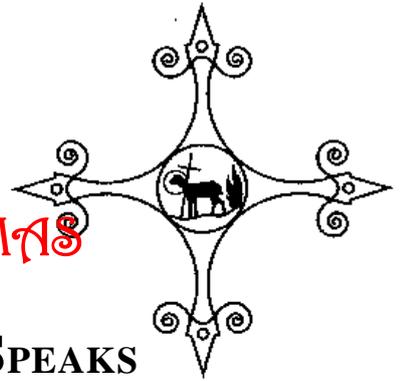




SAINT HELEN'S PARISH
ADVENT SUNDAY 2
 SEASON OF ADVENT ~CHRISTMAS
 in the YEAR of MARK/JOHN



THE YEAR OF THE WORD – THE GOD WHO SPEAKS
 6th December 2020



LIVE STREAM



<https://sthelenscaerphilly.com/st-helens-live-stream/>

Children's Liturgy of the Word

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1GtQXAlzNutrHRlfrfNPdeHLIgl-xzzLumU74pfQ5Dr8/edit>

PREPARE!

THE WORD THIS WEEK

“Prepare!” As suggested in a poem of beauty and consolation from Isaiah, John the Baptist appears, to prepare a way for the Lord, who comes, baptising us in his Spirit. But when will this beginning be completed, the victory won, the lambs gathered? Advent tells us that he who came after John prophesied will return in ‘a thousand years’ and that for him, and us who are prepared is just a day – today. Prepare!

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE: (Psalter: Week 2)

Gathering Antiphon (6.30pm):

O People of Zion, behold,
 the Lord will come to save the nations,
 and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard
 in the joy of your heart.

Isaiah 40: 1 – 5, 9 – 11.

Prepare a way for the Lord.

Response: Psalm 84.

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

2 Peter 3: 8 – 14.

We are waiting for the new heavens and new earth.

Acclamation for the Gospel:

Alleluia, Alleluia. Alleluia!
 Prepare a way for the Lord.
 Make his paths straight,
 and all mankind shall see the salvation of God.
 Alleluia, Alleluia. Alleluia!

Mark 1: 1– 8.

Make his paths straight.

Prayer of the Faithful: R/. Come, Lord Jesus, come!

Preface: i of Advent . **Eucharistic Prayer:** iii

Communion Antiphon (6.30pm):

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights,
 and behold the joy which comes to you from God.



*“Let me seek you in desiring you;
 let me desire you in seeking you;
 let me find you in loving you;
 let me love you in finding you.”*

Saint Anselm



MASS AND SERVICES DURING THE WEEK:



AMBROSE

Sat 5 th December	6.30pm	2nd Sunday of ADVENT Barbara Jones (SVP) (<i>Public Mass</i>)
Sun 6 th December	10.30am 2.30pm	for the People of the Parish (<i>Public Mass</i>) Baptism of Phoebe Zerk
Mon 7 th December	9.45am 10.00am	Saint Ambrose , Bishop + Doctor of the Church Morning Prayer of the Church Rev. Ambrose Walsh
Tues 8 th December	6.45pm 7.00pm	The IMMACULATE CONCEPTION of the BLESSED VIRGIN MARY Evening Prayer of the Church Terry + Eddie Wilson Diamond wedding (<i>Public Mass</i>)
Wed 9 th December	9.45am 10.00am 2.00 – 4.00pm	Morning Prayer of the Church Desmond Jones (P+PAJ) Exposition + Adoration
Thurs 10 th December	9.45am 10.00am	Saint John Roberts , Priest + Martyr Morning Prayer of the Church Private Intention (TT)
Fri 11 th December	9.45am 10.00am	Morning Prayer of the Church Darreb Bray (S+CB) (<i>Public Mass</i>)
Sat 12 th December	6.30pm	3rd Sunday of ADVENT (Gaudete!) Charlie + Iolanda Rossi (LA) (<i>Public Mass</i>)
Sun 13 th December	10.30am	For the People of the Parish (<i>Public Mass</i>)



THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

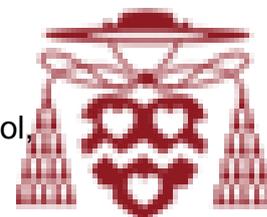
At any time by prior arrangement with the priest.

