

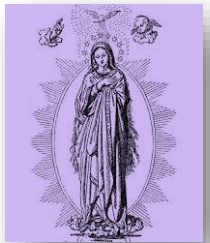


# St Patrick's Catholic Church

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2023

Clergy: Father Deeley VE & Father Moir

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## First Sunday of Advent

8.30 - 9.25am - Exposition  
9.30am - Holy Mass  
11.30am - Holy Mass

## Monday - St John Damascene

8.30 - 9.25am - Exposition  
9.30am - Holy Mass

## Tuesday - Feria

8.30 - 9.25am - Exposition  
9.30am - Holy Mass

## Wednesday - St Nicholas

6 - 6.50pm - Confessions  
7pm - Candlelit *Rorate* Mass

## Thursday - St Ambrose

8.30 - 9.25am - Exposition  
9.30am - Holy Mass

## Friday - Immaculate Conception

8.30 - 9.25am - Exposition  
9.30am - Holy Mass

## Saturday - St Juan Diego

8.30 - 9.25am - Exposition  
9.30am - Holy Mass  
10 - 10.30am - Confessions  
5 - 15-5.45pm - Confessions  
6pm - Vigil Mass

**Rosary 25 mins before Mass exc. Sun**

Sleeping Beauty today is the day! Panto begins after the 11.30am Mass, around 12.30pm. Tickets only £3, tuck shop available. Please pay at the door.

No tea and toast this morning because of the pantomime in the hall.

## Parish Events this Week

**Sun** 12.30pm - Pantomime  
**Mon** 10am - Tea / coffee in hall  
10.30am - Men's Group  
2pm - Women's Guild  
7.30pm - Alpha  
**Wed** 12 noon - Welcome Group  
**Thu** 6.30pm - Youth Group

Advent Reflections Begin Today in the Mortuary Chapel on the mystery of the Incarnation and the Nativity of Christ, providing a quiet time set apart from the commercialisation of the Advent season and to help the parish prepare itself spiritually for the great Solemnity of Christmas. **Beginning at 5pm**, each reflection will last about half an hour before concluding with Benediction. Consider making this a part of your own Christmas preparations. Keep Santa in his place!

Friday is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and the school will be joining us for Mass, weather permitting. Parents and families are welcome too.

Guest Confessor we should be regular in Confession, but it is also good to make a special effort at this time as part of our spiritual preparations for Christmas. Father Sullivan from Croy will be hearing Confessions **next Saturday after the 9.30am Mass**.

The First of our Candlelit Rorate Masses will be this **Wednesday**. The *Rorate* Mass is a very ancient tradition when we reflect on how we are a people that waits in the darkness for the Light of the World to come at the end of time and at Christmas.

The Baptismal Course for parents and godparents will be on **Wednesday**, from 7-8pm in the hall. Email the chapel house to book.

## Dates for the Diary for December

**6<sup>th</sup>** - 7pm First Candlelit *Rorate* Mass  
**10<sup>th</sup>** - Presentation of the Gospel - FHC  
- 5pm Advent Reflection in Mortuary  
**13<sup>th</sup>** - 1pm Wed Group Christmas Lunch  
- 7pm Candlelit *Rorate* Mass  
**16<sup>th</sup>** - 7pm Men's Group Christmas Night  
**17<sup>th</sup>** - 1pm Snr Citizens' Christmas Lunch  
- Christmas Raffle Draw  
- 5pm Advent Reflection in Mortuary  
**19<sup>th</sup>** - Posie Making for Housebound  
**20<sup>th</sup>** - 7pm Final Candlelit *Rorate* Mass

It's Brasso Time Again if you would like to help with this task and willing to give some of your time to help prepare the church for the birth of Jesus then please feel free to meet in the sacristy on either Wednesday at 12 noon or on Friday after morning Mass. Your help would be greatly appreciated.

First Holy Communicants will be presented with the Gospel of St Mark next Sunday during the 11.30am Mass.

## Christmas Evening Family Night

**16<sup>th</sup> December from 7pm**. The Men's Group will be selling tickets after Masses this weekend and next. £15 per person. Entertainment by Sapphire. BYOB. Please make your food choice from the list at the back of the church.

## Senior Citizens' Christmas Lunch

(over 65's) is on **17<sup>th</sup> December at 1pm** and is **NOW FULL**. The cost is £5 per person. Please pay at the door and don't forget to bring your refreshments! Thanks to the volunteers who are giving of their time to help with the luncheon.

