

Our Lady Star Of The Sea Catholic Church

The Presbytery, 22 Devon Place, Mumbles, Swansea, SA3 4DR
 Rev. Fr. Michael 'Tega Akpoghiran, OP. Tel: 01792 367283
 Rev. Fr. Matthew Achunine, OP.
 Rev. Fr. Clement Oloruntoba, OP. (Singleton Hospital Chaplain) 07459335606
 Parish Safeguarding Rep: Mrs Clare Power Tel: 01792 401781
 email: mumbles@menevia.org twitter: @OLSS_Mumbles
<https://www.facebook.com/OLSSMumbles/>

St David's Catholic Primary School

West Cross, Swansea, SA3 5TS
 Tel 01792 512212
 Headteacher: Ms E. Richards
<http://www.stdavidscatholicprimary.swans.ea.sch.uk/>
 email: 6703303_stdavidscatholicprimaryschool@hwb.cymru.net
<https://www.facebook.com/StDavidsCPS/>
 'Love God, Love Learning, Love Life'

SOME MASSES LISTED BELOW ARE LIVESTREAMED

Date & Liturgical Celebration	Time	Mass Intention
Sunday 26th December The Holy Family of Our Lord Jesus Christ	8.30am 10.30am 11.45am	Parish Community Joe Blackburn, RIP (J M) Joyce & Stuart Lloyd, RIP (B & D D)
Monday 27 th No Mass in Townhill Parish		NO MASS TODAY
Tuesday 28 th No Mass Today		NO MASS TODAY
Wednesday 29 th <i>Fifth Day within the Octave of Christmas</i>	9.30am (Livestreamed)	Joe Blackburn, RIP (A L)
Thursday 30 th <i>Sixth Day within the Octave of Christmas</i>	7.00pm (Livestreamed)	Maureen Davies, RIP (B & D D)
Friday 31 st <i>Seventh Day within the Octave of Christmas</i>	9.30am (Livestreamed)	Joe Blackburn, RIP (R C)
Saturday 1 st January Mary, The Holy Mother of God (Solemnity)	10.00am (Livestreamed)	Joe Blackburn, RIP (E T)
Sunday 2nd January 2nd Sunday of Christmas	Sat. Vigil 6.30pm 8.30am 10.30am 11.45am	Maureen Davies, RIP (A L) Joe Blackburn, RIP (A & M B) Parish Community Dead Refugees, RIP (Prayer Group)

CONFESSIONS: Saturday morning after 10am Mass, Saturday evening 6pm-6.15pm, and on request.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK: Ron Howe, Grace Morgan, Isabella Morgan, Eileen Thomas.

AFGHANISTAN CRISIS APPEAL: CAFOD is combining efforts with the Disasters Emergency Committee to launch the **Afghanistan Crisis Appeal**. In Afghanistan, 8 million people are on the brink of famine because of drought, collapsing economy, food shortages, conflict, and COVID. CAFOD is supporting sister **Caritas** agencies to reach communities most in need with food, clean water, and fuel. During Christmas, when we open ourselves to the needs of others, let's do all that we can to save lives. You can donate on the CAFOD website: cafod.org.uk/AfghanistanAppeal and please pray for the people of Afghanistan.

WE REMEMBER THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND, AND THOSE WHO HAVE ASKED FOR OUR PRAYERS: Isabelle Gilfedder, Bill Gill, Claire Clancy, Roy Miller, Frank Bowen, Michael Guerin, Theresa Plunkett, John Grant, Kath Bowling, Doris Renninghoff, Pat Davies, Frances Traylor, Rosemary Ronan, Mary Brearley, Audrey Robinson, Maria Davies, Angela Matthews, Millie Richards, Janet Blackburn, Eleanor Scowcroft, Yvonne Richards, Maria Watkins, Peter McPherson, Heather Ellis, Bernard Gregory.

WE REMEMBER THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR ABOUT THIS TIME: Percy William Bowling, Mary Ellen Davies, Arthur O'Bree, Constance Chiplin, Arthur Edwards, Michael Dunne, Albert Oliver, Margaret Fane, Frank Ellis, William P Kelleher, David Jackson, Elsie Dykstra, Fr Paul Glendinning, Christine Mouls, Annie O'Brien, Josyp Bancay, Helen Zienkiewicz, Thomas McCarry, Anne Williams, David O'Donnell.

SUNDAY OFFERING: £1,018 (includes standing orders). Thanks for your generosity.

POPE'S INTENTION FOR DECEMBER: In December, we pray with Pope Francis that catechists, who are called to proclaim God's Word, may be its witnesses, with courage and creativity in the power of the Holy Spirit.

THE CYCLE OF PRAYER: Christmastide continues the themes begun in Advent: Openness to the Word of God; Migrants and Refugees; Expectant Mothers.

The Precious Value of Marriage and of the Family

Illuminated by the faith that gives her an understanding of all the truth concerning the great value of marriage and the family and their deepest meaning, the Church once again feels the pressing need to proclaim the Gospel, that is the "good news," to all people without exception, in particular to all those who are called to marriage and are preparing for it, to all married couples and parents in the world.

The Church is deeply convinced that only by the acceptance of the Gospel are the hopes that man legitimately places in marriage and in the family capable of being fulfilled.

Willed by God in the very act of creation, marriage and the family are interiorly ordained to fulfillment in Christ and have need of His graces in order to be healed from the wounds of sin and restored to their "beginning," that is, to full understanding and the full realization of God's plan.

At a moment of history in which the family is the object of numerous forces that seek to destroy it or in some way to deform it, and aware that the well-being of society and her own good are intimately tied to the good of the family, the Church perceives in a more urgent and compelling way her mission of proclaiming to all people the plan of God for marriage and the family, ensuring their full vitality and human and Christian development, and thus contributing to the renewal of society and of the People of God.

St John Paul II, Apostolic Exhortation *Familiaris Consortio*, 3.

The Reason for the Incarnation

St Thomas Aquinas, OP

To excite our love towards God, there was no more powerful way than that the Word of God, through whom all things were made, should assume our human nature in order to restore it, so that he would be both God and man. First of all, because the strongest way God could show how much he loves man was his willing to become man for his salvation; and nothing can provoke love more than to know that one is loved.

St Thomas Aquinas, *De Rationibus Fidei*, 5.

**Sincere thanks and deep appreciation for all your kind words, cards, and gifts this Christmas.
Father Michael, Father Matthew, and Monsignor Brian Kinrade.**

COVID ADVICE: To reduce the risk of spreading COVID, please do NOT attend Mass if you feel unwell or have any symptoms of a cold, no matter how mild. Instead, follow our livestreamed Mass. Also, we remind those attending Mass that face masks should be worn over the nose and mouth. Thank you.

Face Covering 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 (COVID track and trace).

Livestreamed Masses: Masses are livestreamed from our Parish (weekday Masses and Sunday 10.30am Mass). 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**

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.

Email: 6703303_stdavidscatholicprimaryschool@hwbcymru.net or phone on 01792 512212 or follow us on Twitter: @stdavidscps.