

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Followed by CHRISTMAS DAY

Reading Cycle B

Psalter Week 4

Sunday 24TH DECEMBER 2023

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ST PATRICK'S GRANGETOWN

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MASSES AND SERVICES FOR THE WEEK

SAT	23 rd DEC	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT	6.30pm	DECEASED OF THE PARISH
SUN	24 th DEC		10.00 am	PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
SUN	24 th DEC	CAROL SERVICE FIRST MASS OF CHRISTMAS	6.30pm	FR JACK FAHY R.I.P
MON	25 TH DEC	CHRISTMAS DAY	10.00am	PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
TUES	26 TH DEC	FEAST OF ST STEPHEN, THE FIRST MARTYR	6.30pm	Maldwyn and Helen Evans R.I.P
WED	27 TH DEC	FEATS OF ST JOHN, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST	6.30pm	Deceased Priests of the Parish R.I.P
THURS	28 TH DEC	FEAST OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS	11.30am	Maria de Rosario Gomes Camacho R.I.P
FRI	29 TH DEC	COMMEMORATION OF ST THOMAS BECKET	11.30am	Ted and Brenda Wilson R.I.P
SAT	30 TH DEC	HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS	6.30pm	Terry Webber R.I.P Mieczystaw Hanus R.I.P
SUN	31 ST DEC		10.00am	Paul Ryan
MON	1 ST JANUARY	MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD (Solemnity)	10.00am	PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

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 Betty Muscat, Francis Jenkins, Patrick Middleton, Vivian Taylor, Richard Mulhall, Terese Ramos, William Woodman, Charles Donaldson, Julia Bossano, John Smith, Sheila Harding, Mary Carroll, Ivy Davies, Margaret Stevens, Michael O'Brien, Alberto Petrelli, Ann Salter, Peter Levy, Dorothy Brahim, Angela Reilly, Brenda Wilson, Fr Jack Fahy, Fr Denis Torney, Fr John Meredith, Fr Martin Delaney, Fr John Regan, Fr Michael Martin, Fr Liam Doyle, Fr Marshall Gibbs and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Josephine Reece, Anne Hawkins, Beatrice Farrugia, and Gloria Campos who passed away recently. May they 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 can buy a 7 day candle (£5.00) which will be left either at the Sacred Heart and Our Lady's Altar for the duration of a week. **This week's candles will be lit for a Special Intention in Thanksgiving and the repose of the soul of Gloria Campos** If you choose to light a T-Light (20p each) please start from the top row down on the votive stands and light them with care.

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER FROM THE ARCHBISHOP: Please see the Parish Website

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER FROM THE SCHOOL: Please see the Parish Website

CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS: As usual the collections at the Christmas Masses will be for the Priests of our Parish. This will be their first Christmas with us and we thank them for becoming part of our Parish Family. There are envelopes at the back of the Church.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: As usual for those who wish to avail themselves of the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession), may do so at the END of each weekend Mass.

WEEKDAY MASSES: Now that the weather is getting colder, most of our weekday Masses will be celebrated in the Sacristy.

COFFEE, TEA AND CAKE !. Everyone is welcome but please give a monetary donation toward the cost of the refreshments. All donations are most welcome.

RAFFLE WINNERS: Would the ticket holders of these numbers please contact Chris. You have won a prize. Please bring your ticket.

Winning tickets are: 84, 85, 97, 98, 102, 116, 118,

ARCHDIOCESAN YEAR BOOK : **Bargain! £4.00** Available at the back of the Church

MASS INTENTIONS At the back of the Church there are envelopes for you to put your donation and the details of when you would like a Mass and for whom. Please put your envelope in the Offertory Bag or the Brown Box at the back of the Church. The new Mass Diary for 2024 is now open.

NEW TO THE PARISH? If you have been coming to St Patricks for some weeks and would like to be listed as a new Parishioner please complete the proforma at the back of the Church and give it to one of the priests.

CONFIRMATION: Names are being taken for Preparation Classes for the Sacrament of Confirmation (Year 8 and above). Please give your name to Mary Taylor or Chris.

BIRTHDAYS AND WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES: If you would like these occasions to be celebrated in Church, please put details on the sheet and Chris will put it in our new 'Celebrations Book'

FOOD AND TOILETRIES APPEAL : Thank you to all who are helping to support the Fair-Priced Food Shop with donations of tinned goods and toiletries. Goods can be left by the table at the back of the Church and then they will be taken to the School.

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

GOING INTO HOSPITAL? Cardiff & Vale Hospital Chaplaincy 02921 843230 (new number) Please let the Hospital know that you are a Catholic and would like a visit from the Chaplain.

PIETY STALL: Lots of good things to see. **Please take care if you wish to look in the glass cases. There is a step !**

ONLINE DONATIONS: On the Home page of the Website is a link to enable you to donate directly to St Patrick's. Many of us are not using cash as much as we once were and if this is helpful please try it. Gift Aid can be automatically added with no cost to you.

GIFT AID If you pay Income Tax, St Patrick's can collect Gift Aid with no cost to you at all. This is an extra 25p for every £1 you give. All you have to do is sign a consent form. Please consider this.

QR CODE: Many of you will have seen the poster displaying the QR Code for the Parish. This is another way you can donate to the Parish. You will need a QR Code reader on your Phone.

HOUSEBOUND COMMUNIONS: If you know of a parishioner wishing to receive Holy Communion or if you need help please contact Frs Valentine, Solomon or Malachy

PARISH WEBSITE Each day there is something new to read.

CHURCH COLLECTIONS: December 16th/17th £501.823

WEEKLY MESSAGE

This Sunday we enter into the Fourth week of Advent leading to the Feast of Christmas on the very next day, December 25th. What a journey it's been for Mary and Joseph ! Two thousand years ago they travelled the 30miles or so from Nazareth to Bethlehem. Imagine how awful it must have been for Mary, heavily pregnant and riding on a donkey on totally unmade roads. The journey was physically demanding: treacherous tracks, fearful robbers, all in the heat of the mid-day sun. Thank God they did not give up, but having arrived at their destination, Bethlehem, they then found they were without shelter.

Great emphasis is placed upon Jesus and Mary, but the 'Quiet Man' Joseph, the dependable one was at the front guiding, encouraging, supporting, always being positive when all around were finding it hard to continue. We know so little about Joseph, other than he had great faith and trusted God implicitly.

Our journey has brought us to the Crib. Joseph, with his wife Mary, heard the encouraging words of the Angel and now the world rejoices at the Birth of the Saviour.

They say "All Roads lead to Rome" but for us, friends and family "All Roads lead to Bethlehem". As we Journey towards the Stable, the "House of Welcome" we find a place of refuge, of welcome and of security, It's Home.

As we take stock of the past year, many of us will find that we have taken a wrong road, a road that has taken us away from the "Straight Highway of the Lord" but what is of importance is that is that today we encounter the Great Gift of the Holy Family full of understanding and sensitivity and we can share it with each other.

So this Christmas let us with gratitude and deep appreciation continue our journey as did Mary, Joseph and Jesus and place all our Faith and Trust in the Lord, who will guide us, if only we place our hands in His. May the Peace of Our Lord Jesus Christ be with us all this Christmas.

"Glory to God & Peace to People of Good will" God is with us, let us rejoice, Emmanuel...

