**SUNDAY 19th NOVEMBER 2023 PSALTER WEEK I**

**OUR LADY OF LOURDES AND SAINT CECILIA**

**Parish Administrator: Mgr Francis Jamieson**

**Landline: 01258 452051 Mobile: 07826 732493**

**Hospital RC Chaplains: Dorchester:** 01305 255198;

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Website: blandfordcatholics.org

Plymouth Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No. 213227

**Please keep in your prayers: Father Robert; Christina and John Morley; Leeah; Father Tom; and all those suffering at this time.**

**MASS INFORMATION CORRECT AT TIME OF PUBLISHING BUT MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT SHORT NOTICE**

**Saturday November 18**

**5.30pm Vigil Mass of Sunday**

**Sunday November 19 WORLD DAY OF THE POOR; WORLD DAY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CHILD ABUSE**

**9.00am HOLY MASS**

**Monday November 20**

 **9.10am Morning Prayers 9.30am HOLY MASS**

**Rosary after Mass**

**Tuesday November 21 The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Mem)**

**6.10pm Evening Prayers 6.30pm HOLY MASS**

**Wednesday November 22 St Cecilia, Martyr (Patronal Feast)**

 **9.10am Morning Prayers 9.30am HOLY MASS**

**Thursday November 23 St Clement I, Martyr; St Columban, missionary (Opt Mems)**

 **9.10am Morning Prayers 9.30am HOLY MASS**

**Friday November 24 St Andrew Dũng-Lạc and Companions, Martyrs (Mem)**

**9.10am Morning Prayers 9.30am HOLY MASS**

**followed by BENEDICTION**

**Saturday November 25 St Catherine of Alexandria, Martyr, Patron of philosophers and preachers (Opt Mem)**

**5.30pm Vigil Mass of Sunday**

**Sunday November 26 OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST KING OF THE UNIVERSE (SOL)**

**9.00am HOLY MASS**

**YOUTH DAY -YOUNG PEOPLE**

**Fr. Donald Nwaka will arrive in the parish on Saturday, 25 November. Fr. Francis will probably stay on for a few days to show him around at the beginning of his term here as parish priest.**

**WEEKLY OFFERINGS** £213.90. Thanks to all who contributed.  *Ruth*

With blessings on every one of our Parish family,

 **Father Francis**

Some of you may have noticed a little girl at Mass who seems very fond of Our Lady, and who often, mostly on a Saturday evening, goes round with a collection basket.  She received Holy Communion for the first time this year.  Her name is Lenka, the daughter of Magdalena.  Well, during the lock-down the education of many children, as you probably know, suffered.  For Lenka, in spite of being keen and intelligent, it has meant that she has been slow in reading, and obviously Magda is concerned because her school says they can do nothing about it and it is up to her to find some solution..  She has begged me to ask if anyone would be prepared to give, say, 30 minutes a week to read with Lenka.  It would entirely at your convenience with regard to both time and place.

 If anyone would be prepared to help it would be a very fine act of charity, giving Lenka a chance to catch up.

As you must all know, Patrick O’Neill has taken a lot of photographs of our parishioners to make a presentation booklet to Fr. Donald when he comes to the parish on November 25th.  It really was a very good idea on the part of Patrick, and will no doubt be both a touching and a useful present with which to welcome Fr. Donald.

 The photographs look very good.  If you would like to buy a copy to keep as a souvenir the cost is £10.  That will clearly more than cover the cost of production, and Patrick would like anything over and above that cost will go into the education fund for Jackline, our sister in Uganda.

