

The Good Shepherd

Roman Catholic Diocese of Leeds - Registered Charity No. 249404
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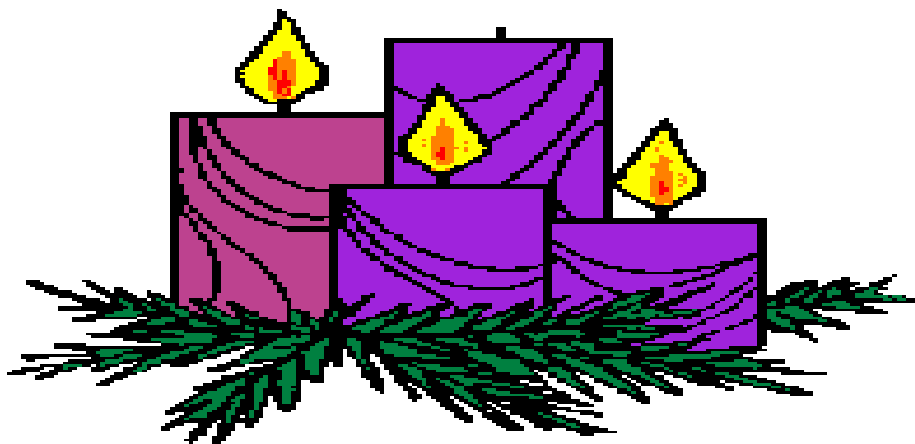
Halifax Deanery: www.halifax-deanery.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding: [Diocesan Office 0113 261 8069](#)

Sunday 13th December 2020

Third Sunday of Advent

Year B



Gaudete Sunday

KEEPING SAFE THIS CHRISTMAS

THE question of how to celebrate Christmas safely this year is occupying a lot of people's minds. We have been told that up to three households will be able to meet indoors at private homes for five days over Christmas. This "Christmas truce", may lead to a surge in coronavirus infections in early 2021. So, what can we do to reduce the risk?

Studies of how the virus spread in January and February 2020 suggest that the biggest risk comes from indoor gatherings, especially ones involving drinking alcohol and eating. It is obvious, but it is well worth carrying on with the same hygiene measures, handwashing, face covering and keeping your distance from people. Also, ventilation - opening windows and doors as much as possible - increasing the chances of virus particles drifting away on air currents.

When planning to visit more than one household in separate outings, it is suggested to schedule trips to see anyone more vulnerable first of all, to lower the risk of bringing the virus into their house. While we can look forward to several vaccines, it seems likely that, if we can just get through the next 6 months, family get-togethers will soon look a lot more normal.

REOPENING OF OUR CHURCH FOR HOLY MASS

“Every day is like Sunday.”

The Bishops have not yet reinstated the Sunday obligation to attend Mass, so please wherever possible try to attend Mass once during a week. Of course, those who have any concerns at all about coming in to the church or being out too often, should continue to stay safely at home. On weekdays register your presence to the steward and use the QR code for the NHS Track & Trace App. For Sunday Mass, in addition to registering on-line please also use the QR code if you have the App. The tier regulations, particularly relevant to being in church, are that we should not socialise within the church building with anyone outside our own household or social bubble, nor socialise outside the church. Thank you for your help in these matters.

All through this period, it has been vital to have those who have volunteered to steward at Masses and times when the church has been open for private prayer. Many thanks to those who continue to do this and if you feel you could offer some help in the coming weeks and months, please be in touch with Jo Woodhead.

MASSES AND SERVICES DURING THE COMING WEEK

Sun 13th Dec	9.30 am MASS	Third Sunday of Advent	Maureen Lyons [LD]	GOOD SHEPHERD CHURCH
		YEAR B	Joan Harwood	MASS at home 5.00pm
Mon 14th Dec	Fr John	St John of the Cross	Olga Wolfenden	MASS at home 10.30am
Tues 15th Dec	12.00 Prayer Via Zoom @ Noon	Advent Weekday		VIA ZOOM
Wed 16th Dec	12.00 NOON MASS	Advent Weekday	November Dead List 2020	GOOD SHEPHERD CHURCH
Thur 17th Dec	Fr John	Advent Weekday	Edward Clarke	MASS at home 10.30am
Fri 18th Dec	Fr John	Advent Weekday	George Bavidge	MASS at home 10.30am
Sat 19th Dec	10.00 am MASS	Advent Weekday	November Dead List 2020	GOOD SHEPHERD CHURCH
Sun 20th Dec	9.30 am MASS	Fourth Sunday of Advent	Peter Lamb [LD]	GOOD SHEPHERD CHURCH
	Fr John	YEAR B	Edna Jones	MASS at home 5.00pm

SUNDAY MASS ARRANGEMENTS

MUST BOOK ONLINE as before the lockdown. It would be helpful, if you were able to make bookings at least 48 hours in advance. When booking for Mass; note that bookings end 24 hours before the time of Mass (you will receive email confirmation of your booking). Many thanks for your help and understanding. If you have booked a ticket for Mass and subsequently find that you are unable to attend the Mass, please return it via the booking system so that someone else can attend Holy Mass. Please remember, if your health is not good and you are vulnerable, if you have a cough or cold or temperature you should stay at home.

