



# The Catholic Church in Jersey

## Seven Churches, One Parish

Sunday 1 December 2019 ~ First Sunday of Advent ~ Year A

### Canon's Corner

When I was a child I spent Advent excitedly counting down the days until Christmas. I did so with an enthusiasm I now think irked my parents. I suspect lots of children today will count down with a similar enthusiasm. I think we are wise to imitate them. In counting down we remind ourselves to prepare for that which means so much to us.

As the candles on our Advent wreath are lit, we remember that to speak of the coming of Christ means both his birth in Bethlehem and his second coming 'at an hour we do not expect.' In this in-between time we pray to live loving the things of heaven and holding fast to that which endures. What might that be? How about faith, hope and love?

On this first Advent Sunday we accept into our parish nine adults who are counting down the days until at Easter they are baptised and confirmed into full communion with the Catholic Church. At this Sunday's 9:15am Mass at St Thomas we will ask God's blessing on them that they may 'press onwards until they come to share fully in our Christian way of life.' Knowing about them will, I hope, bring back happy memories for those of you who joined the Church in previous years. The sign these candidates and catechumens give is one which says: we want to join you because we believe the Lord is with you. Let us support them in prayer. Like children counting down the days to Christmas these nine adults remind us that by preparing well we speak loud and clear of what means so much to us: the wonder that *'God loved the world so much he gave his only Son so that all who believe in him may have eternal life.'*

*Canon Dominic.*



### Advent Service of Light at St Bernadette

This Sunday 1 December at 6pm a traditional procession of light with Advent hymns and readings will take place at St Bernadette's Church. Please come along to get yourself into the spirit of Advent. Mulled wine and mince pies will be available afterwards in the Hall.

### Christmas Afternoon tea

#### 'Connections' - People Living with Memory Loss

People living with memory loss and their carers/companion are invited to a Christmas Afternoon Tea this Wednesday 4 December at 2:30pm – 3:30pm at Catholic Pastoral Services. We will be singing Christmas Carols and tea/coffee and mince pies will be served.

### PARISH CONTACTS

#### PRIESTS:

Canon Dominic Golding (Parish Priest & Dean)  
Fr Benjamin Theobald (Assistant Priest)  
Fr Johnpromise Umeozuru (Assistant Priest)

#### DEACONS:

David Cahill, Brendan Flaxman, Nick Le Cornu,  
Iain MacFirbhisigh, Tony Ward, Christopher Walters

#### PARISH OFFICES EMAIL:

St Helier            sthelier@catholicchurch.org.je  
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**Catholic Pastoral Services:** [cps@catholicchurch.org.je](mailto:cps@catholicchurch.org.je)

Safeguarding Officer: Linda Wiseman Tel: 07797776640  
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To contact any of the above please call: 720235; [www.catholicchurch.org.je](http://www.catholicchurch.org.je)

## PARISH DIARY THIS WEEK

- Sun: RCIA Rite of Acceptance, 9.15am Mass, St Thomas';  
Advent Service of Light, St Bernadette, 6pm
- Mon Canon Dominic – day off;
- Tues Fr Johnpromise – day off;  
Canon Dominic at Oslo Diocesan Tribunal AGM,  
in Glasgow until Friday;  
SVP Food bank, SVP Room, St Thomas', 2pm;
- Wed Fr Benjamin – day off;  
Connections Afternoon Tea, CPS, 2.30pm
- Thurs Lectio Divina, CPS, 1pm;  
RCIA, St Thomas' Hall, 7pm;
- Fri Discussion for Ignite Your Parish, CPS after  
12.15pm Mass;  
Parish Clergy Meeting, 7pm
- Sat Friends of St Thomas Christmas Fayre, St Thomas',  
10am to 3pm;  
RCIA Advent Retreat Day, Our Lady, St Martin,  
10am – 3pm

## SACRAMENTS & LITURGICAL LIFE

### RCIA Rite of Acceptance

At this Sunday's 9:15am Mass at St Thomas' we will welcome the nine adults who, in September, began the process of discernment about joining the Catholic Church. In the months to come they will continue that discernment; the other liturgical rites, associated with preparing them, will take place at some of our other churches so that as many parishioners as possible see who is preparing to join the Church at Easter. Please keep these adults in your prayers as well as the RCIA team of clergy and parishioners.



The Holy Father's Prayer Intentions for the Apostleship during the month of December is: *The Future of the Very Young - That every country take the measures necessary to prioritise the future of the very young, especially those who are suffering.*

### This Week at The Oasis of Peace

- ❖ **Preparation for the Sunday Readings:** Monday 2 December - 7pm.
- ❖ **Advent Adoration Afternoon:** Tuesday 3 December, 2:30pm - An afternoon of silent prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, ending at 4:30pm
- ❖ **Adoration & Rosary:** Thursday 5 December – 8.30am with Rosary starting at 8:45am.
- ❖ **Morning Prayer** - Friday 6 December – 6:30am followed by breakfast.

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### Wellspring Prayer Meeting

Next meet on Thursday 5 December at 7.30pm in the presbytery at Our Lady, St Martin. All welcome.

