



Our Lady of Perpetual Succour, Churchdown Gloucester

Parish Priest: Father Paul Brandon. Tel: 01452-713254

E-mail: churchdown.ourladys@cliftondiocese.com



Sunday 3 rd December 2017 – First Week of Advent		
DPL: Sacred Heart Chew Magna St Pius X Withywood with St Benedict		
Services this week		In the Church Hall
Sun. 3 Dec <i>First Sunday of Advent</i>	8.30 am Mass: Gribben family RIP 10.30 am Mass: People of the Parish	COFFEE CLUB after 10.30 am Mass every Sunday PRIVATE HIRE 7pm – 9 pm
Mon. 4 Dec <i>Memorial of St Osmund</i>	9.00 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass: Private Intention	Craft and Coffee group All Welcome - 9am – 11am term time
Tues. 5 Dec <i>Weekday of Advent</i>	9.00 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass: Private Intention	Coffee Club after Mass
Wed. 6 Dec <i>Weekday of Advent</i>	6.30 pm Exposition & Rosary 7.00 pm Mass: Raffaele Staffieri Ints	Our Ladybirds Stay and Play group All welcome - 9am – 11am term time SVP Group 1 st Wednesday of month from 6.30pm
Thur. 7 Dec <i>Memorial of St Ambrose</i>	9.00 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass: Holy Souls	HALL HIRE: If you would like to book the church Hall for an event or group please contact Elizabeth Thomas in the Parish office: 01452 713254
Fri. 8 Dec <i>Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	9.00 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass: Holy Souls	Meditation Group from 1pm PRIVATE HIRE 7pm – 9 pm
Sat. 9 Dec <i>Weekday of Advent</i>	9.00 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass: Private Intention Confessions 9.45am – 10.15am or on request	PRIVATE HIRE 2pm – 4pm
Sun. 10 Dec <i>Second Sunday of Advent</i>	8.30 am Mass: People of the Parish 10.30 am Mass: Helen Wilson RIP	COFFEE CLUB after 10.30 am Mass every Sunday PRIVATE HIRE 7pm – 9 pm

In our prayers
Anniversaries: John Parkinson (3 rd), Ted Smith (4 th), Brian Kelly (5 th), Gabriele Ranocchiarri (5 th), Arthus Isaac (6 th), Kieran Walker (6 th), Rob Willmott (6 th), Joyce Welch (7 th), Thomas Stanton (7 th), Edgar Montaut (8 th), Bridgett Newall (8 th), Patsy Harding (8 th), Eileen Guy (9 th), Michael Ryan (10 th), Tom Morgan (10 th), Helen Bird (10 th) and Monica Adams (10 th).
Prayers for the sick: 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, Thomas Jayaseelan, Gordon Palmer, Michelle Cooke, Caitlin Godden, Alex Geddes, Maggie Hansell, Joan Geraghty, Bernadette Metcalf, Martin Thomas, Judi Figures, Rebecca Lansdown, Angela Woulfe, Peter Kost, Margaret West-Sadler, Kerrie Lane, Ian Wright, Carol While, Theresa Cooper, Geraldine Armitage and Ken Marcus.



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:

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.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION for 26th November 2017 amounted to £494 + £398 = £892 Collection for Youth Sunday amounted to £35 - Thank you for your generosity Second Collection TODAY for the Poor Missions of the Diocese
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FR PAUL BRANDON'S INDUCTION MASS On Thursday evening we formally welcomed Fr Paul as Parish Priest here at Our Lady's. Thank you to everyone involved in making it such a wonderful celebration.

TODAY - SALE OF BETHLEHEM GOODS: Joanne Moston will again be visiting the area with items suitable for Christmas Gifts from Bethlehem for sale. **SATURDAY 2ND & SUNDAY 3RD DECEMBER – Prinknash Abbey Café and SUNDAY 10TH DECEMBER** after morning Masses at St Gregory's, Old Priory.

TODAY - Faith and Light (Gloucestershire): Next meeting **Sunday 3rd December**. This is a Christian Association that brings together people with special needs of all ages, their families and friends for some worship followed by refreshments and some fun/craft activities. **This month we are making advent wreaths to take home.** Meetings are held on the first Sunday of the month at 3pm in English Martyrs Church Hall, Tuffley Lane, Tuffley, Gloucester GL4 0NX. For further details please contact Fr Gerry gerry.walsh@priest.cliftondiocese.com or 01452 412702 or Shelley Sullivan on 07808608991 or Shelley1270@gmail.com



200 CLUB DRAW- NOVEMBER 2017: The draw took place on Sunday 26 November and the lucky winners were:

<u>PRIZE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>WINNER</u>	<u>TICKET NO</u>
1 ST	£250	P. Kilminster	82
2nd	£200	V & J Roger	169
3 RD	£150	M. Toney	30

The December draw will take place on Sunday 10 December 2017 and the Christmas Special draw will take place on Sunday 17 December 2017.

