

Our Lady Star Of The Sea Catholic Church

The Presbytery, 22 Devon Place, Mumbles, Swansea, SA3 4DR
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St David's Catholic Primary School
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 'Love God, Love Learning, Love Life'

SOME MASSES LISTED BELOW ARE LIVESTREAMED

Date & Liturgical Celebration	Time	Mass Intention
Sunday 27th December The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph (Feast)	10.30am (Livestreamed)	Fr Michael: Norman Evans, RIP (A & M B) Fr Victor: Teresa McNeff, RIP (C M ^c)
Monday 28 th The Holy Innocents, Martyrs (Feast)	9.30am (Livestreamed)	All Aborted Babies
Tuesday 29 th <i>Fifth Day within the Octave of Christmas</i>	9.30am (Livestreamed)	Victims of Injustice
Wednesday 30 th <i>Sixth Day within the Octave of Christmas</i>	9.30am (Livestreamed)	NHS Workers
Thursday 31 st <i>Seventh Day within the Octave of Christmas</i>	9.30am (Livestreamed)	Mrs Christiana Akpoghira, RIP
Friday 1st January Mary, the Holy Mother of God (Solemnity)	9.30am (Livestreamed)	Intention of Eileen Thomas (E W)
Saturday 2 nd <i>Sts Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops & Doctors of the Church</i>	10.00am (Livestreamed)	For Covid-19 Patients
Sunday 3rd January 2nd Sunday after The Nativity	Sat. Vigil 6.30pm 8.30am 10.30am 11.45am	Parish Community For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish Mrs Christiana Akpoghira, RIP Parish Community

CONFESSIONS: On request.

FACE COVERINGS AT MASS: In keeping with Welsh Government guidance, face coverings must be worn at Mass by adults and children aged 11 and over. The face covering may be removed in order to receive Holy Communion. By wearing a face covering you will be helping to protect others.

HOW TO PRE-BOOK SUNDAY MASS ATTENDANCE: To book a place at Sunday Masses, please contact **Madeline Ahearne** on phone or email (01792 361194; madelineolss@aol.com) or send an email to the Parish email address mumbles@menevia.org. Please provide your name, the number attending Mass, and contact phone number when you book. This record will be held for 14 days solely for track and trace (COVID-19).

LIVESTREAMED MASSES: Masses are livestreamed from our Parish every day. For a link to livestreamed Masses please go to our Parish website www.ourladystaroftheseamumbles.org.uk and click "Livestream" on the menu bar. You can also find us on **YouTube** by searching for **Our Lady Star of the Sea Mumbles**.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK: Ron Howe, Grace Morgan, Isabella Morgan, Eileen Thomas, Seamus O'Brien.

PARISH BIBLE STUDY ONLINE: Monday, 4th January 2021 at 7pm on Zoom. Details will be sent to all via email.

THE CYCLE OF PRAYER: During Advent and Christmastide, we are invited to pray for migrants and refugees, and for expectant mothers.

OUR CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL: Our local Catholic Primary school is **St David's** on West Cross Avenue, a welcoming and happy school, where children are cared for and nurtured to develop, educationally, spiritually and emotionally. The contact details for St David's are at the top of this Newsletter - do get in touch to secure a place for your child.

st.davids.primaryschool@swansea-edunet.gov.uk or Phone on 01792 512212 or follow us on Twitter: @stdavidscps.

MASS ON BOXING DAY: Mass will be livestreamed from our Parish on Saturday, 26th December by 10.00am without a congregation.

WEEKDAY MASSES: Weekday Masses are livestreamed without a congregation. There will be no in-person attendance until further notice. Funerals are not affected.

WEEKEND MASSES: Weekend Masses will resume 2nd and 3rd of January. Pre-booking will still be required. There will be NO weekend Masses with a congregation on 26th and 27th of December. Mass will be livestreamed at 10.30am on Sunday 27th December.

**Sincere thanks for all your kind cards and gifts this Christmas.
Wishing you all a very Happy and Holy Christmas and Peaceful New Year.
Father Michael, Father Victor and Monsignor Brian Kinrade.**

Reflection for the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph (Year B)

The Holy Family of Nazareth is Our Spiritual School

The birth of Jesus brings both joy and salvation to his parents and to the world. In their life of humility, prayer and work, the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph becomes the perfect example for all families in the world.

God's Covenant with Abram: In Genesis 12, God made a covenant with Abram that he, the Lord, would make him a great nation. At the time of the covenant, Abram was about seventy-years of age. It was when he became one-hundred years old that Isaac (which means laughter) was eventually born to him. With the birth of Isaac to the family of Abram and Sarah, God fulfilled his promise to them. The joy of Abram and Sarah at the birth of Isaac prefigured the joy of the human family at the birth of Jesus. As God preserved the lineage of Abram in the birth of Isaac, God also preserved the human race through the birth of Jesus who is the firstborn of all who have been reborn in the waters of baptism (Col 1:15).

Simeon and Anna Were Filled with Joy: The Presentation of Jesus in the Temple was an experience of peace and joy for both Simeon and Anna who received him in the Temple. They, like Abram and Sarah, were also recipients of the promise of God. They received the fulfilment of this promise even in their old age. The Temple symbolises the place of God's presence. The house of God then becomes a place where we find joy and peace for our souls. While we may not always be in the house of God, the house of God can always be in us. The house of God is in us when we desire to be in his presence (Ps 63). The house of God is also in us when we share the joy of Christmas with those around us. In mutual love, prayer and works of mercy, each family becomes the house of God, a domestic church, where God dwells (Vatican II, *Lumen Gentium*, 11). Through the power of God, we extend the love and joy in our families to the whole world and so make the world the true family of God.

The Son of God in the House of God: Jesus was presented in the Temple in accordance with the Law of Moses which requires that every first-born male be consecrated to the service of the Lord (Ex 13:2). Yet, the presentation of Jesus in the Temple goes beyond the obedience of the Law of Moses but a declaration of the person and mission of Jesus. Jesus, who is the

Son of God, should rightly be in the house of God to consecrate the children of God to him. Hence, Simeon speaks of Jesus as the salvation which God had prepared for all generations. This salvation is for the whole of humanity.

Families' Call to Holiness: The celebration of Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph is a call to holiness for families. It is the presence of Jesus that makes this family holy. He is God the Son who consecrates the world to the Father. God made Mary holy in preparing her to bear the Saviour of the world. Joseph also became holy in cooperating with the plans of God and obeying the commands of God in taking Mary as his wife and in providing human protection for her and her Son. Our families are also holy because we have Christ dwelling with us and in us.

The Home of Nazareth is Our Spiritual School: The three members of the Holy Family each teach us lessons about our spiritual lives. From Jesus, we learn the way of humility. He who is the Son of God became the Son of man to lead humanity back to God. Mary teaches us the lesson of prayer and meditation. When her Son was found in the Temple, Mary pondered all the revelations in her heart. The family then becomes a place where we learn to pray and reflect on the word of God. Also, Joseph teaches us the lesson of work. Nazareth is known as the home of the 'Carpenter's Son' (Mt 13:55). The Church emphasises the dignity of human labour. She learns this from the Holy Family. Every family also becomes a place where our work becomes an offering to God and a means of building a peaceful human family. The Holy Family also teaches us that every member of the family has an important and irreplaceable role to play in making the family a happy place for all. May the examples of Jesus, Mary and Joseph lead us to build a peaceful and just human family. Amen.