**SUNDAY 15 December 2024 YEAR C1 PSALTER WEEK III**

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

 **10am HOLY MASS (CWL: see below, *and* CMO)**

 **5.30pm Vigil Mass of Sunday**

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

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

**9am HOLY MASS**

**Monday 16 December 9.10am Morning Prayers *followed by* 9.30am Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion,Holy Rosary, *and then* Divine Mercy Prayer Group**

**Tuesday 17 December 6.10pm Evening Prayers**

 **6.30pm HOLY MASS**

**Wednesday 18 December 9.10am Morning Prayers**

 **9.30am HOLY MASS**

**Thursday 19 December 9.10am Morning Prayers**

 **9.30am HOLY MASS**

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

 **Friday 20 December 9.10am Morning Prayers**

 **9.30 HOLY MASS**

**Saturday 21 December St Peter Canisius, Doctor of the Church
 9.30am Confessions**

 **5.30pm Vigil Mass of Sunday**

 **Sunday 22 December FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT EXPECTANT MOTHERS**

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

 **9.00am HOLY MASS**

We thank God for a successful installation of Anthony Reed as Lector of the Church.

We shall have our final and end of year prayer meeting on Thursday (19th) when we shall discuss other possibilities of promoting the prayer group.

We thank all those who came for the CWL and CML Mass. Our interest is to promote priestly and family vocations: Vocations interest promotes League (VIPL)

We shall have the end of year finance council meeting on Wednesday (18th).

On Friday, (20th) there will be a private cremation of Mrs June Callus at Poole. May she rest in peace.

**\*\* 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**

**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. Other parishioners have indicated that they **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. **The order will be placed this week.**

**PUTTING ALL CHILDREN FIRST - ESPECIALLY AT CHRISTMAS TIME** Please take time to visit our nativity over the Christmas period. The collection will be donated to the Catholic Children's Society (Plymouth) as it works across our Diocese spreading God's love and giving families hope in times of crisis. We continue to ask you for a combination of concern, prayer and action. May God bless all our supporters and donors. *Catholic Children's Society (Plymouth)*

**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.   Blank forms are with envelopes are still available at the back of the Church. *Harriet*

**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 (the last of this year) will be on this **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*

**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*

**JACKLIN** As you know the Parish supports Jacklin in Uganda. Instead of Christmas cards I will make a donation towards her needs. The peace and joy of Christmas to you all. *Frances H.*

*­*

*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.

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

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