Whilst we don’t have a Parish Safeguarding Representative in ministry here at this time, please do contact us in the Diocesan Safeguarding Office should you have any worries or concerns that you wish to discuss. Ask for Annette or Sophie and the Office number is 01364 645430 or you can email us on safeguarding@prcdtr.org.uk should you prefer. *Father Francis*

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**\*\*AS WE ARE HAVING PROBLEMS WITH THE INTERNET, WILL PARISHIONERS WISHING TO INSERT NOTICES PLEASE EMAIL THEM IN NO LATER THAN THURSDAY EVENINGS OR THEY WILL NOT BE RECEIVED IN TIME FOR PRINTING ON FRIDAY MORNINGS\*\***

**KNIT AND NATTER** Next meeting **Tuesday November 21** 2-4pm in the hall. All crafters welcome! *Christina*

**BLANDFORD FOOD BANK** are appealing for the following items for the food bank: Small Christmas cakes, Christmas puddings, savoury and sweet biscuits, sweets or chocolates, and Christmas crackers. Please put the items in the green box at the back of church. Thank you  *Jan*

 **CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S’ SOCIETY** - To remind everyone that the big ‘Orange’ Box at the back of the church is to collect items to help raise funds for the society. With Christmas approaching many of you will receive cards, please consider taking any postage stamps from cards received and put them in the Orange Box at the back of the church. A new list has recently been attached to the box so please take a minute to read this and you may well be able to help the Society in this way. Also rather than giving cards to parishioners you see on a regular basis, please consider giving an offering to the Crib collection instead which is for the Catholic Children’s Society. Thanks. *Ruth*



 **CHRISTMAS FAIR FOR MEDICAL RELIEF TO SOUTH SUDAN** Please support this Fair , now in its 28th year, to raise money for medical supplies and training in South Sudan, one of the poorest countries in the world. This year the emphasis is on Birth Kits to help the midwives (whose training has been largely funded by the charity) save the lives of both mother and child. South Sudan has a very rhigh rate of maternal deaths.

 There are many stalls and games, including homemade cakes, sweets and preserves, crafts, plants and bulbs, books and toys. Santa's Surprises ( see picture ) features some 150 boxes all containing a mystery gift. And of course there is a raffle and tombola. Not to be missed are the homemade soups, bacon butties, mince pies, and glasses of mulled wine. All to be found at:

**Tarrant Keyneston Village Hall DT11 9JE on Saturday 25th November from 11 am - 2 pm.**  Thank you for your support! *Madeleine*

**SWEEPSTAKE 2024** We are running the Parish Sweepstake again for 2024. The Sweepstake has raised more than £10,000 and the takings have been divided equally between Parish Funds and the prizes. The first draw this year will take place at the next Parish function in 2024. Last year this was the Parish meal.

 Envelopes for the Parish Sweepstake can be found at the back of the church, either on the sweepstake box or in it. If you would like to support the Sweepstake, please complete an envelope with your name and contact details. Each entry is £10. Please put your £10 or multiples thereof into the envelope and place the envelope in the collection plate. **If paying by cheque please make the cheque payable to ‘Blandford RC Church’.** Many thanks for your support. *Mike Moore*

Dear Anna, Thank you so much for your time and effort in organising the **FAMILY FAST DAY COLLECTION**. Your parish of Our Lady of Lourdes & St Cecilia raised £349 this Harvest. Please pass on our thanks to your fellow parishioners. Thanks to your support, more families like Meera’s can get help from doctors and other local experts when they need it most.

 “Thank you so much those who are supporting us with such a generous donation. We are incredibly grateful to you for thinking of us and helping. It’s so heart-warming to know we have friends who are there for us when we need it most. Thank you so much.” – Dr Nasha

 As we look towards Advent, we have prayers and ideas for festive fundraising in your parish! Please give out our World Gifts catalogues so parishioners can give gifts of love and compassion this Christmas (we’ve sent these to your parish).

 Blessings, Jenny Hayward-Jones, Parish Fundraising Team *Anna Hayball*

***WALSINGHAM PILGRIMAGE 20-23 MAY, 2024*** *Please join our pilgrimage to England’s Nazareth next year! The cost is £330 and includes 3 nights half-board accommodation and travel by coach. A poster and booking forms are available in church, or ring Marie Fisher on 01258 458845 for more information.* Father Francis

St Cecilia