

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
GAUDETE SUNDAY
 Reading Cycle C
 Psalter Week 3
 Sunday 12th DECEMBER 2021
 Chaplains:
 Llandough-Rev. Peter Davies
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 Heath-Rev. David Pritchard
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MASSES FOR THE WEEK

SAT	11 TH DEC	THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT GAUDETE SUNDAY	6.30pm	Denis McCarthy
SUN	12 TH DEC		10.00am	Irene and Fred Calford
MON	13 th DEC			
TUES	14 TH DEC	ST JOHN OF THE CROSS (Memorial)	10.00am	Cardin Morgan
WED	15 TH DEC	Weekday in 3rd Week of Advent	10.00am	John Burns , Francesca and Giovanni Malacrino
THURS	16 TH DEC	Weekday in 3rd Week of Advent	10.00am	Maria Rosario
FRI	17 TH DEC			
SAT	18 TH DEC	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT	6.30pm	Maria Rosario
SUN	19 TH DEC		10.00am	William Mooney, Abbe, Philomena and Alex Cohen

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK, ANNIVERSARIES AND THOSE WHO HAVE RECENTLY DIED:

We pray for those in our families or in our Parish Community who may be sick, housebound, worried or in need. We ask that the love of the Lord be with them during the coming week. To all our parishioners who are indisposed we ask that they may receive every grace and blessing.

We also pray for, Denis McCarthy, Irene Matthews, Michael Murray, Giulia Camisa, Helen Wedlake, Johanna O'Sullivan, William Melville, Joe O'Reilly, Cyril Union, Arthur Dacey, Reginald Hodge, Josephine McCarthy, Margaret Rose Murray, Hugh Kildea, Thomas McTighue, Jane Daly, Cynthia O'Shea, Nathalie Clarke, and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Pricilla Nogan who passed away recently. May she rest in peace.

Do not forget to pray for all those who have died and for their families particularly those who have no-one to remember them.

CANDLES You will have an opportunity to buy a 7 day candle which will be left either at the Sacred Heart and Our Lady's Altar for the duration of a week. The charge will be £5.

This week's candles will be lit for Mary and Albert Millar and Joan and Jim Cowley

SVP CHRISTMAS COLLECTION: We will be making our annual Christmas Collection this weekend.. Please place your donations in the red bucket as you enter the Church. We thank you for your generosity.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES: **The First Mass of Christmas (7.30pm Christmas Eve) is now FULLY BOOKED.** There is a seating plan so if you have booked for this Mass please collect your seating information from Christine. There are places available for the 9.00am Mass and 10.30am Mass on Christmas Day. Mass on Boxing Day (Sunday) will be 10.00am as usual,

MISSIO: - if anyone would like their Red Box to be emptied before Christmas, could you please bring to Church or telephone me on 029 20650330 and I will arrange to collect it from you. Thank you all for your donations this year. Gerry McCarthy.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION 2022: Thank You to those parents who have already registered their children to join the preparation programme for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion 2022. You should have received an email from me containing more information. If any other parents wish to register their children, registration forms will be available at the Masses this weekend. Thank You. Mary Taylor (on behalf of the Catechetical team).

WEEKDAY MASSES : Numbers for the Weekday Masses have increased, so these Masses will be in the Church. Please dress warmly.

GOING INTO HOSPITAL? Please let Canon Mike know as he will be pleased to celebrate the Sacrament of the Sick and/or any pastoral support you need, as the team of priests who currently provide 24/7 cover are under a great deal of pressure and therefore no guarantee that a priest will always be available at any particular time. If you know any Catholic already in Hospital who needs a visit or sacramental support please leave details with the Cardiff & Vale Hospital Chaplaincy 029 20743230

HOUSEBOUND COMMUNIONS: If you know of a parishioner wishing to receive Holy Communion or if you need help please contact Canon Mike.

MASS INTENTIONS: Please put your request and donation in an envelope and post it through the Presbytery Door and mark the outside of the envelope to show that it is a Mass request.

CONFESSIONS: For those who wish to avail themselves of the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession), I will be available at the END of each weekend Mass NOT before Mass.

SAFEGUARDING: Please click on the link for Helplines and Information on the Parish Website Homepage.

