday of Advent</i>
Sat. 3 Dec	9.00 a.m. Morning Prayer 9.15 a.m. Mass: Rob Mackay (RIP) Confessions 9.45 a.m. – 10.15 a.m. or on request	<i>Memorial of St. Francis Xavier</i>

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS ALL WHOSE ANNIVERSARY OCCUR AT THIS TIME:

William Doran (27th), Lewis Townsend (27th), Bernadette Cuffe (27th), Peter Greenwood (30th), Peter Greenwood (30th), Ivy Marcus (1st Dec), Elizabeth Callaghan (2nd), John Parkinson (3rd)



We welcome everyone who is joining us today, and hope that you find it helpful to spend five minutes of silence and reflection before Mass. We pray together...

Lord God, we desire the warmth of Your love and search for Your light in the midst of the darkness, Help us to be peacemakers this Advent, giving us strength and courage to forgive those who have hurt us.

Amen

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS: Pat Crompton, Consolacion De Dios Blanco, Carol Benson, Wynne McGhee, Terry Poole, Ian Vilanueva, Jim (Seamus) Doherty, Vicky Dunn, Natalie Edwards, Nigel Lamb, Doreen Baker, Anna Ryder, Keian Andersonn, Brian Phillips, Maria Kent, Edith Cull, Christopher Brown, May Noble, Thomas Jayaseelan, Gordon Palmer, Michelle Cooke, Caitlin Godden, Jo Beamish, Alex Geddes, baby Maggie Hansell, Joan Geraghty, Bernadette Metcalf, **Martin Thomas, Judi Figgures, Rebecca Lansdown, Angela Woulfe, Phyllis Shore and Peter Kost**

OFFERTORY COLLECTION for 20 November 2016 amounted to £325 + £350 = £675

National Youth Sunday collection amounted to £94

Thank you so much for your generosity.

Thank you to everyone who supports our Piety Stall. £150 has been received – for which we are grateful

SUNDAY AFTERNOONS IN ADVENT... Evening Prayer of the Church and Benediction will be celebrated here at Our Lady's at 4.00 p.m. every Sunday during Advent, starting **TODAY** All welcome.

BAPTISMS: **Jacquan** and **Jacque St Luce** were baptised as members of the Catholic Church yesterday. Please pray for them and welcome them into our Christian family.

RITE OF WELCOME: Kirsty Szekeres, Stephen Harris, and Sarah Harris are taking part in the RCIA preparation this year and are enquiring about The Catholic faith with a view to becoming Roman Catholics. As a Community, we will officially welcome them **TODAY**. Please keep them in your prayers and this special time of discernment for them as they take this step to becoming full members of the Catholic Church.



200 CLUB DRAW: The 200 Club draw for November 2016 took place on Sunday 20th November.			
PRIZE	AMOUNT	WINNER	TICKET NO
1 ST	£230	K A Holt	189
2 ND	£120	A Milczarek	96
3 RD	£60	R Jones	158

200 CLUB CHRISTMAS DRAWS

We have 2 draws during the month of December 2016, the normal monthly draw will be held on 4th December 2016, followed by the Christmas draw on the 11th December 2016.

The prizes for the Christmas draw are as follows:

1st £350, 2nd £200, 3rd £100, 4th £100, 5th £75, 6th £75, 7th £50, 8th £50

If you wish to become a member of our 200 Club starting in January 2017 please contact Paddy on 01452 309004.



NOVEMBER PRAYER FOR THE DECEASED: At all Masses during November there will be a lighted candle on the sanctuary in memory of and to remind us to pray for our deceased relatives and friends and those who have no one to remember them. There will be a special leaflet available for you on which you can write the name of your loved ones who have died. You can place these in the basket at the front of the altar. These special leaflets will be available for you in the narthex.

SALE OF GOODS FROM BETHLEHEM: If anyone would like a lift from the church after mass **TODAY** to Prinknash please see Liz Holtham or Jackie Bailey. We will leave from church after mass at 12 noon Lunches are available at Prinknash back at 3.45 for Advent Benediction. All profits go to needy families with children in Bethlehem. For further information contact Joanne on 01242 243207.