## Posies for Christmas

if you would like to help make some beautiful posies for our housebound and also enjoy some Christmas cheer then we will meet you downstairs under the sacristy on Tuesday **19<sup>th</sup> Dec at 6pm**. Please bring scissors and any foliage from your garden, if possible, but not essential.

Advent Begins Today we move into year 'B' for Sunday Readings & year 'II' for weekday Readings. From the First Sunday of Advent next year the Bishops of Scotland will mandate a different translation of the scriptures for us to use at Mass.

Your Gift to God and His Church which includes standing orders: **£1558** and Catholic Education Special Collection **£442**. May God bless you abundantly for your support of His Church's vital work of making Jesus Christ present in the world and known.

Prayers we remember the sick and housebound who can't make it to Mass. We also remember the many who have now lapsed from the Faith. **Remember that the church is open every day for visits to the Blessed Sacrament.**

### Christmas Raffle - Stubs & Monies

Kindly return all stubs & monies for raffle tickets to a steward at the back of the church or to the parish house no later than **next Sunday**.

### St Patrick's Advent Calendar 2023

Visit our Online Advent Calendar containing what's on at St. Patrick's during December.

<https://bit.ly/414mOTI>

Christmas Gifts for CHAS some of the families using the children's hospice can struggle at this time of year. Gifts of soft toys, puzzles, toiletries, fleecy blankets, chocolate, gift vouchers etc. are appreciated. The gifts can be for the children themselves or for their families.

**Do not wrap any gifts** but just put them in a bag marked boy/girl and age or man/woman. Leave donations in the Mortuary Chapel only on the **weekend 9/10 December**. Thank you.

Christmas Tree Appeal instead of sending cards this year, why not write a greeting to friends and family on one of the tags in the box in the alcove. Place it back in the box and it will be hung on the tree. Donations will go to the **Let the Children Live! Charity** who made an appeal at our Sunday Masses earlier this year.

The Piety Stall has candles and lamps to place at graves. There are many more items too, including hand-knitted baby wear, religious items, Mass cards for different occasions, statues, gifts, and Christmas cards.

### Young adults' Catholic Conference

2<sup>nd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> January 2024. An excellent event held at the Emmaus Youth Village in Hexham. It's for young Catholics from all over the UK aged from 16 to 25 years. It's a blend of talks with spiritual and social time. Father Moir is hoping to take some young adults from our parish. Transport and subsidies available. Speak to Father Moir soon if you're interested and to get a form.

### FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

#### SACRED SCRIPTURE

[Always read through the scriptures prayerfully before Holy Mass].

#### Entrance Antiphon

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God.

In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame.

Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

#### First Reading **Isaiah 63:16-17,64:1,3-8**

You, Lord, yourself are our Father, 'Our Redeemer' is your ancient name. Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways and harden our hearts against fearing you?

Return, for the sake of your servants, the tribes of your inheritance.

Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come down!

— at your Presence the mountains would melt.

No ear has heard,

no eye has seen

any god but you act like this

for those who trust him.

You guide those who act with integrity and keep your ways in mind.

You were angry when we were sinners; we had long been rebels against you.

We were all like men unclean, all that integrity of ours like filthy clothing.

We have all withered like leaves and our sins blew us away like the wind.

No one invoked your name or roused himself to catch hold of you.

For you hid your face from us and gave us up to the power of our sins.

And yet, Lord, you are our Father;

we the clay, you the potter,

we are all the work of your hand.

#### Responsorial Psalm **Psalm 79**

**R. God of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.**

O shepherd of Israel, hear us, shine forth from your cherubim throne.

O Lord, rouse up your might,

O Lord, come to our help.

**R. God of hosts, bring us back...**

God of hosts, turn again, we implore, look down from heaven and see.

Visit this vine and protect it,

the vine your right hand has planted.

#### **R. God of hosts, bring us back...**

May your hand be on the man you have chosen,

the man you have given your strength.

And we shall never forsake you again; give us life that we may call upon your name.

**R. God of hosts, bring us back...**

#### Second Reading **1 Corinthians 1:3-9**

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

I never stop thanking God for all the graces you have received through Jesus Christ. I thank him that you have been enriched in so many ways, especially in your teachers and preachers; the witness to Christ has indeed been strong among you so that you will not be without any of the gifts of the Spirit while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed; and he will keep you steady and without blame until the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, because God by calling you has joined you to his Son, Jesus Christ; and God is faithful.

#### Gospel Acclamation

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help.

**Alleluia!**

#### Gospel **Mark 13:33-37**

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So, stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!'

#### Prayers of the Faithful Response

Lord, in Your mercy

R. Hear our prayer.

#### Communion Antiphon

The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.