



Our Lady of Perpetual Succour

Churchdown Gloucester

Parish Priest: Father Kevin Hennessey. Tel: 01452-713254.

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Sunday 11th December 2016 – THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sun. 11 Dec	8.30 a.m. Mass: Joe Slack (Anniv) 10.30 a.m. Mass: People of the Parish 4.00 p.m. Evening Prayer and Benediction <i>COFFEE CLUB</i> after 10.30 a.m. Mass every Sunday	DPL: St. Stanislaus, Dulverton/Sacred Heart, Minehead with Watchet
Mon. 12 Dec	9.00 a.m. Morning Prayer 9.15 a.m. Mass: Vocations to the priesthood & consecrated life	<i>Weekday of Advent</i>
Tues. 13 Dec	11.00 a.m. Funeral Mass for Seamus Doherty	<i>Memorial of St. Lucy</i>
Wed. 14 Dec	7.00 p.m. Exposition and Rosary 7.30 p.m. Mass: Maureen Hudston (RIP)	<i>Memorial of St. John of the Cross</i>
Thur. 15 Dec	9.00 a.m. Morning Prayer 9.15 a.m. Mass: Gliceria Rabaya (RIP)	<i>Weekday of Advent</i>
Fri. 16 Dec	9.00 a.m. Morning Prayer 9.15 a.m. Mass: Special Intention	<i>Weekday of Advent</i>
Sat. 17 Dec	9.00 a.m. Morning Prayer 9.15 a.m. Mass: Patricia Beasley (RIP) Confessions 9.45 a.m. – 10.15 a.m. or on request	<i>Weekday of Advent</i>

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

Delia Daly (12th), Julia Coleman (13th), Philomena Nutting (13th), Ken Whalley (13th), Lillian Swann (13th), Fhelix Skierski (14th), Barney Regan (14th), Maureen Pepperell (14th), Joe Slack (15th), Margaret Demidecka Demidowicz (15th), Emma Gribbon (15th), Sylvia Laverock (16th and Tess Kimble (17th))



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, 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 4 December 2016 amounted to £456 + £350 = £806

Thank you so much for your generosity

TODAY there will be a second collection towards the *Christmas Flowers*

BAPTISM: We welcome Olivia Mushangwe into the church this weekend and pray that she and her family will find joy and peace as members of our Christian family.

RIP



Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Seamus Doherty** who died recently. Remember too, his family and friends at this difficult time. Seamus' Funeral Mass will take place here at 11.00 a.m. on **Tuesday 13th December 2016.**

'May He Rest In Peace'



200 CLUB DRAW: The 200 Club monthly draw for December 2016 took place on Sunday 4th December.

PRIZE	AMOUNT	WINNER	TICKET NO
1 ST	£230	C. Turley	185
2 ND	£120	F.A. Buccianti	127
3 RD	£60	H. Bifulco	165

200 CLUB CHRISTMAS DRAW: The prizes for the Christmas draw to be held **TODAY** after 8.30 a.m. Mass 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 Jan 2017 please contact Paddy on 01452 309004.

ADVENT SERVICES OF RECONCILIATION in GLOUCESTER DEANERY

A short service followed by an opportunity for individual Confession.

Each Parish will invite additional Priests for Confession.



Date	Parish	Time
Thursday 15 th December	St. Patrick's, Brockworth	7.00 p.m.
Tuesday 20 th December	St. Augustine, Matson	7.00 p.m.
Thursday 22nd December	Our Lady's, Churchdown	7.00 p.m.



ST PETER'S HOMELESS SHOEBOX APPEAL: Thanks to our parish Justice and Peace Group we are able to act as a collection point for the St Peter's Homeless Shoebox appeal this year. You will see a collection point in the Narthex. Please can you label your box or gift bag 'male' or 'female' or place individual items in the collection box provided. Suggested items: **baby wipes, socks, hairbrush or comb, sanitary towels or tampons, toothpaste, toothbrush, wrapped sweets or chocolate.** They are also collecting **Cup a Soups and chocolate bars or biscuits** for their winter soup runs.

