

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
GAUDETE SUNDAY**

Reading Cycle A

Psalter Week 3

Sunday 11TH DECEMBER 2022

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MASSES AND SERVICES FOR THE WEEK

SAT	10 th DEC	THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT GAUDETE SUNDAY	6.30pm	Paul Ryan
SUN	11 th DEC		10.00am	Denis McCarthy, Margaret Murray
MON	12 TH DEC			
TUES	13 TH DEC	MEMORIAL OF ST LUCY	10.00am	Intention of the Blannin Family
WED	14 TH DEC	MEMORIAL OF ST JOHN OF THE CROSS	10.00am	Patricia Oliver
THURS	15 TH DEC	Weekday in the Third Week of Advent	10.00am	Claire Intention
		SCHOOL CAROL SERVICE IN CHURCH	5.00pm	ALL WELCOME
FRI	16 TH DEC	REQUIEM MASS	11.30am	NICHOLINA MALLIA
SAT	17 TH DEC	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT	6.30pm	Bernard and Brigid Johnson
SUN	18 TH DEC		10.00am	William Mooney, Domenico Malacrino Eileen and Fred Calford

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK, ANNIVERSARIES AND THOSE WHO HAVE RECENTLY DIED:

We pray for those in our families or in our Parish Community who may be sick, housebound, worried or in need. We ask that the love of the Lord be with them during the coming week. To all our parishioners who are indisposed we ask that they may receive every grace and blessing.

We also pray for, Raymond Udry, John Harris, Jane Goodridge, Denis McCarthy, Irene Matthews, Michael Murray, Giulia Camisa, Helen Wedlake, Johanna O'Sullivan, William Melville, Cynthia O'Shea, Nathalie Clarke, Joe O'Reilly, Cyril Union, Arthur Dacey, Reginald Hodge, Josephine McCarthy, Margaret Rose Murray and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Do not forget to pray for all those who have died and for their families, particularly those who have no-one to remember them.

Let us pray for the repose of the soul of, Nicholina Mallia who died recently. May she rest in eternal peace

CANDLES You can buy a 7 day candle which will be left either at the Sacred Heart and Our Lady's Altar for the duration of a week. The charge will be £5. **This week's candles will be lit for the Walsh and McCarthy Families**

If you choose to light a T-Light (20p each) please start from the top row down on the votive stands and light them with care.

SVP CHRISTMAS COLLECTION: There will be a collection **TODAY** for the St Vincent De Paul Society towards the Christmas Parcels. Each year you give so generously. Without your help we could not do what we do. Thank you for your support.

"WALK WITH ME" ADVENT Bks These have a forward by Archbishop Mark and are on sale as you come into Church . £1.00.

CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE: The Staff and Children of the School will be holding their Carol Service in the Church **Thursday 15th December at 5.00pm** . All are Welcome.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH senior parishioners are invited to our Community Mass and Christmas Celebration at St David's Catholic College on **Thursday 22nd December from 12.00pm until 3.00pm**. Following the Mass, a buffet and a full entertainment programme with prizes and small gifts will be provided. For the housebound, it is a lovely opportunity to meet new friends or connect with old friends. For the more active, it is an entertaining and vibrant social occasion where young and old enjoy each other's company.

ARCHDIOCESAN YEAR BOOK 2023 : These are on sale as you come into Church £3.00

DIARY FOR MASS INTENTIONS: The diary for 2023 is now open. Please give your requests to Pat Johnson or Chris German.

MISSIO RED BOXES - I will be collecting the Boxes from this weekend until the 2nd week of December for this financial year. Many thanks, Gerry McCarthy.

DOORS : Please remember to close the doors so that the cold wind does not blow through the Church. The side Porch doors are unlocked, for Health and Safety, and can be opened in case of emergency.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: As usual for those who wish to avail themselves of the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession), may do so at the END of each weekend Mass NOT before Mass.

PIETY STALL: New Christmas stock is in! Boxed Christmas Cards, Nativity Sets, Candles and Christmas Gifts
Our Piety stall is open Before and After but not during Mass. There are lots of devotional aids and gifts and cards.

Please take care if you wish to look in the glass cases. There is a step !

GOING INTO HOSPITAL Cardiff & Vale Hospital Chaplaincy 02921 843230 (new number)

ONLINE DONATIONS: On the Home page of the Website is a link to enable you to donate directly to St Patrick's. Many of us are not using cash as much as we once were and if this is helpful please try it. Gift Aid can be automatically added with no cost to you.

GIFT AID If you pay Income Tax, St Patrick's can collect Gift Aid with no cost to you at all. This is an extra 25p for every £1 you give. All you have to do is sign a consent form. Please consider this.

FACEBOOK : Friends of St Patrick's Grangetown -www.stpatrickscardiff.co.uk

We now have a **Twitter** account. Please follow us: St Patrick's Church Grangetown @StPatsGrange.

HOUSEBOUND COMMUNIONS: If you know of a parishioner wishing to receive Holy Communion or if you need help please contact Canon Mike.

CHURCH COLLECTIONS: Weekend 3rd /4th DECEMBER £601 .20

SAFEGUARDING: Please click on the link for Helplines and Information on the Parish Website Homepage.

PARISH WEBSITE Many people are unaware of what we have on our Parish Website. The Bible readings for the Day are uploaded each day together with reflections. The Caritas Bulletin for **DECEMBER**. When text is underlined, click on that and it will give more information. This newsletter is there for you to read with details of the weekly Masses and Anniversaries, and ... Canon Mike's Weekly Message.

MESSAGE FROM CANON MIKE

Every year on the Third Sunday of Advent I remember a folk group of the 1970's ' Steeleye Span and in particular Maddy Prior who sang " All round my hat I will wear the green willow" and ... "Gaudete ... " For this Sunday is ' Gaudete Sunday , Joy Sunday"

Wherever you find Advent candles, this week instead of lighting a purple one we light a pink/rose coloured one. More of a 'happy' colour than the dour purple . As a child I remember the TV presenter Valarie Singleton making an Advent Wreath from two wire coat hangers from which she would light the Advent candles each week . I also remember them showing how candles were used on the feast of St Lucy to take away the darkness of the winter solstice (feast day of St Lucy is Tuesday 13th December) . A young girl would wear a crown of lighted candles and give thanks to God through prayer , song and dance about the importance of light over darkness Can't imagine this being allowed today through health and safety !

These are positive symbols of good over evil , light over darkness , hope and joy over melancholy and sorrow .

What wonderful words there are in this week's first reading from my friend Isaiah. . .

"Let the wilderness and dry lands exult,

Let the wasteland rejoice and bloom

Let them rejoice and bloom.

Strengthen all weary hands

Steady all trembling knees and say to all faint hearts

'courage' do not be afraid, your God is coming. Be not afraid for He is coming to save us . . . ' "

This coming week , December 14th my old friend Peter Collins, Tredegar born, Rhymney bred, will be elevated to the episcopacy , Bishop of East Anglia . He might not wear a crown of candles like Lucy but he has been called to "wear" the light of hope , comfort and joy and take away the darkness, gloom and despondency of people's lives. He must make a home in his heart and mind the words of Isaiah to strengthen all weary hands and faint hearts and to recognise that the Lord is very near . He's also like all clergy who aim to have the courage , simplicity and humility of John the Baptist in the Gospel. . .

**" Happy the man who does not lose faith in me
as he's been sent to bring news to the poor and to bind up the broken hearted. . .
of all children born, greater than John has never been seen.
Yet even the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he . . . "**

