



St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Ansdell

Parish Priest: Fr. Peter Clarke.

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The Fourth Sunday of Advent Year B Parish Mass Book page Number 90.

Weekend 23rd/24th Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sat 23 rd	6.00pm	St. Joseph's	George McKeon
Sun 24 th	9.15am	St. Joseph's	People of the Parishes
	10.30am	St. Peter's	Intentions of Simon Waddington

Christmas Masses:

Sun 24 th	6.00pm	St. Joseph's	Robert "Bob" Cookson
	8pm	St. Peter's	Deceased of Murphy and Mason Families
Mon 25 th	9.15am	St. Joseph's	Harrison Bretherton
	10.30am	St. Peter's	Sister Teresa Malone
	12noon	<i>Mass at Stella Matutina</i> Intentions of the O'Dea Family	

Tues 26 th	10am	St. Joseph's	Freda McGuinness
Wed. 27 th	9am	St. Peter's	For a Successful Operation
Thurs 28 th	10am	St. Joseph's	Special Intentions (K)

Weekend 30th/31st The Feast of the Holy Family

Sat 30 th	6.00pm	St. Joseph's	Kate Golightly
Sun 31 st	9.15am	St. Joseph's	Deceased of Gillett and Nickson Families
	10.30am	St. Peter's	People of the Parishes

Confession is available by arrangement with Fr. Peter. Tel. 737037



COLLECTION COUNT: for recent weeks:

Gift Aid £163.70 Non Gift Aid £470.47
Special Gift aid 118.50 Non Gift Aid £23.46
St. Joseph's Care £177.56
Calvary Appeal £110 Standing Orders November £2681

Sanctuary Lamp is lit for the Donor's Intentions

Please pray for all who have died recently especially Audrey McSherry and Mary Davies, and those whose anniversaries occur about this time especially: Kate Golightly Thomas Shaw, Margaret Bridges, Dr. Peter McDonell, Scott Russell Hall and Maralyn Gilmour.

Please pray for the sick and housebound of the Parish, especially: Bridie Ashton, Paul Bunyan, Michael Cookson, Andrew Cox, Judith Cross, Roseanne Evans, Rosaline Fox, Louis Gill, Patrick Gilligan, Christopher Hill, Harry Holden, Christopher Hunter, Peter Jones, Sr Kay, Caroline Ledward, Margaret Long, Maureen Lundy, Pat Marion, Paul Meskell, Anne Meyer, George Morgan, Pat Moss, Simon Muller, Molly Murphy, Zivile Petravičiute, Bob Osachuk, Alison Singleton,

Margaret Spillane, Susan Standing, Sr Michaela Toulmin (Hynning), Greta Turner, Alan Watkins, Phil Winstanley, Kath Woods, Albert Zammit, Emmanuel Zammit.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY at Sunday Morning Mass!

COFFEE & BACON BUTTIES after 9.15am Mass this week.
(*Saving the sausages for the pigs in blankets. Fr.P*)

ST JOSEPH'S CARE: Do you know of anyone in our community who is in need or might need a little more support, and would like either a friendly a visit, or Holy Communion at Home? Please let St. Joseph's Care Visiting Team know by emailing or phone the Parish on the above contact details.

BELL RINGING PRACTICE every Thursday from 7-8.30 pm. If you are interested in learning to ring the bells at St Joseph's, please get in touch with Tower Captains James (07743684900) and Stacey (07921032390) and they'll show you the ropes!

REPOSITORY: Cards and gifts for different occasions available, including first communion cards and Rosary beads. Orders for other items can be taken, too. If you are interested in joining a rota for either of the weekend Masses please contact Margaret on 07711698195

LECTIO DIVINA Scripture prayer and discussions, next meeting Wednesday January 10th in the Church Hall at 10am.

THE HOLY ROSARY: every Thursday after Mass in Church, for this beautiful prayer. All welcome.

Rotas for weekend 30th / 31st December

Readers

Sat Vigil: Anna Murgatroyd **Sun 9.15am:** Anne Waters

Meet and Greet

Sat Vigil: C. Williams and M Taylor

Sun 9.15am: M Skene and M Lehman

This Week's Readings: We are Christ's body here on earth. It is his love that gathers us together, in our weakness, to be strengthened through word and sacrament.

First Reading 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16 The true house of God is not the physical building that the king wants to build, but rather the sovereignty and security that God promises to David and his descendants.