ST MARY'S SCHOOL CHRISTMAS FAYRE: Friday December 8th, 4.30pm – 7pm. Raffle tickets will be on sale after both Masses on Sunday. ALL WELCOME.

FOODBANK: We have had a letter from our local foodbank which tells us that for the first time in their 12 year history they have had to make significant food purchases to feed the families coming to them. Everyone here is always very generous – the collection point/box can be found in the Narthex by the cupboard. Current/Christmas shopping list (hard copy available in the narthex): **large tins ham, tinned potatoes, tinned custard, tinned vegetables, tinned fruit, packet stuffing, gravy granules/stock cubes, box bird's trifle, long life (UHT) milk, box/tin chocolate biscuits, chocolate selection boxes, box/tin chocolate biscuits, Christmas cake, packet mash, long life fruit juice, mince pies (long shelf life BBE Jan 2018), Christmas puddings (non-alcoholic or festive sponge).** For more information please see the website www.gloucester.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/

A FUTURE FULL OF HOPE – Mission

Advent 1

YEAR OF MISSION

In today's Gospel, the Lord is saying to us, 'Stay awake' because we do not know the hour when the Master is coming. It can sound like a threat but it is also a promise: God is always finding ways in which to come close to us. He comes close to us in the sacraments, in the word of scripture, in the stranger who needs our help, in the closeness of our families in which we discover love. The Lord is saying to us, 'Stay awake because I am all around you offering myself to you'. In this *Year of Mission* the Lord is calling us to see the ways in which he comes to us, especially in those who are suffering and in need.

For more information visit the Diocesan website:

<http://www.cliftondiocese.com/presentation-year-mission-resource-clifton-cathedral-29-november/>

NEWMAN ASSOCIATION TALK: Tuesday 5 December at 2.30pm, in the lounge of Sacred Hearts Hall, Moored Road, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham, GL53 9AU. Fr Tibor Szende will speak on **The Contemplative and Secular Priesthood**. All welcome. Admission: £3. Students and members free. Enquires to Stephanie Jamison, tel: 01242 539810.

SPIRITUALITY OF MARY – A QUIET DAY FOR ADVENT: Tuesday 5th December, 10am-3pm, Tewkesbury Abbey Parish Room, Church Street, Tewkesbury GL20 5RZ. £10 – to reserve a place contact Penny Lidstone on penny@lidstone.net or 01452 741410. www.snfnglos.org.uk

TAIZÉ SERVICES: Wednesdays 7.30pm as follows - 6th December praying for the light. St Mary de Lode Church, St Mary's Square, Gloucester GL1 2QX. Please see poster in the Narthex for further information.

Message from Bishop Declan regarding Catholic Schools:

Do you support Catholic schools and the right of Catholics to send their children to them? Then we need you to make your voice heard. The Government is making a critical decision on whether to overturn the admissions cap which prevents Catholic schools from allowing all Catholic pupils to attend. They have acknowledged that this policy discriminates against Catholics and promised to abandon it. Ask them not to u-turn on their promise to Catholics.

Visit <http://catholicnews.org.uk/> or search for 'Catholic Education' in your search engine to write to the Government and urge them to drop their policy which bans new Catholic schools.

There is an on-line form which can be used to send an email to the Secretary of State, registering your concern and asking the Secretary of State to rethink this anti-Catholic policy.

St Peter's Catholic High School Production of **Ken Ludwig's 'Twas the Night Before Christmas'** is on **Wednesday 6th, Thursday 7th and Friday 8th December** in the Drama Theatre. Ticket cost for Adult £6, Children £4. A grotto will be open from 6pm in the drama studio where you can see Santa and take part in fun activities. The PFA will be selling refreshments on the evening. Theatre doors open at 6:20pm with the performance starting at 6:30pm. Tickets available from BoxOffice@sphs.uk.com or school Reception 01452 520594.

CHRISTMAS SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE AND REFLECTION: Wednesday December 6th, 6.30pm at St Oswald's Church, Coney Hill Road, Gloucester. Sponsored by Cooperative funeral care. Please RSVP 01452 522676 or 01453 791770.

ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD: On Saturday 9th December Deacon Richard Elson will be ordained to the priesthood. There is a coach departing from St Peter's Church, Gloucester at 9.15am. Seats cost £5 per person and you must book your place with St Peter's. tel. 01452 523603.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT FOR SAMARA'S AID APPEAL: Saturday 9th December at 7.30pm the Wide Valley Singers will perform a festive concert at **St Andrew's Church, Churchdown**, in support of Samara's Aid Appeal (SAA). The programme will include well known Christmas numbers, traditional carols, and a short video about the work of SAA providing aid to refugees in the Middle East. During the interval there will be a raffle, mulled wine and mince pies. Tickets, £5 including refreshments, from St Andrew's Church Office: 01452 712154 or email: admin@standrewschurchdown.org

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT: Friday 15th December at 7pm, Immaculate Conception, Stroud. Please join St. Peter's High School Choir at the Immaculate Conception Church, Stroud for Carols by Candlelight. Tickets £3, £1 for Senior Citizens and students under 18, these are available from school reception 01452 520594, or on the door. Everyone welcome.