The PARISH PRAYER LIST: Among all those we pray for in this time, we continue to remember all suffering from the virus and its effects. We remember also:

Teresa Meade	John Maguire	Graham Jenkins	Sandra Bray	Lloyd Jones
Cecelia Mawby	David Mabey	Isobel Cummins	Pauline Richards	Margaret Jones
Carol Morrissey	Claris Howell	Anne Morgan	Pat Starynski	Yvonne Grandon
Martyn Western	Marjorie Gurney	Carmen Agius	Lowela Teves	Joe Marengi
Pamela and Keith Griffiths	Pat + Pino Emanuelli	Mary & Wilson Brown	Katrin Merry	
Sian Thomas	Winifred Benedict	Albert Carley	Mary + Colin Everson	Maura Coll

PRAYER CYCLE FOR OUR DIOCESE: Please pray for the People and Parish of Saint Mary, Brynmawr, their Priest Rev. Liam Hennessey, and Saint Mary's Primary School, Brynmawr.

CONGRATULATIONS to two former Saint Helens School pupils, Seren LeConte, appointed Head Girl of Cardinal Newman High School, and to Matthew Amond-Steadman, appointed Deputy Head Boy.



Bereaved? BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT provides a safe place to enable you to come to terms with your grief. For details contact 02920 863450.



THE YEAR OF THE WORD – THE GOD WHO SPEAKS

“O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.”

(Isaiah 30: 19, 30)



The Jerusalem Ministry, the second half of **Mark's Gospel**, will be read this Saturday, 2pm, live on facebook, or available later. Many thanks to all who volunteered to take parts, however small or large, and give expression to this exciting Good News.



'What can I give to my family and friends when they already seem to have everything?'

WORLD GIFTS

Cafod WORLD GIFTS Catalogues are available as you leave church, or on their website, <https://worldgifts.cafod.org.uk>. 'World Gifts' are a range of virtual charity gifts that will delight the family and friends you give them to as alternative Christmas presents, and at the same time help transform the lives of families living in poverty.

CAFOD
On the side of people in need

"He who enriches others becomes poor. He took to himself the poverty of my flesh so that I might attain the riches of his godhead. He who is full emptied himself. He emptied himself of his godhead for a brief time so that I might share in his fullness."

Saint Gregory Nazianzen



St Vincent
de Paul Society
England and Wales
Turning Concern into Action

CONGRATULATIONS and **MANY THANKS** from the **S.V.P.** (Saint Vincent de Paul Society) for the most generous collection last week for their work with the needy at Christmas. You donated a total of **£ 809.30!**

CHRISTMASS MASS will be a 6pm Vigil Mass, Mass in the Night at 11.30pm, and the Day Mass at 10.30am in Saint Helen, and Mass in the Night at 8pm in Saint Peter.

Due to restrictions we will have to book places: - booking will be during the 3rd week of Advent, with how to do it published in the newsletter on the 3rd Sunday – keep an eye out.

Since we will not all be able to fit in to those times, we are reminded that Christmas has an Octave – a week in which every day and every Mass is a celebration of Christ being born for us and amongst us. So we can spread ourselves through those quiet Christmas days, and even enjoy several Christmas celebrations!



At the round earth's imagined corners, blow
Your trumpets, angels, and arise, arise
From death, you numberless infinities
Of souls, and to your scattered bodies go,
All whom the flood did, and fire shall, o'erthrow,
All whom war, dearth, age, agues, tyrannies,
Despair, law, chance, hath slain, and you whose eyes,
Shall behold God, and never taste death's woe.
But let them sleep, Lord, and me mourn a space;
For, if above all these, my sins abound,
'Tis late to ask abundance of thy grace,
When we are there. Here on this lowly ground,
Teach me how to repent; for that's as good
As if thou hadst seal'd my pardon with thy blood.

John Donne

SAINT HELEN'S VIRTUAL COMMUNITY – THIS WEEK:

Date	Time	Event
Sat 5 th Dec	2.00pm 6.30pm	Reading Saint Mark's Gospel together SUNDAY MASS: https://sthelenscaerphilly.com/st-helens-live-stream/
Sun 6 th Dec	10.30am 11.30am	SUNDAY MASS: https://sthelenscaerphilly.com/st-helens-live-stream/ 'Coffee Morning': <i>Via Saint Helen's Facebook</i>
Thur 3 rd Dec	7.30pm	Scripture Study

The Diocesan YEAR BOOK is on sale in the porch, £ 3.00.



THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC FAITH

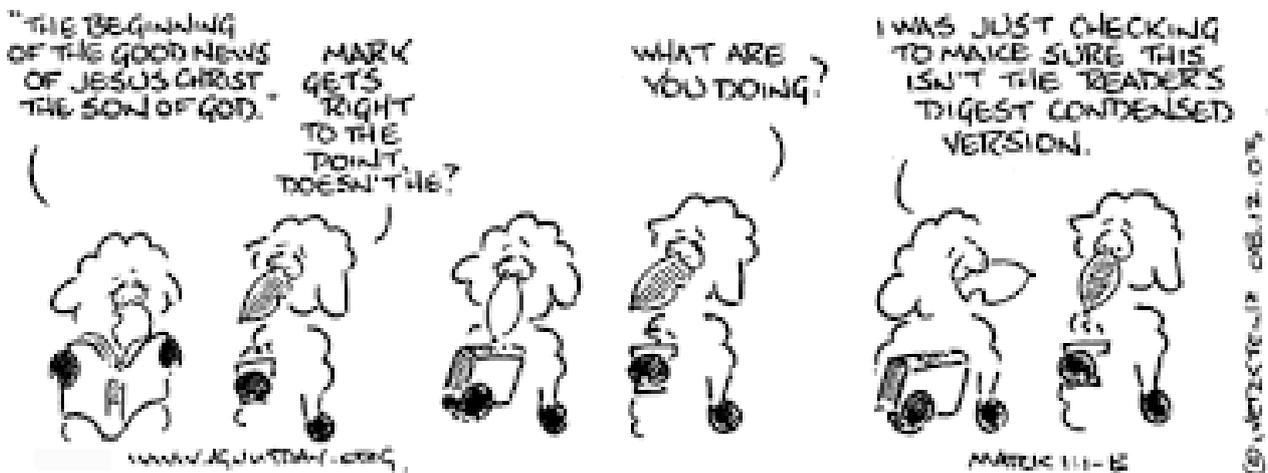
Part One: **THE PROFESSION OF FAITH.** Section One: 'I Believe' – 'We Believe'

Chapter 3: **Man's Response to God.** Article 1: **I Believe.**

III: The Characteristics of Faith Faith is a Grace

(153) When St. Peter confessed that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God, Jesus declared to him that this revelation did not come "from flesh and blood", but from "my Father who is in heaven" (⇒ Mt 16:17; cf. ⇒ Gal 1:15; ⇒ Mt 11:25). Faith is a gift of God, a supernatural virtue infused by him. "Before this faith can be exercised, man must have the grace of God to move and assist him; he must have the interior helps of the Holy Spirit, who moves the heart and converts it to God, who opens the eyes of the mind and 'makes it easy for all to accept and believe the truth' (DV 5; cf. DS 377; 3010).

(Catechism of the Catholic Church 1992)



Parish Directory

Priest: Revd. John Kelly 20883192

Safeguarding Officer: 20864112

Music: 07971848734.

Cafod: 20861930

Saint Helen's School: 20852532

Newsletter items: 20883192

caerphilly@rcadc.org

Website Additions: Website@sthelenscaerphilly.com

Chair of Parish Council:

SVP: 20883462

Bereavement support: 20863450

Hall Bookings: 20883192

Piety shop: 20862998

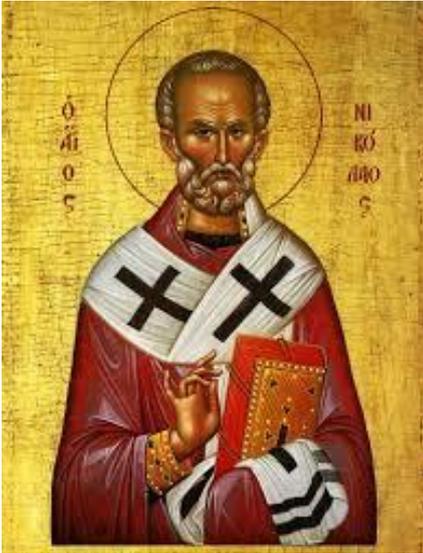
Marriage Care: appointments@marriagecare.co.uk

Cardinal Newman School: 01443 494110

Calendar Additions: calendar@sthelenscaerphilly.com

www.sthelenscaerphilly.com





Today, 6th December, is also the feastday of **SAINT NICHOLAS**, a.k.a. Santa Claus.

Born in Asia Minor to wealth parents, about 270AD. From an early age known for his holiness. When his parents died he distributed his inheritance to the poor. As Archbishop of Myra he earned great renown both for his charity and his miracles. Though little is known of his life, he is popular in art: His gift-giving; calming a storm at sea; and raising three boys from the dead. He died on 6th December 343 and his remains were moved in 1087 to the Basilica dedicated to him in Bari, South Italy. As well as being a model of Christmas giving, because of his charity and generosity, he is also patron saint of children, brides, and merchants, and of Greece and Russia.

A man was praying to God. He said, "God!?"
God responded, "Yes?" And the guy said, "Can I ask a question?"
"Go right ahead," God said. "God, what is a thousand years to you?"
God said, "A thousand years to me is as if it were just a day."
"Hmmm," the man wondered.
Then he asked, "God, what is a thousand pounds worth to you?"
God said, "A thousand ponds to me is like a penny."
So the man said, "God, can you fix me up with a penny?"
And God replied cheerfully: "Sure! Give me a day."

