FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Reading Cycle B
Page 82 in the New Yellow Mass Book
Psalter Week 1
Sunday 29TH NOVEMBER 2026

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MASSES AND SERVICES FOR THE WEEK

SAT	28TH NOV	FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT	6.00pm	Jim Cowley R.I.P
SUN	29TH NOV		10.00am	November Remembrance List
MON	30TH NOV	FEAST OF ST ANDREW, APOSTLE	10.00am	Well Being of Sian
TUES	1ST DEC	1st Week of Advent	10.00am	Deceased of the Parish
WED	2ND DEC	1st Week of Advent	10.00am	Gerard and Mary McAleavy
THURS	3RD DEC	NO MASS		
FRI	4TH DEC			
SAT	5TH DEC	SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT	6.00pm	Gillian Quinn R.I.P
SUN	6TH DEC		10.00am	Lu and Pat Mooney R.I.P

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

Let us pray for the repose of the souls of Richard McCarthy and Craig Sullivan who passed away recently. May they rest in eternal peace,

This week we also pray for Lynda Hayes, John O'Brien, William Baker, Charles Cahill (1983), John Warner (1985), Michael McGowan , Daniel O'Donovan (1986), Margaret Kloppe, Sophie Davies (1989), Armando Casella, Gerard McAleavey (1990), Rose Broom, Alice Webber (1991), Reginald Paul, Veronica Harrington, John Roberts , Alma Davies (1995), Patricia Gerrard (1998), Michael Molloy (1999), Joseph Moon (2001), Elvina Drakakis (2002), Alma Mackie, Jean Thomas, Catherine Feeney, Fr Dewi Davies (2007) , Irma Davies (2011), Edward Brocklebank (2012), Josef Kowalewski (2014), Mary Camilleri (2017), Maria Pratt (2019), Colin Lyons (2025), and all whose anniversaries we remember at this time.
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.

CANDLES You can buy a 7 day candle (£5.00) which will be left at the Sacred Heart or Our Lady's Altar for the duration of a week. **This week candles will be lit for Craig Sullivan , Lu and Pat Mooney Connor Robert McLelland**

WALK WITH ME BOOKS There are still a few books at the back of the Church with readings for each day in Advent.

NOVEMBER DEAD LIST : Some of you may be wondering what happens to all the names placed in the basket for the month of November. They are all put in one big envelope and placed on the Sacred Heart Altar where they will remain for the whole of the year. Last years named will be blessed and burned.

SCHOOL CHRISTMAS FAIR ON FRIDAY DEC 4TH 2pm If anyone has any toys or prizes for the raffle please take them directly to the school before -hand. Everyone is welcome to join in the fun.

ADVENT RETREAT FOR SECONDARY PUPILS: 5th Dec 10.00-4.00pm St David's College. See Poster on Board and scan QR code to register.

RED BOXES: MISSIO I will be emptying Missio Boxes for 2026 starting from this weekend until 20th December. Please leave boxes, in the Sacristy – not at the back of the Church. Thank you for your support to Missio. Gerry McCarthy.

CROSS OF WALES: Please see Poster on the Event's Board at the back of the Church.

REGISTRATION FOR THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION: THIS IS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN YEAR 8 AND ABOVE. PLEASE COLLECT A REGISTRATION FORM FROM CHRIS GERMAN.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION . Anyone who would like to receive this Sacrament please see the priest after any of the Masses. There are guidance leaflets at the back of the Church.

PIETY STALL: Come and look at our Christmas Stock…. Cards, candles stocking fillers. LOTS!!

"THE CHOSEN" is a groundbreaking, multi-season historical drama series about the life and ministry of Jesus of Nazareth, seen through the eyes of those who met him. Download the link https://watch.thechosen.tv/ and start at series 1. Well worth watching.

SUNDAY SERMON FROM BISHOP ROBERT BARRON: See the link on the Parish website. These are thought provoking and only last about 14-15 minutes.

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 indicate if the person is deceased.

SAFEGUARDING: Helplines on the Parish Website and on the Parish Noticeboard First Aid Box is in the Sacristy.

GOING INTO HOSPITAL? Let the Hospital know that you are a Catholic and would like a visit from the Chaplain. If you are a relative and would like the Catholic Hospital Chaplain to make a visit please leave the name of the person you want them to see and Ward details if possible. Chaplaincy 02921 843230 Please leave your contact details.

HOUSEBOUND COMMUNIONS: If you know of a parishioner wishing to receive Holy Communion contact Canon Mike.

CHURCH COLLECTIONS : 22nd NOV --- £ 608.32

WEEKLY MESSAGE

Today we begin the Season of Advent. Advent is more than a time of waiting for Christmas. It is a time for us to long, to yearn and to prepare ourselves for the coming of our God. These days, sadly many have forgotten the real meaning of Christmas and yes great preparations take place, but for presents, food and socialising. The promise of the birth of a Saviour for the World is very much a second thought. What a pity that the true gift given to us can be so easily overlooked.

Today we light the First Candle on our Advent Wreath. This Candle, a purple one, represents Hope. It is sometimes called the "Prophecy Candle" in remembrance of the prophets, especially Isaiah, who foretold the birth of Christ. This candle represents the expectation felt in anticipation of the coming Messiah.
The use of the wreath and candles during Advent are a longstanding Catholic tradition that was originally adopted by Christians in the Middle Ages as part of their spiritual preparation for Christmas.
The wreath and candles are full of symbolism tied to the Christmas season. The wreath itself, which is made of evergreens, signifies continuous life. The circle of the wreath, which has no beginning or end, symbolizes the eternity of God, the immortality of the soul, and the everlasting life we find in Christ.

Most likely God's coming will not be spectacular. God is more likely to come in quiet, unobtrusive and peaceful ways. However, this means we need to consciously look for God each day. We need to be aware of the small things in life. God may be where we least expect! We need to be awake so we will not be "sleeping" when God comes to us!
The Advent readings are filled with hope, anticipation and the promise of Jesus' coming! The temptation for us may be to think we only need to look for the coming of God during the Advent season. We need to have open eyes and hearts and look for the coming of God each and every day
Today may we open our minds, hearts and eyes and consciously "look" for God! Be awake and alert! And perhaps, be surprised! God is always with us, we just have to open the door and let Him in.

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