DIOCESAN EVENT: LIVING STONES – RETREAT DAYS FOR CATECHISTS & YOUTH LEADERS: Saturday 20th January 2018 at Brownhill Monastery, Stroud. 10am – 4pm. Youth Leaders, Catechists, teachers, clergy & all interested in Youth Ministry are invited to take time to explore, reflect & pray on our Youth Ministry Retreat. Lunch provided. Cost £20 per person. Booking essential, email: youth@cliftondiocese.com

HOSPITAL STAY:- It is essential that individuals and families let either the parish or the chaplaincy know if somebody is in hospital. To leave a message on the chaplaincy answer phone, call 0300 422 4286 for Cheltenham or 0300 422 6200 for Gloucester, stating clearly the name of the Catholic Patient, and, if known, what ward they are on. If you are able to see a priest and receive the Sacrament of the Sick before you go to hospital, please do so.

VOLUNTEER DELEGATES WANTED: Eucharistic Pilgrimage and Congress "Adoremus" - Liverpool 2018, 7TH – 9TH September 2018. Eucharistic Congresses are gatherings of clergy, religious and laity which promote an awareness of the central place of the Eucharist in the life and mission of the Church. On the first day of the Congress, there will be a Theological Symposium, with workshops for parish catechists, (especially for those involved in First Holy Communion programs), RE teachers, Hospital and Prison Chaplains, Seminary Communities and Extraordinary Ministers. **For more information please visit <http://catholicnews.org.uk/adoremus2018> If you would like to attend please see Fr Paul or contact the parish office.**

St. Peter's High School, Gloucester – Vacancies:

Casual Exam Invigilator: We are looking to recruit a number of casual Exam Invigilators to oversee and supervise examinations and to ensure that guidelines and regulations for the integrity and security of the examination papers and procedures are followed during examination sessions. Hourly Rate: £8.57 (including holiday pay). Further information available on Eteach or please contact Karen Thompson - recruitment@sphs.uk.com

Cleaner (Permanent Contract): We are looking to recruit a number of cleaners for the school. £7.50 per hour, Monday to Friday - 4.00 - 6.30pm (flexible days). Also working 1 Week at Easter and 2 weeks during the summer holidays (Flexible hours). If you are interested please contact Karen Thompson - kthompson@sphs.uk.com
Human Resources Officer, Tel: 01452 520594 (reception)

AVAILABLE IN THE NARTHEX:

ADVENT LITERATURE: Day by Day £1, Bible Alive £2.50, Walk with Me £1, Children's Advent Calendar FREE.

Christmas catalogues: CAFOD World Gifts and CCS Adoption Christmas Catalogues – Please take one

DIOCESAN DIARIES AND DIRECTORIES 2018: Directories = £5, Diaries = £6.

Message of Jesus – an anthology of poems by K. L. Patrick Jayatilleke – (suggested minimum donation £2 per book).

CTS (CATHOLIC TRUTH SOCIETY): CTS Ebooks are available - For more info. please visit www.ctsbooks.org/ebooks

200 CLUB: If you would like to join please contact Paddy on 01452 309004 or e-mail the parish office churchdown.ourladys@cliftondiocese.com

BAPTISM: If you are seeking Baptism for your child please phone or email the Parish Office to register for the preparation course, to arrange a date for the baptism and to obtain a baptism application form. Tel: 01452 713254
Email: churchdown.ourladys@cliftondiocese.com

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 – email: churchdown.ourladys@cliftondiocese.com

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
Tuesday 12 th December	English Martyrs, Tuffley	7.30 p.m.
Tuesday 19th December	Our Lady's, Churchdown	7.00 p.m.
Tuesday 19 th December	Our Lady of Victories, Cinderford	7.00 p.m.
Wednesday 20 th December	St Peter's, Gloucester	7.00 p.m.
Friday 22 nd December	Our Lady of Lourdes, Newent	7.00 p.m.



CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES – 2017

CHRISTMAS EVE Sunday 24th December,

6.30pm First Mass of Christmas

9.30pm Carols followed by Mass of the Nativity of the Lord

CHRISTMAS DAY Monday 25th December

10.00am Christmas Day Mass



formally recognised as a Fairtrade Parish by CAFOD



'Like' our page on Facebook ~ Our Lady's Churchdown

Parish Administrator: Elizabeth Thomas. Parish Office open Tuesday - Friday 9.15am – 12.30pm.

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.ourladys@cliftondiocese.com