



Reg. Charity No: 234168

Diocese of Menevia

Parish Priest: Fr Paul Joseph

Catholic Parish of St David and St Patrick, Haverfordwest

St David and St Patrick Church
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SUNDAY 24TH DECEMBER – 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

TIMES OF HOLY MASSES & OTHER SERVICES		
23/12/23: SAT HAVERFORDWEST	6:00PM	HOLY MASS: 4 TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT INT: SHAVON D'SOUZA - INTENTIONS
24/12/23: SUN HAVERFORDWEST	10:00AM	HOLY MASS: 4 TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT INT: NIARANJANA JEAGATHESHUMAR & FAMILY
24/12/23: SUN NARBERTH	12:00PM	HOLY MASS: 4 TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT INT: PEOPLE OF OUR PARISH & MOTHERS
24/12/23: SUN HAVERFORDWEST	6:00PM	HOLY MASS: NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST (VIGIL) INT: LAWRENCE & DAPHNE CROWTHER & FAMILY
24/12/23: SUN HAVERFORDWEST	11:30PM	HOLY MASS: NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST - MIDNIGHT MASS WITH CAROLS INT: FOR ALL INTENTIONS ON CHRISTMAS TREE
25/12/23: MON HAVERFORDWEST	9:30AM	HOLY MASS: NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS INT: SEAMUS LOUGHLIN - RIP
25/12/23: MON NARBERTH	11:30AM	HOLY MASS: NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS INT: PEOPLE OF OUR PARISH & VISITORS
26/12/23: TUE HAVERFORDWEST	10:00AM	HOLY MASS: ST STEPHEN, THE FIRST MARTYR INT: SAMUEL COLLINS – GETWELL INTENTIONS
27/12/23: WED NARBERTH	10:00AM	HOLY MASS: ST JOHN, APOSTLE & EVANGELIST INT: MARIAM & PAILY KUNNATH - RIP
28/12/23: THU HAVERFORDWEST	10:00AM	HOLY MASS: THE HOLY INNOCENTS, MARTYRS INT: SHANTI, ERROL & JOBSZ FAMILY - INTENTIONS
29/12/23: FRI HAVERFORDWEST	10:00AM	HOLY MASS: FIFTH DAY: CHRISTMAS OCTAVE INT: MRS. MARYKUTTY - RIP
30/12/23: SAT HAVERFORDWEST	10:00AM	HOLY MASS: SIXTH DAY: CHRISTMAS OCTAVE INT: PHILOMENA JOSEPH – RIP - ANNIVERSARY
30/12/23: SAT HAVERFORDWEST	6:00PM	H MASS: HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH INT: BRANDON NOTT - RIP
31/12/23: SUN HAVERFORDWEST	10:00AM	H MASS: HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH INT: JACK HIGGINS – RIP - ANNIVERSARY
31/12/23: SUN NARBERTH	12:00PM	H MASS: HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH INT: PEOPLE OF OUR PARISH & THE CHILDREN



CONFESSIONS
CYFFES
HAVERFORDWEST
 SAT: 5:15 – 5:45pm
 SUN: 9:15 – 9:45am
NARBERTH
 WED: 5:00 – 5:20pm

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK ... GWEDDI DROS Y CLEIFION:
 POPE FRANCIS, CLARE HUGHES, THE ELDERLY & RETIRED CLERGY, ALL THE MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH WHO WILL BENEFIT FROM OUR REMEMBERING THEM IN OUR PRAYERS.

HOLY FATHER'S INTENTION FOR DECEMBER...

THAT PEOPLE LIVING WITH DISABILITIES MAY BE AT THE CENTRE OF ATTENTION IN SOCIETY, AND THAT INSTITUTIONS MAY OFFER INCLUSIVE PROGRAMS WHICH VALUE THEIR ACTIVE PARTICIPATION.

THE CYCLE OF PRAYER – CHRISTMASTIDE

WE ARE CALLED UPON TO PRAY FOR: MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES, AND FOR EXPECTANT MOTHERS.

REMEMBERING OUR DEAD & ANNIVERSARIES IN DECEMBER: Let us remember those souls who have no one to remember them in prayers! Amy Moore (1997), Thomas May (1999), Elizabeth O'Sullivan (2002), Patrick Mahoney (2002), John Concannon (2003), Anne Byrne (2006), Anne Johnson (2006), Daniel Sweeney (2006), May Sullivan (2007), William Rowe (2007), Ambrose Charles Roche (2008), Mary Catherin Absalom (2009), Mary McManus (2009), Lillian Gwendoline Skipp (2009), William Henry Fennell (2010), Mary Teresa Raymond (2011), Henry 'William' Phillips (2011), John Feehan (2012), Jean Marr Goodeve (2014), Teresa Jeffrey (2017), Veronica Joan Adams (2017), Maria Livia Wiseman (2018), Wilfred George Hart (2018), James Alexander Doyle (2018), Joseph Brian Bell (2018), Melveana Pearl Herde (2018), David John Evans (2019), Vesta Eileen Chapman (2020), Beverley Anne Mitchell (2020), Stephanie Ann Mansfield (2021), Margaret Bernadette Feehan (2021) John Robert James "Jackie" Higgins (2022)...

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE...!

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: We shall hold a Retiring Collection each on 23rd & 24th weekend, towards Christmas Flowers. Kindly use the Parish GAD envelopes to Gift Aid your generous contribution.



