**SUNDAY 8 December 2024 YEAR C1 PSALTER WEEK II**

**OUR LADY OF LOURDES AND SAINT CECILIA**

**Priest in charge: Father Donald Nwaka**

**Landline: 01258 452051 Mobile: 07931939907**

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

**Poole:** Deacon Declan McConville 01202 442167

Newsletter: newsletterblandfordcatholics@yahoo.co.uk

Website: blandfordcatholics.org

Plymouth Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No. 213227

**Please keep in your prayers: Father Robert; Christina and John Morley; Janet Hudson; Josie Seath; Father Chacko; Sandra and Sharon; Kelly Harte; and all those suffering at this time.**

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

**Saturday 7 December 5.30pm Vigil Mass of Sunday**

 **Sunday 8 December SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

 ***8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament***

 **9.00am HOLY MASS**

**Monday 9 December THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY ((TRANSFERRED) (SOL)**

 **9.10am Morning**

 **9.30am HOLY MASS,Holy Rosary, *and then* Divine Mercy Prayer Group**

**Tuesday 10 December Our Lady of Loreto *and* St John Roberts, Martyr**

 **6.10pm Evening Prayers**

 **6.30pm HOLY MASS**

**Wednesday 11 December St Damasus I, Pope**

 **9.10am Morning Prayers**

 **9.30am HOLY MASS**

**Thursday 12 December Our Lady of Guadalupe**

 **9.10am Morning Prayers**

 **9.30am HOLY MASS**

 **2.30pm Our Lady's Prayer Group and Bible Study**

 **Friday 13 December St Lucy, Martyr (Mem)**

 **9.10am Morning Prayers**

 **9.30 HOLY MASS *followed by Benediction***

**Saturday 14 December St John of the Cross, Doctor of the Church (Mem)
 9.30am Confessions**

 **10am HOLY MASS (CWL\*\* *and* CMO)**

 **5.30pm Vigil Mass of Sunday**

 **\*\* *see below***

 **Sunday 15 December THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - GAUDETE SUNDAY**

 ***8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament***

 **9.00am HOLY MASS**

On Tuesday, 10th December, Canon John Deney will be coming to the parish to appreciate the Blandford Welcome Group. All those involved should please be present at the church premises before 1pm.

We thank Father Tony Penicott for celebrating Mass for us on Saturday.

We thank God for growth and increase in faith in our parish life.

We continue to pray for Anthony Reed.

**\*\* Blandford Catholic Women** Following the meeting with Catholic Women’s League representatives on 11 November, it was concluded that we don’t wish to be subject to the formal structure of the CWL at this stage. We will form a Catholic women’s group (name to be decided) and will meet regularly/(monthly).

Founded on prayer, our aims are to reinforce the Catholic faith within our families, encourage vocations to the priesthood and the consecrated life and provide practical help to all within our parish community, e.g. visiting housebound parishioners, giving lifts to Mass and supporting those in need. With God’s grace we have the potential of being a great force for good. **10am Mass on Saturday 14th December** will be celebrated for our new group, and a short meeting will follow in the parish hall. **All the women in our parish** are eagerly invited to attend.  *Marie Fisher*

**Here is the link to the first of a series of weekly e-letters that we are sending out.** Each week there will be a reflection on the Sunday Gospel by Monsignor Robert Draper as well as some other Jubilee related content to help get us in the spirit and prepare for this special Holy Year, which officially begins on December 24th. *Caitlin Miller*, Communications Assistant, Diocese of Plymouth:

 <https://email.workwithgusto.co.uk/t/t-D4D745BD8B8879B72540EF23F30FEDED>

**WEEKLY OFFERINGS** to be published when available. Thanks to all who contributed.  *Ruth*

  With blessings on every one of our Parish family,

 **Father Donald**

**PRAYERS PLEASE** for Tom and Theresa's nieces Sandra and Sharon who are both seriously ill.

**LOST AND FOUND** A key and a white-metal pierced-ear earring have been found. The key was on the edge of the pavement where it meets the car park and the earring was in the church hall. If either of them is yours please speak to Father Donald for its return to you.

**NEW MISSALS** - An order was placed in June 2024 to take advantage of a discount offered by CTS if ordered before 30 June. This order has now been received. Some parishioners have indicated that they would wish **to order a missal**. There is a list at the back of the church. Please note Daily Missals Coded D are not available until April 2025, and also Sunday Missal Coded E is only for the end of the church year 2025 ie 12 months. Depending on the number ordered we may have to pay postage. **Please do not put your name on the list if you have already ordered in June**. I will leave the list for a number of weeks.  *Ruth*

**ADVENT RETREAT DAY - SATURDAY 7th DECEMBER AT ST RITA’S CENTRE** “JESUS IS COMING: WHY?” led by Fr. Jonathan Bielawski

The day will begin with coffee/tea on arrival at 9.30am. The talk will start at 10.00am. Post - talk questions – reflections will be at 11.05am. Adoration in silence (with an opportunity for Confession) will be at 12.00pm. Lunch will be served at 1pm. Holy Mass at 2.45pm. Depart at 3.30pm. The charge for the day, including lunch, is just £25.00. Please see poster in porch.