FOODBANK: Everyone here is always very generous – the collection point/box can be found in the Narthex by the cupboard. The current shopping list on the website shows the following items are urgently needed (in order of scarcity) – **Nappies (size 4-6), Men's Toiletries, Packets Instant Mash, Tinned Fish, Steamed Puddings, Biscuits. Tinned ham, Long life milk, Selection boxes, Christmas cake (non-alcoholic), Packet stuffing Boxes of bird's trifle, Tinned custard, Jars of cranberry sauce, Christmas pudding (non-alcoholic) and Chocolate biscuits.** Please see the website www.glooucester.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/

PRINKNASH ABBEY EVENTS: Bible in a Year – 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.

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 is the English soprano who shot to fame after winning The Chinese X Factor. She has toured with Russell Watson, sang to royalty in Windsor Castle and was chosen to sing the Downton Abbey theme tune for the official sound track albums. Join Mary-Jess with her special guests: soprano Rosita and the Choir Factor. Tickets £10 available on the door and from www.mary-jess.com/tour

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.

Advent Reflections at St John the Evangelist Church, Churchdown –

13th of December, 7pm

Unto us a child is born, but aren't there too many people on planet earth? "Don't Panic" An hour long film from the Gapminder foundation about the facts of global population show us that the world might not be as bad as we think.

20th of December, 7pm

Jesus said "the poor will always be with you" but the UN has pledged to end extreme Poverty by 2030. In this hour long film by the Gapminder foundation we ask the question "Has the UN gone completely mad?".

Reflections at a time to suit you

If you can't make the reflections and have an internet connection you can reflect at home. Log on to www.gapminder.org and look for the free videos "Don't Panic, The Facts About Population" and "Don't Panic, End Poverty".

BAPTISM: If you are seeking Baptism for your child, at Our Lady's, we prepare the parents and Godparents over four sessions. You will be invited to attend Sunday 10:30 Mass followed by an hour's formation session with other families seeking baptism. The sessions are held at St Mary's Primary school. The course is run by catechists who will journey with you during this formation period.

Details of our 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.

Telephone: 01452 713254 Email : ourladys.churchdown@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) – 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 AND NEEDLEWORK GROUP - fortnightly 9am-11am.

Upcoming dates - 5th Dec, 19th Dec, 2nd Jan 2017, 16th Jan, 30th Jan. Do you like to knit, sew or crochet? Would you like to chat with other likeminded people to share ideas and gain in confidence in any craft? Have you wanted to learn a new craft but not sure where to start or need a little confidence boost? This new group in the parish hall of Our Lady's Churchdown is the perfect place. It has evolved into a relaxed, friendly & supportive group. People of all ages and abilities come for a cuppa & chat whilst working on their own craft. Please bring yourselves, any materials you may need and a suggested £2.50 donation per session (towards refreshments and up keep of hall) Organiser Natalie Edwards 01452 678565 or e-mail natalie.edwards@hotmail.co.uk Details can also be found on Our Lady's Parish website.



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

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: 11th December – 3rd Sunday of Advent

"You too have to be patient" (James 5:8)

"How many sleeps until Christmas?" ask excited young children at this time of year, as their parents get frustrated by their lack of patience. Following Jesus as a disciple and discerning God's will in our lives requires patience. Forbearance is needed as the Lord seeks to work with us, shaping us to be the people we are called to be. It won't happen all at once. It can also be a long and painful road. However, the reward for being faithful makes it all worthwhile. As for the answer to the initial question – it's fourteen. Be patient now readers!

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**



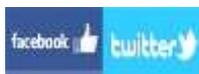
CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES – 2016

CHRISTMAS EVE Saturday 24th December,
9.00am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass
6.30pm Children's Christmas Mass
11.30pm Carols followed by Midnight Mass of the Nativity of the Lord

CHRISTMAS DAY Sunday 25th December
8.30am Christmas Morning Mass
10.30am Christmas Day Mass



formally recognised as a Fairtrade Parish by CAFOD



'Like' our new page on Facebook ~ Our Lady's Churchdown and follow us on Twitter @ourladychurchdown

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