" Brothers and sisters, the example of John the Baptist teaches us at least two things. First, that we cannot save ourselves alone: only in God do we find the light of life. And second, that each of us, through service, consistency, humility, witness of life – and always by God's grace – can be a lamp that shines and helps others find the way on which to meet Jesus. Pope Francis



CHRISTMAS CRIB OFFERING 2023: The Crib Offerings this year will go towards two causes: one "at home" and one "abroad", namely, the work of Caritas Cardiff and Menevia, & in aid for Christians in the Holy Land, through the work of Friends of the Holy Land and the Knights and Dames of the Holy Sepulchre. This latter fund, of course, is particularly pertinent at the moment, given the situation in Israel and Gaza.

BISHOP MARK O'TOOLE'S PASTORAL LETTER & FEEDBACK: I am certain that all of you either read or listened, and reflected on the Pastoral Letter from our Bishop Mark O'Toole. The feedback for the same is very important. After the busy time of welcoming Jesus into our hearts and homes, we will have more time to further reflect on the same. In the early 2024, we will have opportunities to share our thoughts and discuss them with Bishop Mark. First of all, there will be a meeting with Bishop Mark and two representatives each from each parish both of Menevia and Cardiff. For Menevia it will be on 3rd Feb (Sat) at 10:00am, St Mary's, Carmarthen. The clergy will have the similar meeting at the extra-ordinary Deanery meetings, called by Bishop Mark. Then there will be various meetings with a few parishes together in different parts of both dioceses. We are privileged to host one of those for our area. **The Open Listening Meeting & Station Mass will be here on February 20th at 5pm., followed by Lenten Station Mass.** So, kindly note the date in advance to avoid having to give an apology.

CHRISTMAS REMEMBRANCE TREE: Tree tags and cards will be on sale in the porches. They are still only £1 each. The sale of these tags will support church-based charities. Write the name of your chosen person on the tag and hang it on the tree. You can send the card to that person or to their family if the person is deceased.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION & CATECHISTS: We will begin our preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation in the new year. The celebration will be in June, 2024. A reshuffle of Catechists will take place, to also absorb new volunteers for this great service. Parents of the children from non-Catholic Schools, who would like to prepare for First Holy Communion, kindly talk to Fr. Paul after one of the Holy Masses.

PRAY FOR PEACE THIS CHRISTMAS: WALES' CHRISTIAN LEADERS: Christian leaders representing Wales, have joined together to invite people to pray for peace this Christmas. The Catholic Archbishop of Cardiff and Bishop of Menevia, Mark O'Toole, the Anglican Archbishop of Wales, Andrew John, and the Moderator of the Free Church Council of Wales, Simon Walkling, have issued a joint message acknowledging the tensions and tragedies in the world today, whilst encouraging people to **"come to church to find space to reflect and make time to pray for peace this Christmas."** The news has been full of the terrible tragedy unfolding in Gaza after the awful terrorist attack on Israel. Thousands of children killed in a war they did not choose. It seems a long way from the Christmas adverts here and the pressure to be merry. It is understandable that the church leaders in Jerusalem have invited Christians there to forego any unnecessarily festive activities and stand strong with those facing affliction. They see it as standing in support of those continuing to suffer, just as Jesus did by being born as a baby in Bethlehem two thousand years ago. Jesus was born in a land occupied by the Romans. He was born away from home because of an imperial census. There were family tensions around Mary being pregnant and Jesus was laid in a feeding trough because there was no room at the inn. Herod killed the boys in Bethlehem to get rid of the threat to his power. All these are part of Christmas, along with our joy at God's love and the traditions which help us celebrate. This Christmas, we may be aware of tensions in families, and the difficulties of making ends meet. This year we remember the wars in the land of Jesus' birth, Ukraine and other parts of the world. We also remember that this year was the centenary of the Wales Women's Peace Appeal which took a petition to America about joining the League of Nations to promote 'Law not War'. It was a message signed by around 60% of women in Wales and went from home to home and hearth to hearth, showing what the co-ordinated work of ordinary people could achieve. We need peace in our world. We may want to be free of tension in our families. **We may long for five minutes of peace for ourselves in all the Christmas preparations. Why not come to church to find space to reflect and make time to pray for peace this Christmas? We are praying for joy and hope for us all.**

PARISH HALL HIRE: Thanks to Anne Hancock, who has kindly volunteered to be Hall Bookings' Manager. Very generous of her...! There are enquiries for the use of Parish Hall. All those in-charge of using the Hall like Scripture Group, RCIA, SVP etc. kindly furnish me with the hours you intend to use. It will help with all free slots, if anyone wants the hall for any functions or regular event/s.

PARISH SAFEGUARDING POLICY: SAFETY & SAFEGUARDING of all who visit our church, both parishioners & visitors, are important to us. If you have concerns about any safeguarding issues, kindly contact the Parish Safeguarding Representative, Mrs. Anne Barnes on 01437765365. More information about our Safeguarding Policy is found here: <http://www.menevia.org/safeguarding/>

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READINGS: SUNDAY 24TH DECEMBER – 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

1st Reading: 2 Samuel 7 : 1-5, 8-12, 14, 16

Psalm: 88: 2-5, 27,29

RESPONSE: I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord.

2nd Reading: Romans 16: 25-27

Gospel: Luke 1: 26-38