 Booking can be made by phone, email, or online (ADVENT RETREAT DAY - “JESUS IS COMING: WHY?"). Payment can be made on the day. *Krista Radzina*, St. Rita’s Centre Administrator

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**\*\* WILL PARISHIONERS WISHING TO INSERT NOTICES PLEASE EMAIL THEM IN NO LATER THAN THURSDAY EVENINGS OR THEY MAY NOT BE RECEIVED IN TIME FOR PRINTING ON FRIDAY**

 **MORNINGS\*\***

Dear Parishioners, Many thanks to those of you who have already completed the **PARISH REGISTRATION FORM.**  Because of the new UK data protection laws, we now need your permission to hold your contact details.   The blank forms are with envelopes at the back of the Church and should be returned by **this Sunday** **8th December**. *Harriet*

**SPUC NEWS**  There will be a protest on **December 10th at 7pm outside Bournemouth Council Civic Centre**, Bourne Avenue, Bournemouth, BH2 6DY, against the BCP’s unjust prosecution of Adam Smith Connor for silently praying outside the BPAS Clinic in Bournemouth. The first person to be prosecuted for thought crime in the U.K. Please bring a torch and high viz jacket. Thank you, *Amabel*

**WE CAN STILL DEFEAT ASSISTED SUICIDE!**  There is a clear path toward the assisted suicide Bill being defeated at Third Reading. Early analysis shows that at least 36 MPs supported the Bill but have concerns that mean they may vote NO at later stages. Just 28 MPs switching their stance to NO would ensure it is defeated at Third Reading. We need MPs to know that their constituents want them to vote NO at Third Reading.

 Please take action now and visit [righttolife.org.uk](http://righttolife.org.uk/) to find out how your MP voted and ask them to vote against the Bill at Third Reading. *Catherine Robinson*

**KNIT AND NATTER**  Next meeting **Tuesday 17 December.** Meetings will begin again in the New Year: dates to be announced. All welcome*. Julie*

**BLANDFORD CARES** is urgently in need of coats and jackets for those less fortunate in our community and to send to Ukraine. If you have any you can donate, please deliver them to Blandford Cares at the United Reform Church in Whitecliff Mill Street on Tuesdays from 9am to 1.00pm (or leave them with the Food Bank there), or bring them to church for members of the Blandford Welcome Group to give them to Blandford Cares. They are also collecting candle stubs which a local man makes into new candles to send to Ukraine where electricity outages are constant. Please don’t throw these away but collect them for this good cause. *Blandford Cares*

**ON CHRISTMAS EVE**, the first Mass of Christmas will be a Children's Mass. As usual, the children will share a simple re-enactment of the gospel story. If your child would like to take part in this or take on another role during the Mass, please catch me after Sunday Mass or email me on alisoncain@gmail.com if I don't already have your email address. We will begin rehearsals for this on **8th December.** *Ali*

**YOUTH EVENTS AND YOUTH MINISTRY DIOCESE OF PLYMOUTH**, 13-17 Year old Residential. **January 24th – 26th** 2025 East Shallowford Farm, Dartmoor.

Come and join other 13 -17 year olds from across the Diocese to explore the scripture Job 12:7-10. There will be workshops for you to join in - these include: photography; music; art and filming. East Shallowford is a working farm giving you a chance to meet the animals and feed them. There is a small charge of £50 for the weekend. Contact Saskia Hogbin for further information; youth@prcdtr.org.uk. *Saskia Hogbin*

**SWEEPSTAKE 2024/25** There are still envelopes for the parish sweepstake, on the table at the back of the church. If you require further information, please contact

mike.moore@ btinternet.com *Mike*

*It's here again, that special time*

*When lowliness and glory rhyme.*

*Give Christmas thanks for new-born hope.*

*God bless us all, God bless our Pope.*

 (Anon 2024)

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*Salve Regina, Mater misericordiae* Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy,

*Vita, dulcedo, et spes nostra, salve.* Hail, our life, our sweetness and our hope.

*Ad te clamamus, exules, filii Hevae.* To Thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve.

*Ad te suspiramus, gementes et flentes* To Thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and

*in hac lacrimarum valle.* weeping in this valley of tears.

*Eia ergo, Advocata nostra* Turn then, most gracious Advocate thine eyes of

*illos tuos misericordes oculos ad nos* mercy towards us.

*converte.*

*Et Jesum, benedictum fructum ventris tui,* And after this exile

 *nobis post hoc exilium ostende.* Show unto us the blessed fruit of Thy womb, Jesus.

*O clemens, O pia, O dulcis Virgo Maria.* O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.