J/P



Christmas Fayre

ST. MARY'S R.C. PRIMARY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS FAYRE takes place on **Thursday 1st of December**. The Fayre takes place in school between 5 and 7pm. There will be variety of stalls including a bottle tombola, gifts, cakes and decorations as well as lots of fun Xmas games and Santa's Grotto. There will be refreshments including tea, coffee, mulled wine and turkey rolls, while the first prize for the raffle will be £100 Cash or an overnight hotel in Bude. Also, for the very first time we will be selling our very own **St. Mary's Christmas Pudding!** See you there.

PRINKNASH ABBEY EVENTS: Bible in a Year – The Book of Revelation. Saturday **3rd December** at 11am – 12.30pm in the Meeting Room adjacent to the Prinknash Café and Shop. The Talks are to encourage people to read the bible in the course of a year. It is not necessary or expected that participants attend every session. **Also on 3rd December:** Exploring the Meaning of Christmas at 2pm in the Meeting Room adjacent to the Prinknash Café and Shop.

Divine Mercy – Day of Prayer and Reparation to the Immaculate Heart and the Divine Mercy for the whole world. Saturday **10th December** 2016. 11am Talk in the meeting room. Break for lunch. 1pm Mass in the abbey chapel, rosary and adoration. 2.45pm Chaplet in the Grotto. **Exploring Faith** –All are welcome. Please see photo in the Narthex for more information.

THE SNOW QUEEN will be opening in St. Peter's Drama Theatre on **Tuesday 6th December at 6:30pm**, other performances on **Thursday 8th and Friday 9th December at 6:30pm**. There will be a **matinee performance** on Saturday 10th December at 1:30pm and an evening performance at 6:30pm. A grotto and photo-booth will be opening half an hour before each performance for the audience to enjoy. All money raised will go to the PFA. Tickets available from school reception on 01452 520594 or box office & are priced at £6 for adults & £4 for concessions & under 16yrs. Bring a cushion to sit on!



NEWMAN ASSOCIATION: There will be a talk on **Tuesday 6 December at 2.30pm**, in the lounge of Sacred Hearts Hall, Moorend Road, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham, GL53 9AU. **Bishop Robert Evens** will speak on **St Thomas – a Man for all Seasons?** All are welcome. Admission: £3. Students and members free. Enquires to Stephanie Jamison, tel: 01242 539810.

MARY-JESS IN CONCERT AT OUR LADY'S CHURCH, CHELTENHAM ROAD EAST, CHURCHDOWN on **Thursday, December 15, 2016** at 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm. Join former St Peter's Student, Mary-Jess here for a magical evening of carols and Christmas songs! Mary-Jess will be performing many Christmas favourites as well as songs from her new album 'Prayer to a Snowflake'. Tickets £10 - available online now: <http://www.mary-jess.com/shop/gloucester-concert-ticket-3>

FLAME 2017: As a follow-on to NYS, young people aged 14+ are invited to attend Flame, the largest gathering of Catholic Young people in the UK. Flame takes place on **11th March 2017** in Wembley Arena. To book your place as an individual or as a parish group visit: www.cliftondiocese.com/flame Tickets are selling fast so don't delay!

THE ART OF DYING WELL is a new website that offers a helping hand to those grappling with issues around death and dying. Based in the Catholic tradition but open to all, it features real-life stories about dealing with the journey through death to eternal life. **Launching in November** – the traditional month of remembering and praying for the dead www.artofdyingwell.org There are some prayer cards available in the Narthex.

CONFIRMATION: If your child is in year 8 or above and would like to be Confirmed by Bishop Declan next June, please see Fr. Kevin or contact the Parish Office for more information.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: If your child is in year 3 or above and would like to make their First Holy Communion next June, please contact Elizabeth Thomas at the parish Office for an application form and information on our parish preparation.

BAPTISM COURSES during 2017:

- Sunday 15th January, 22nd January, 29th January, 5th February,
- Sunday 23rd April, 30th April, 7th May, 14th May
- Sunday 2nd July, 9th July, 16th July, 23rd July,
- Sunday 24th September, 1st October, 8th October, 15th October

Please phone or email the Parish Office to register for the course, to arrange a date for the baptism and to obtain a baptism application form. Tel: 01452 713254 Email: churchdown.ourlady@parish.cliftondiocese.com

PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND for Young People (18-30ish). **21st - 30th July 2017.** Cost no more than £900. Organised by Downside Abbey and led by Fr Anselm Brumwell OSB. Fr Matt Anscombe will be travelling as Spiritual Director to the pilgrimage. Details can be found at www.downside.co.uk/shop/events/monastery-events/pilgrimage-holy-land/ The full itinerary is here: www.downside.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/Itinerary.pdf Spaces are limited and we need to book flights very soon. Bookings can be made on the Downside website.