Second Reading Romans 16:25-27 Jesus Christ is the revelation of the mystery kept secret for endless ages. He is the culmination of all prophecy and must, therefore, be made known to the ends of the earth.

Gospel Luke 1:26-38 Mary, only a young girl at the time, accepts the invitation of the angel Gabriel to become the mother of God's Son.

Message from Fr. Peter: And a very happy and holy Christmas to you all... when it comes! First of all we celebrate the Fourth Sunday of Advent. And let's not forget that Christmas, like Easter, has its own Octave, eight days of especial celebration, taking us right through to the beginning of 2024. And on top of the Christmas Octave, almost everyday of the Octave has its own celebration too. Tuesday 26th is the Feast of St. Stephen, upon which Good Wenceslas famously looked out. St. Stephen is honoured as the First Christian Martyr, whose death and immediate entrance into heaven remind us of the consequences of that very first Christmas. On Wednesday 27th we remember St. John, the youngest Apostle, the only one to stay faithful with Christ throughout the crucifixion, who tradition tells us stayed with our Blessed Mother Mary after the resurrection, and gave us the fourth Gospel, the prologue of which tells us so much about Jesus as the Light coming into the world. Thursday is the Feast of the Holy Innocents, murdered by Herod in his search for the King of the Jews, and venerated now as martyrs. Friday 29th is the English Feast of St. Thomas Becket, famously murdered in Canterbury Cathedral by the henchmen of King Henry II, and the weekend gives us the Feast of the Holy Family, and we listen to the story of Jesus being presented in the Temple, with the Good Man Simeon proclaiming Jesus As the 'Light to the Gentiles', but also prophesying Jesus' death on the cross, the sorrow of which would pierce the soul of his Mother, before we celebrate the Feast of the Mother of God on January 1st! What a wonderful week! Let's make sure that Christmas is not just one day, but one week leading us to a whole year, that as the Parishes of St Joseph and St Peter, we can celebrate together the love of Christ, come to this earth on the first Christmas day, and who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen! And... when it comes... a very Happy, Holy and Peaceful Christmas to you all. I look forward to celebrating our Christmas Services with you, and to sharing together a wonderful New Year together. Fr. P.

Christmas Mass Times: Sunday 24th December:

6pm at St. Joseph's: Children's Christmas Mass All children are asked to come dressed as a character from the Christmas Story: Mary, Joseph, an Angel, a Shepherd, a King, or an Ox, Donkey, or sheep, to create a 'living crib'. All Welcome!

8pm at St Peter's: CandleLit Christmas Mass With Carols and Readings from 7:30pm

Monday 25th December:

9:15am at St. Joseph's and 10:30am at St. Peter's: Christmas Morning Mass

Posada Update: The Holy Family Journey Around the Parish: Plans for our next stop were disrupted when our Inn Keeper in Edwinstowe Road was taken to hospital. We were rescued and taken in at short notice by a wonderful group of Holy Women in Balmoral Road. Having come to our aid they were reluctant for us to leave but, time marches on, and again a cold and windy day saw us reach Pollux Gate to another warm welcome. Next stop was in Commonsides and time spent in a house full of excited children, and so on to our last Inn and a pleasant rest in Windsor Road. From there our eventful journey brought us to our final destination at St Joseph's Church and an expectant gathering there to welcome us.

Huge Thanks to everyone who came along to the wonderful Joint Parish Christmas Quiz Night. A great time was had by all. Especial thanks to the quiz questioners, the cooks, the Ukulele Orchestra, and all who organized a great event. Let's look forward to more joint socials in the New Year, and please continue to support these great fun fund raisers for our parish. And Huge Thanks (2) to everyone who organised and attended the Advent Meditation and drinks in my house afterwards – including a surprise appearance from the Bishop!

Unwanted Christmas Presents: if you have any extra presents or something which you might not be using, please bring them in to Church so that if suitable they can be distributed to those in need, or used as fund raising prizes for our parish gatherings. Even socks from Auntie Brenda are welcome (unworn)! (I won't tell Auntie Brenda.) Incidentally, *sharing socks is a very Christian act: it's good for the sole*. I'll get my coat... and put the crackers in the bin...

Sanctuary Lamp: If you would like to sponsor the Sanctuary lamp in memory of a loved one or for a special intention, please place the details and date wanted in an envelope with a £20 donation and clearly note Sanctuary Lamp on the outside. This can be placed in the offertory collection basket. The lamp will burn for a full week From Sunday to Saturday, and the intention will be published on the Newsletter.