

OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA CATHOLIC CHURCH

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`Love God, Love Learning, Love Life`

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS.

SATURDAY 24TH DECEMBER, CHRISTMAS EVE	No Morning Mass 5.40pm 6.00pm Vigil Mass 11.45pm Midnight Mass	<i>Children`s Nativity</i> Brian Davies RIP (MD) <i>Carols</i> Pat & Jim Taylor (JR)
CHRISTMAS DAY	9.30am Mass of Christmas Day	Bill Bowling anniv. (KB)
Monday 26 th December Feast of St Stephen	11.30am	Parish Community
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; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:16-21.</i> Psalter Week 2 (for weekdays up to Epiphany. EP of BVM for Sunday); Yr 1,	Sat. Vigil 6.30pm Sunday 8.30am 10.30am 5pm	Thomas Little RIP (BL) O`Kane & Gilmore Families (SO`K) Parish Community <i>Vespers and Benediction</i>
Cycle of Prayer (<i>During Advent and Christmastide</i>): Openness to the Word of God; for Migrants and Refugees; and for Expectant Mothers.		

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 Miller, 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, Ian Percival.

WE REMEMBER THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR ABOUT THIS TIME: Mary Lynch, Greta Wood, Mrs B. O`Sullivan, Salvatore Scozzi, Percy Bowling, Mary Ellen Davies, Arthur O`Bree, Constance Chiplin, Albert Oliver, Margaret Fane, Frank Ellis, David Jackson, Elsie Dykstra, Annie O`Brien, Josyp Bancay, Anne Williams, Fr Paul Glendinning.

BAPTISM: Please remember in your prayers Dillon Davies who was welcomed into God's Holy Family through the Sacrament of Baptism here last Sunday. Also, Ethan and Aidan Smith who will be baptised here on Sunday 15th January at 12.30pm.

SUNDAY OFFERING:

Last Sunday: £848. The Collection THIS 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: Parish Community

ROTAS (1st January)

Extraordinary Ministers:

6.30pm: Brian Hughes
8.30am: Ann Bowen
10.30am: *Brynfield:* Maggie Morris

West Cross: Joy Stafford

Mumbles: Tess O'Donoghue

Flowers: Christmas Flowers

Cleaning: Ann Richards, Judith Mulcahy.

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.

"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 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. And, if you are visiting The Mumbles and the surrounding area this Christmas, you are very welcome. *Croseo!!*

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.

LECTIO DIVINA: Tuesday 10th January at 7pm. **PARISH FILM NIGHT:** "*MR HOLMES*" Friday 6th Jan., 7pm. Donation £3.

CATHOLICISM: The Pivotal Players: A series of 6 films by Bishop Robert Barren that "illuminates a handful of saints, artists, and scholars who not only shaped the life of the Church but changed the course of civilization." Beginning on Tuesday 17th January at 7pm in the Hall with *St Francis of Assisi*. All welcome.

A well-dressed businessman walks into the NatWest Bank on Mumbles Road and asks for a loan of £2000. When asked for security the businessman pointed to his Bentley parked outside. "I'll be gone for a couple of hours. Here are the keys." Later that day the businessman returns, pays off the loan and the interest and collects his keys. "Pardon me," says the manager, "but why would a man of your obvious means bother with a loan of £2000 pounds?" Very simple, the businessman replied, "Where else in Mumbles could I get parking so cheaply and so easily."

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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