

OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA CATHOLIC CHURCH

The Presbytery, 22 Devon Place, Mumbles, Swansea, SA3 4DR

Tel: 01792 367283.

Parish Priest & Singleton Hospital Chaplain: Rev. Fr Mansel Usher.

www.ourladystaroftheseamumbles.org.uk

email: olssmumbles@yahoo.co.uk

St David's Catholic Primary School
West Cross Avenue, West Cross,
Swansea, SA3 5TS
Tel 01792 512212

<http://www.stdavidsatholicprimary.swansea.sch.uk/>

email: st.davids.primaryschool@swansea-edunet.gov.uk

'Love God, Love Learning, Love Life'

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS.

Sunday December 18th 4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT Yr A. <i>Isaiah: 7:10-14; Psalm 23(24):1-6;</i> <i>Romans 1:1-7; Matthew: 1:18-24.</i> Psalter Week 4; Yr 1, Advent Week 4	Sat. Vigil	6.30pm	Eileen Roberts (VJ, LL, MA)
	Sunday	8.30am 10.30am 12.30	Parish Community David Cook (MR) <i>Baptism</i>
Monday 19 th <i>4th Week of Advent</i>		9.30am 7.00pm	Arthur Meredith RIP (ET) <i>Service of Reconciliation; visiting priests available for individual confession.</i>
Tuesday 20 th <i>4th Week of Advent</i>		9.30am	Peter Cascarini (MR)
Wednesday 21 st <i>4th Week of Advent</i>		9.30am	Sarah Charlwood RIP (PC)
Thursday 22 nd <i>4th Week of Advent</i>		7.00pm	Peter Parish RIP anniv. (NE)
Friday 23 rd <i>4th Week of Advent</i>		9.30am 3.00pm 7.00pm – 8.00pm	Peter Cottle RIP anniv. (SC) <i>Chaplet of Divine Mercy</i> Confessions

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

SATURDAY 24 TH DECEMBER, CHRISTMAS EVE		CHRISTMAS DAY	
No Morning Mass 5.40pm	<i>Children`s Nativity</i> Brian Davies RIP (MD) <i>Carols</i> Pat & Jim Taylor (JR)	9.30am Mass of Christmas Day	Bill Bowling anniv. (KB)
6.00pm Vigil Mass 11.45pm Midnight Mass		Monday 26th December Feast of St Stephen	
		11.30am	Parish Community

Cycle of Prayer (During Advent and Christmastide): Openness to the Word of God; for Migrants and Refugees; and for Expectant Mothers.

Children`s Nativity: All children are invited to come dressed as shepherds and kings etc.

LOOKING AHEAD

Tuesday 27 th December <i>St John, Apostle and Evangelist (Feast)</i>		9.30am	Arthur Edwards RIP anniv. (VE)
Wednesday 28 th <i>The Holy Innocents, Martyrs (Feast)</i>		9.30am	Kenneth Hunter RIP anniv. (JM) NO COFFEE MORNING (Resumes 4 th January)
Thursday 29 th <i>5th Day of Christmas Octave</i>		7.00pm	Sick & Retired Clergy
Friday 30 th <i>The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph (Feast)</i>		9.30am 3.00pm	Katherine Doel RIP anniv. (JM) <i>Chaplet of Divine Mercy</i>
Saturday 31 st <i>7th Day of Christmas Octave</i>		10.00am 10.30-11am	Freda Williams RIP (Family) <i>Exposition and Confessions</i>
Sunday January 1st MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD (SOLEMNITY) <i>Numbers 6:22-27; Psalm 66(67):2-8;</i> <i>Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:16-21.</i> Psalter Week 1; Yr 1,	Sat. Vigil Sunday	6.30pm 8.30am 10.30am 5pm	Thomas Little RIP O`Kane & Gilmore Families (SO`K) Parish Community <i>Vespers and Benediction</i>

CONFESSIONS: after Saturday morning Mass, and from 6.00pm – 6.15pm Saturday evening, and on request.

MARIAN DEVOTION: Decade of the Rosary after each weekday Mass.

EXPOSITION and BENEDICTION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT: following the Saturday morning Mass.

VESPERS AND BENEDICTION: Usually first Sunday of each month at 5pm. Check newsletter.

SICK AND HOUSEBOUND: Please remember in your prayers: The sick and elderly clergy and religious of the diocese; Cath Baker, Janet Blackburn, June Blackhurst, Joan Bowden, John Fowler, Gina Grattorolla, Gwyneth Isaacs, Kitty Jewell, Rose Lamprey, Barbara Little, Kath and Colin Milford, Roy Millar, Anita Oakley, Doris Renninghoff, Audrey Robinson, Veronica Sked, Tony Taylor, John Williams, and all members of our parish who are unwell at this time.