PARISH WEBSITE [Daily Mass Readings](#) **Catholic People:** [DECEMBER EDITION](#), **Caritas:** [DEC_- JAN BULLETIN](#),

MESSAGE FROM CANON MIKE

Well, my friends, hopefully many of us have had our ‘Booster’ to protect us from Covid 19. Thank God for the Scientists throughout the world who continue to work night and day trying to find the ultimate cure, but let’s not forget we must still follow the precautions we’ve been following. We are not out of the woods yet !

How lucky we are to live here and how thankful we should be for those who care for our sick and administer the drugs available to us. I worry for those in the developing countries who have little hope of this vaccine reaching their towns and villages because Big, Rich and Powerful Nations have bought and hoarded it up. I read this week that their chances are one person out of every ten EVER being vaccinated.

This weekend we light our third candle, Gaudete Sunday, “Rejoice”. This is indicated by the third candle being different in colour.

*“ Rejoice in the Lord always, again I say rejoice.
Let your forbearance be known to all, for the Lord is near at hand,
so have no anxiety over anything.”*

Advent is that time of waiting, waiting in anticipation for the Lord’s Coming. Expectation for something that will change the whole of humanity.

A great spiritual writer of the 20th Century, Henri Nouwen, wrote of the difference between Joy and Happiness.

“While ‘Happiness’ is dependent on external conditions, ‘Joy’ is the experience of knowing that you are unconditionally loved and that nothing -- sickness, emotional distress, oppression, war, or even death can take that away. Thus ‘Joy’ can be present even in the midst of sadness”

So, as that Man of Joy, Pope Francis said of Gaudete Sunday ----

“ Today is Joy Sunday”

So let us with a joyful and thankful heart rejoice for the great breakthroughs in medical science and for knowing the Joy of being part of humanity as we wait in expectation for the end to this difficult time and as Christians waiting for Our Saviour to arrive.

This Sunday two more of our children will make their First Holy Communion. Their journey has brought them to meet the Lord , an encounter with Jesus, the Bread of Life. I pray that this will not be their First and Last Encounter, but a step on the Journey towards that Holy Mountain, a moment of jubilation on the mount of ecstasy.

Three dead bodies turn up at the mortuary, all with very big smiles on their faces. The coroner calls in the police to tell them what has happened.

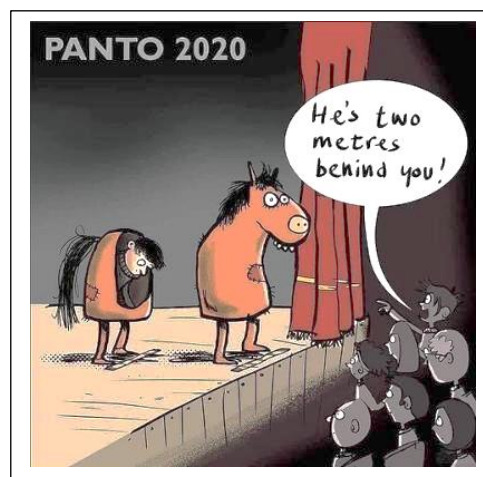
‘ First body: Frenchman, 60, died of heart failure while drinking vintage champagne and eating foie gras. Hence the enormous smile, Inspector’ says the coroner.

‘Second body: Scotsman, 25, won £1000 on the lottery, spent it all on whiskey. Died of alcohol poisoning, hence the smile.’

The Inspector asks ‘ What of the third body?’ ‘ Ah’ said the coroner ‘This is the most unusual one. Big Seamus Quinn from Donegal, 30, struck by lightning.’ ‘Why is he smiling then?’ enquires the Inspector.

‘ He thought he was having his photo taken.’

LIFE’S LIKE THAT!



A tour bus driver is driving with a bus load of OAP’s when he is tapped on the shoulder by a little old lady. She offers him a handful of peanuts, which he gratefully munches up. After about fifteen minutes she taps him on his shoulder again and she hands him another handful of peanuts. When she is about to hand him another batch he asks her,

“ Why don’t you eat the peanuts yourself? “

“ We can’t chew them because we’ve no teeth” she replies “ We just love the chocolate around them.”