COFFEE & CAKE FOR PARENTS/CARERS (babies and toddlers also catered for with snacks and toys to play with). **Every Wednesday: 9am – 10.30am in Church Hall.** Pop in for a cup of tea/coffee and a slice of homemade cake straight after the morning school run! A chance to meet and catch up with other parents from school in a relaxed and friendly setting. Suggested donation of £1.



FAITH & LIGHT (Gloucester Community) – NEXT MEETING 4TH DEC. AT 3PM: A Christian Association that brings together people with special needs, their families and friends. **Meetings are held on the first Sunday of the month** (except January) at 3pm in Our Lady's church hall, Cheltenham Road East, Churchdown. Contact Fr. Kevin on 01452 713254 or email kevin.hennessey@priest.cliftondiocese.com or Shelley Sullivan on 07808608991 or Shelley1270@gmail.com

Parish Craft & Needlework Group – Next meeting will be held on 5th December. Meetings are held fortnightly between 9.00 a.m. and 11.00 a.m. Natalie Edwards: 01452 678565 or email natalie.edwards@hotmail.co.uk **PLEASE Note: The Ladies Group** will not be continuing but anyone wishing to meet up for a coffee and a chat is welcome to come along to the Craft Group on a Monday.



HOMILIES AVAILABLE: Podcasts of Sunday's homilies at Our Lady's are available on the parish website for the housebound who cannot come to church or anyone else who would like to access them. The link to the website is: <http://www.ourladychurchdown.org.uk/> and the audio sermons are available at the bottom of the page. **We have recently updated our parish website – please take a look.**

INTERESTED IN THE CATHOLIC FAITH? Our Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (**RCIA**) is a process which is primarily aimed at people who are interested in learning about the Catholic faith. Please see Fr. Kevin or Jackie Bailey if you would like more information. **Meetings are every Tuesday evening during Term Time.**



MEDITATION GROUP
Friday's at 1.00pm
Our Lady's Church Hall. *All welcome*



If you would like to join our **200 CLUB** please contact Paddy on Glos. 309004 or e-mail: [the parish office](mailto:the.parish.office)



OUR LADY'S SVP GROUP: Members are volunteers who are happy to give their time to serve others wherever possible - visiting the housebound, lonely and sick; offering lifts and helping in a variety of ways.

Our contact number can be found on the SVP leaflets in the Narthex or please contact us on: 01452-713254.

Monthly meetings for members will be held in the Church Hall at 6.30 p.m. on the FIRST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH starting in January 2017.

May we also draw your attention to our blue SVP Collection Box for anyone wishing to contribute to the work of the Society. **Thank you so much for your generosity so far.**

VOCATION MATTERS: 1st Sunday of Advent: "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord (Isaiah 2:3)
Mont Ventoux in Provence is revered among cyclists as one of the hardest climbs. Just as with the journey of discipleship and vocation, scaling this mountain, or any great climb, requires the right mental and spiritual disposition. There is a need to be properly prepared through quality training. Advent is a time when we can go back to the base of the climb. From there, we can allow the Holy Spirit to show us clearly where we have been and where we are going. Then, once the season is over, we can return to the ascent with renewed vigour.

ADVENT LITERATURE AVAILABLE: Day by Day £1, Bible Alive £2.50, Walk with Me £1, Children's Advent Calendar FREE. **Also:** CAFOD World Gifts order books/forms on the Narthex table – Please take one **2017 Diocesan Diaries (£6 each) and Directories (£5 each) are now available for purchase**



formally recognised as a Fairtrade Parish by CAFOD



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Parish Administrator: Elizabeth Thomas. Parish Office open Tuesday - Friday 9.15am – 12pm.
Please submit items for the Bulletin to the Presbytery by WEDNESDAY.

If you would like to receive a weekly electronic version of this bulletin please email: churchdown.ourlady@parish.cliftondiocese.com