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED: Sarah Charlwood, Carol Williams.

WE REMEMBER THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR ABOUT THIS TIME: Patrick O`Brien, Joseph Walke, David Cook, Peter Paris, Peter Cascarini, John Morris, Julie Carr, James Whooley, Tom Byrne, Peter Cottle, Amelia Davies, William Jones, William Henry Jones, James Madigan, Maurice Hunt, Maria Snaize, Susannah Morris, Roxy Malinki, Donald Philip, Fr Paul Gallagher, Fr Liam Wilcock.

BAPTISM: Please remember in your prayers Dillon Davies who will be welcomed into God`s Holy Family through the Sacrament of Baptism here this Sunday at 12.30pm.

SUNDAY OFFERING:

Last Sunday: £774. The Collection next week is the Traditional Christmas Offering for the Clergy. Many thanks for your generous support.

200 CLUB: December Bonus

Prize Winners:
£80: Mrs Healings (223)
£40: John Hunt (91)
£20: Barbara Mainwaring (39)
New Members Welcome.

OUR LADY`S LAMP:

£5 per 7-day candle.
This week: Kathleen Morgan

ROTAS (25th December)

Extraordinary Ministers:

6.30pm:
8.30am:
10.30am: *Brynfield:*
West Cross:
Mumbles:

Flowers: All Flower Arrangers meet Saturday 24th December at 9am.

Cleaning: Fran Falvey, Mary McGinty, Jan Davies.

TO ALL OUR CHURCH HELPERS:

Many thanks to everyone who helps in any way in and around our lovely church and parish; serving on the various Ministry Rotas, working quietly behind the scenes to ensure everything runs smoothly. Your help is invaluable and greatly appreciated by everyone.

FOOD DONATIONS: The Sisters of Charity in the Strand, Swansea, are deeply grateful for your generous donations of food for the poor and needy. Please continue to give generously.

AT CHRISTMAS, we remember through joyful celebration and thanksgiving the birth of our Saviour, Jesus Christ, who is God made manifest. It is also a time when many people look back on the past year and the events which have shaped it; events of great happiness, and events of great sadness and difficulty. In 2016 the world has witnessed extraordinary pain and suffering from natural disasters, personal death and sickness, and from the continuing of "*Man`s inhumanity to Man, which makes countless thousands mourn*" (Robert Burns 1785). Lives can become exhausted by pain and suffering, especially if lived without hope. At Christmas, the world is given the gift of God`s love and peace and an invitation to Trust in Him, for only God can give us strength for today and hope for tomorrow.

So, "**Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer**" (Romans 12:12).

Sincere thanks for all your kind cards and gifts, wishing you all a very Happy and Holy Christmas, and a peaceful Blessed New Year. Fr Mansel, Mgr Brian, and Baz.

GOING AWAY FOR CHRISTMAS: If you are travelling this Christmas to visit family and friends, or to escape the cold and the damp, please take with you our good wishes and prayers for a very Happy and Holy Christmas. Travel safely.

SCHOOL CONCERTS: Many congratulations to all the children of St David`s School, St Joseph`s Cathedral School, and the Choir of Bishop Vaughan School, who put on such wonderful concerts and services recently. A true and deep understanding of the Christmas story was beautifully enacted and sung. Well done and many thanks to the teachers, TAs, staff and parents for all your help and support.

CRIB OFFERINGS: AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED "*Shine a Light in Advent Appeal*" helping persecuted Christians around the world, especially at Christmas. <http://www.acnuk.org/shine-a-light-campaign> and Diocesan Refugee Fund.

PARISH CHRISTMAS SUPPER/GRAND PRIZE DRAW: List of prize winners and unclaimed prizes on notice board. The event raised **£667** for AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED "*Shine a Light in Advent Appeal*"

LECTIO DIVINA: Tuesday 10th January at 7pm. **PARISH FILM NIGHT:** "*MR HOLMES*" Friday 6th January at 7pm.

Just as the Christmas Eve service began, the heating in the church failed. After finding some portable heaters and feeling quite flustered the priest resumed the service: "Now, where was I?" A tired voice called out, "Right near the end!"

WELCOME TO VISITORS: PLEASE JOIN US FOR TEA/COFFEE AND A FRIENDLY CHAT AFTER SUNDAY MASSES

Diocese of Menevia Reg. Charity No. 234168

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