WEEKDAY MASS ARRANGEMENTS

Wednesday 16th Dec Mass 12.00 – no need to book online

Saturday 19th Dec Mass 10.00am – no need to book online

Please note that once Mass starts please do not enter the church.

NOVEMBER DEAD LIST 2020 – 2021

Envelopes are available in the church for anyone who would like to have their intentions for those of their family and friends who have died, included in Masses celebrated throughout the coming year. I will keep the list open until 17 January 2021, to give opportunity for those who haven't been able to get to church to place their intentions.

If you would prefer to place your intention electronically, please send an e-mail to pp.thegoodshepherd@dioceseofleeds.org.uk and make a bank transfer to the Parish account and mark the donation "Dead List". Thank you.

Parish account details. / GOOD SHEPHERD MYTHOLMROYD / SORT CODE 40-27-15 / ACCOUNT NO 21023209

ADVENT: PREPARE THE WAY! For Advent 2020 we invite you to Prepare the Way for the coming of Christ with Gospel readings and reflections for each day. These will also be posted on the Youth Service social media pages each day:
www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk/youth/meet-the-team/

CHRISTMAS EVE: READINGS, CAROLS AND MASS **VIA ZOOM**

Fr John will preside at this Christmas Eve service (8.00pm) which will take the theme of "Journeying to Bethlehem" with all of its fears and trepidation as well as its joys. It will consist of:

- Service of readings
- Reflections
- Carols
- Blessing of all our cribs at home
- Celebration of Mass of the Nativity



It will take place at 8.00pm on Thursday 24th December.

Zoom invitations will be sent out to the parish at least one week before

PRINCIPAL MASSES FOR CHRISTMAS 2020

Thursday 24th Dec @ 8.00pm

CHRISTMAS VIGIL AND MASS (VIA ZOOM)

Fr John

Friday 25th Dec @ 9.30am

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

Fr Larkin

BOOK ONLINE

Saturday 26th Dec @ 10.00am

ST STEPHEN, THE FIRST MARTYR

Fr Larkin

BOOK ONLINE

Sunday 27th Dec @ 9.30am

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

Fr Larkin

BOOK ONLINE

Wednesday 30th Dec @ 12.00noon

**SIXTH DAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF THE NATIVITY
OF THE LORD**

Fr Larkin

Please understand that if you arrive at the last minute you may find that all 30 places have been taken and you will need to make other arrangements.

ONLINE ADVENT SYCAMORE COURSE:

Monday evenings in Advent (from 7-8.30 pm), the Vicariate for Education will be running a short "Sycamore" course via Zoom.

Sycamore offers adults a chance to discover and grow in faith through relaxed discussion, based around attractive videos (see www.sycamore.fm).

Catechists interested in running Sycamore in their own parishes may also benefit from attending. For more information and an invitation

email: gregory.stacey@dioceseofleeds.org.uk.

ADVENT RESOURCES

There's a treasure trove of online Advent resources available from the Jesuit website www.pathwaystogod.org/advent-and-christmastide including:

- An Advent Prayer Calendar
- An Advent Retreat

CHURCH ACTION ON POVERTY

Church Action on Poverty (CAP) is a national ecumenical Christian social justice charity, committed to tackling poverty in the UK. We work in partnership with churches, and with people in poverty themselves, to tackle the root causes of poverty.

CAP is concerned at the growing number of people who have gone into debt because of the lockdown and other effects of coronavirus, and has launched a campaign to



Reset The Debt

This is based on the Biblical idea of Jubilee - freeing people from unfair burdens.



Send your MP a Reset The Debt bauble this Christmas.

You can help. Write to your MP today, and ask them to write to the Chancellor.

We need to:

- Raise these concerns about Covid-19 household debt and its impact on the poorest families.
- Find out how the government intends to address this urgent problem.

We need to make sure everyone has a stable platform from which to face the future.

Add your voice to call on the UK Government to **#ResetTheDebt**.

