

OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

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Love God, Love Learning, Love Life

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS.

SUNDAY 24TH DECEMBER CHRISTMAS EVE	5.40pm 6.00pm Vigil Mass 11.45pm Midnight Mass	<i>Children`s Nativity</i> Parish Community <i>Carols</i> Mary Lynch RIP anniv. (A&MB)
CHRISTMAS DAY	9.30am Mass of Christmas Day	Bill Bowling anniv. (KB)
Tuesday 26 th St Stephen, The First Martyr (Feast)	11.30am	Parish Community
Wednesday 27 th St John, Apostle and Evangelist (Feast)	9.30am	Fr Paul Gallagher RIP anniv. (NE) NO COFFEE MORNING (Resumes 3 rd Jan.)
Thursday 28 th The Holy Innocents, Martyrs (Feast)	7.00pm	Brenda Bladen RIP (JT)
Friday 29 th <i>5th Day of Christmas Octave</i>	9.30am	George Plunkett RIP (TP & Family)
Saturday 30 th <i>6th Day of Christmas Octave</i>	10.00am 10.30 - 11.00am	Peter Parish RIP anniv. (NE) <i>Adoration and Confessions</i>
Sunday 31st December The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph (Feast) <i>Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3;</i> <i>Psalms 104(105):1-6, 8-9;</i> <i>Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19; Luke 2:22-40</i> Psalter Week 1	Sat. Vigil 6.30pm Sunday 8.30am 10.30am	Arthur Edwards RIP anniv. (VE) Parish Community Ann & Tony Lane (TO`D)
Monday January 1 st 2018 MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD (SOLEMNITY)	11.30am	Thanksgiving (ET)

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

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.

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

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: following the Saturday morning Mass with simple Benediction; and every Friday 3pm – 4pm with Chaplet of Divine Mercy and Rosary.

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

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

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 Grattarola, Gwyneth Isaacs, Kitty Jewell, Rose Lamprey, Barbara Little, Anne Martin, Kath and Colin Milford, Roy Miller, Anita Oakley, Doris Renninghoff, Audrey Robinson, Phyllis Spencer, Tony Taylor, and all members of our parish who are unwell at this time, and all those who care for them.

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY: Carol Hyde, Anna Macari, Brenda Bladen.

WE REMEMBER THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR ABOUT THIS TIME: Maria Snaize, Susannah Morris, Roxy Malinki, Donald Phillip, 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, Christine Moulds, Annie O`Brien, Josyp Bancay, Helen Zienkiewicz, Fr Liam Wilcock, Fr Paul Glendinning.

SUNDAY OFFERING: Last Sunday: £924.52. The Collection at the Christmas Masses is the Traditional Christmas Offering for the Support of the Clergy. Many thanks for your generous support	ROTAS (31st December) Extraordinary Ministers: 6.30pm: Maureen Williams 8.30am: Anne Bowen 10.30am: <i>Brynfield:</i> Maggie Morris <i>West Cross:</i> Tony Morgan <i>Mumbles:</i> Joy Stafford Flowers: Cleaning: Fran Falvey, Mary M`Ginty, Jan Davies	OUR LADY`S LAMP: £5 per 7-day candle. This Week: Peter Mason 200 CLUB: December Winners: £80: Geraldine Fane (1) £40: Fran Jordan (80) £20: Kate Healings (223) January Subs due 13 th /14 th 6 or 12mths subs can be paid in advance. New Members Welcome
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FOOD DONATIONS: The Sisters of Charity in the Strand, Swansea, are deeply grateful for your generous donations of all non-perishable food items for the poor and needy. Please continue to give generously.
The Sisters wish to express their sincere thanks to St David`s School who collected a tremendous amount of food and gifts during Advent. Congratulations to Year 2 who topped the Collection Charts!!

A PRAYER FOR OUR DIOCESE

Almighty and eternal God, give us the grace and strength to carry out the work entrusted to us in the Diocese of Menevia. Bless our families and our parishes. You call men and women from our families to serve you as priests, deacons and in the religious life. May we read the signs of these vocations in others and help them to follow you.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*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, and Mgr Brian.*

"God could have come wrapped in glory, splendour, light and power, to instill fear, to make us rub our eyes in amazement. Instead he came as the smallest, the frailest and weakest of beings. Why? So that no one would be ashamed to approach him, so that no one would be afraid, so that all would feel close to him and draw near to him, so that there would be no distance between us and him. God made the effort to plunge, to dive deep within us, so that each of us, each of you, could speak intimately with him, trust him, draw near to him and realise that he thinks of you and loves you... He loves you! Think about what this means! If you understand this, if you remember what I am saying, you will have understood the whole of Christianity". (Blessed Pope Paul VI, Christmas 1971).

SCHOOL CONCERTS: Well done to 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. **St Joseph`s Cathedral School Choir can be heard in concert with the BBC Wales Chorus and the BBC National Orchestra which will be broadcast on BBC Wales Radio Christmas Eve 11.00pm and Christmas Day 2pm.**

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.

CRIB OFFERINGS 2017: Swansea Hope Night Shelter. Churches in Swansea, working together to meet the needs and care for homeless people through the coldest months, providing emergency accommodation and a hot meal for rough sleepers. **Many thanks to all who have volunteered to help with this project.**

PARISH FILM NIGHT: Friday, 5th January: "A Street Cat Named Bob", starring Luke Treadway and BOB as Bob.

LECTIO DIVINA: Resumes Tuesday 9th January, 7pm. **CATHOLIC MENS SOCIETY:** Monday 5th February at 7.15pm. Guest speaker: Bishop Tom Burns, speaking on Military Chaplaincy. All men of the parish welcome.

A little girl is sitting on her grandpa's lap and studying the wrinkles on his old face. She gets up the nerve to rub her fingers over the wrinkles. Then she touches her own face and looks more puzzled. Finally, the little girl asks, "Grandpa, did God make you?" "He sure did honey, a long time ago," replies her grandpa. "Well, did God make me?" asks the little girl. "Yes, He did, and that wasn't too long ago," answers her grandpa. "Boy," says the little girl, "He's sure doing a lot better job these days, isn't He?"

WELCOME TO VISITORS: PLEASE JOIN US FOR TEA/COFFEE AND A FRIENDLY CHAT AFTER SUNDAY MASSES
Diocese of Menevia Reg. Charity No. 234168