Find out more at <https://www.church-poverty.org.uk>

RELAX AND REVIVE WITH CATHOLIC CARE

Join Janet Kent from Catholic Care every Monday afternoon at 4pm for a friendly online relaxation group. For more information, call Janet on 07739975008. Just cut and paste the link below to join in. Sessions will last 30 minutes. Join Zoom

Meeting: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/74281785015?pwd=cnBQbzFZemYrNjFRUTZmdzVkaU5yUT09> Meeting ID: 742 8178 5015 Passcode: 9Td1UL

CAFOD CHILDREN'S LITURGY

This is held every Sunday at 10.00am: An invitation to young families:

Since the start of lockdown, back in March, CAFOD volunteers have hosted a LIVE Children's Liturgy 10am every Sunday morning with gospel stories, fun songs and craft activities for all the family to join in. To register for the LIVE and recorded Children's Liturgy click here <https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Children-s-liturgy>

CAFOD 'JOURNEY TO THE MANGER' PRAYER SERIES

These gatherings are held every Sunday in Advent 6pm: An invitation for students, house mates, parents, teachers, family and friends to take a moment to pause and reflect in the lead up to Christmas. Every Sunday at 6pm throughout Advent, join for a 20-minute prayer session and feel reconnected in a relaxed online event.

To register for the 'Journey to the Manger' Advent prayer series

click here https://www.bigmarker.com/series/advent/series_summit

GOOD SHEPHERD ADVENT TALKS AND REFLECTION

Via Zoom

As We Wait in Joyful Hope

Advent explorations to enable us all to reflect upon how we see can prepare for Christmas.

One remaining Thursday evening session: @ 7.30 – 8.30pm

Doors opens at 7.15 - No entry after 7.30pm

Thursday 17th Dec 2020

BRINGING IN THE NEW: CHANGING OUR LANDSCAPES

Speaker: Gez Hodgson



**Make a straight path for the Lord – how do we
create a new world?**

Being new sculptures for the Lord - our role as co-creators.

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83323271135?pwd=UFZuZE9YalhCSWpWSXJwMXpYTUxjZz09>

WEEKLY PRAYER GATHERING VIA ZOOM



Our prayer time last week took the form of reflections on the “O” Antiphons traditionally used in Advent.

Cathy and John Duffy led us through “O Dayspring”.

Future guides for this Prayer Slot

Thank you to those who have been willing to prepare a session. It can be a simple thought with time to dwell. It can be a case of “less is more”.

Please consider whether you can offer your service to this very important ministry at this time.

GOOD SHEPHERD COMMUNITY - STAYING CONNECTED OUR 26TH ZOOM PRAYER NEXT TUESDAY

TUESDAY 15TH DECEMBER @ 12.00 NOON.

ADVENT MEDITATION ON THE “O” ANTIPHONS

ALL ARE WELCOME

If you are interested in taking part in this initiative please express your interest and send your email address to: gezhodgson@hotmail.co.uk or

go to the **Good Shepherd Facebook** page and

click on the link of the invitation which comes every Monday via email.

CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS

Traditionally the collections taken at the Christmas Day services are your personal gift to the clergy. Because of all the restrictions this year **please consider making your offering via online banking** (please use the reference **"Christmas"** and add your surname if you are a gift aider) or by cheque.

Cheques, made payable to Good Shepherd Mytholmroyd, can be posted to me, Nick Burchnall, 27 Kell Butts, Wainstalls, HALIFAX, HX2 7TW. Thanks.

GIVING TO THE PARISH

If you wish to set up a standing order the parish bank account details are:

GOOD SHEPHERD MYTHOLMROYD

SORT CODE 40-27-15

ACCOUNT NO 21023209

Grateful thanks to everyone who continue to support the parish through your financial donations. It is much appreciated. **Nick Burchnall** (Finance Committee)

GOOD SHEPHERD LIVE SIMPLY CAMPAIGN REGULAR TIPS

Although we cannot meet together in large numbers we can still contribute to the parish campaign from home.

Below was the second of regular tips to suggest small or large additions that we can make which will help us to grow in awareness of what is possible.

It might be worthwhile checking whether any of us managed to sustain our resolutions from two years ago!

They follow the three strands of the Cafod Live Simply Campaign.

LIVE SIMPLY	LIVE SUSTAINABLY WITH CREATION	LIVE SUSTAINABLY WITH THE POOR
Make your own Christmas presents	Buy charity Christmas gifts	Twin your toilet (www.toilettwinning.org)

Note from editor:

Thank you to those contributors to this newsletter through articles, suggestions and links. Please continue to do so.

❖ Fr John can be contacted on:

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To submit newsletter notices (by Wednesday) contact:

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