### Jersey Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer

This month we are invited to pray for all manual workers and this week for All Saints and St Simon's Anglican Church and especially for Rev David Grantham and Rev Judith Davy.

### Baptisms

We welcome into the Church through the Sacrament of Baptism: Jack Eddie Tennant Baxter and Parker Thomas Willson.

### Funerals

Please pray for the repose of the souls of those who have died recently and for the comfort and consolation of those who mourn them.

- ❖ Joao Nunes, aged 71, whose Funeral Service will be held at the Crematorium on Thursday 5 December at 10.45am;
- ❖ Maureen Crago, aged 82, whose Funeral Mass will be held at St Thomas' Church on Friday 6 December at 10am.

**Adoration at St Thomas'** - There will be no Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament during the month of December.

## PASTORAL LIFE

**Advent Ignite Your Parish** - We are offering a free gift to all parishioners after Masses this weekend: an album of Advent and Christmas music by The Vigil Project with short reflections for the season by Fr Dave Pivonka of Wild Goose Ministries. Please take a copy to help you and your family stay rooted in the meaning of these sacred seasons even when it gets busy. *Don't use CDs? No problem – every CD comes with a digital download link.*

**Discuss & Pray with the talks at Catholic Pastoral Services** on Fridays after 12.15pm Mass. Come and listen to the reflections, discuss and pray together. **Fridays: 6/13/20 December.** Bring your lunch. Tea and Coffee will be provided.

**Donations:** We invite you to contribute to the costs of posting and packaging for the Advent Project. There will be buckets in the churches and all contributions are welcomed. Thank You, this helps us to offer opportunities in the future.

**Youth St Vincent De Paul Giving Trees** - Please take a star from the Giving Trees in the churches. Please buy a shopping voucher from the shop named on the star and return to church. These will be used by SVP to help those in need throughout the year.

**Weekday Masses** - With Canon Dominic off Island for most of this week there is a reduced weekday Mass schedule. There is though a daily Mass at 12:15pm at St Thomas' and at 11am at the Chapel of the Little Sisters of the Poor.

**CWL Annual Review Meeting** - Monday 2 December at 7pm in the Presbytery at Our Lady St Martin. The meeting will be preceded by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament in the church which parishioners are warmly invited to attend.

### **Annual Soup Kitchen – Tuesday 3 December**

Takes place in the Royal Square between 10.30am to 2.30pm. Please support this fundraising event in aid of the Shelter Trust. There will be over 40 different soups on offer, including one from the Catholic Church in Jersey.

### **Christmas Fayre Saturday 7 December**

Helpers and donations of good quality goods are still needed for our Christmas Fayre in St Thomas' Hall. Please come along to support next Saturday.

### **East Christmas Lunch – Sunday 15 December.**

Menus and booking forms will be at the back of Our Lady, St Martin & St Patrick churches this Sunday.

**Friends of The Holy Land** - Give the gift of hope for Christmas to Christians in need in the Holy Land. Consider giving a donation voucher to a loved one and remember the 'Living Stones'. Vouchers are available in £5, £10 or £15 denominations - Available from the Catholic Gift Shop - Open Tuesday - Saturday from 10am to 1pm and on Sunday from 10.30am to 11.15am.

### **Thank you from the Knights of St Columba**

To all who purchased a Knights of St Columba history booklet last weekend. The remaining booklets will be available to purchase from Catholic Pastoral Services.

### **Year of the Word: Workshops for Readers**

To mark the Year of the Word, the Diocese of Portsmouth is launching Readers' training workshops which are available for parishes to book. The training offered consists of two workshops of three hours each. Each workshop will run on a separate day, for all church readers and aspiring readers. On completion of the two workshops, the participants are awarded a diocesan recognition. The workshops offer Liturgical and Biblical formation, as well as practical training, to ensure that the Word of God is read with clarity and conviction. The training ends with a time of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. To find out more go to: [www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/readers/](http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/readers/)

**CAFOD: Advent Appeal** - This Advent prepare for Christmas by using CAFOD's online Advent calendar which has readings and prayers for each day. Their Advent appeal this year is focussed on Refugees. With your donation this Advent, they can provide hope and comfort to families who are facing the worst disasters and emergencies, supporting them as they rebuild their lives. Across the world countless families are driven from their homes by emergencies - war, persecution and natural disasters. As many as 30 people every minute are made homeless. CAFOD experts are on the ground helping but they can only do that with your support. To donate online or for more information go to: [cafod.org.uk](http://cafod.org.uk)

**CAFOD World Gifts** - Give a gift that will change a life. There are gifts for every budget. Each CAFOD World gift has been chosen for the real and lasting difference it makes to families living in developing countries. Catalogues are available in the porches or online at [cafod.org.uk](http://cafod.org.uk)

**Pilgrimage to Medjugorje** - Canon Dominic will lead a 7-night pilgrimage for 30 persons to Medjugorje from 3-10 June 2020. The price is £745 per person inclusive of flights there and back from Jersey via Gatwick, all transfers and taxes, seven nights' accommodation in Medjugorje close to St James Church sharing twin, double or treble rooms with private facilities and all breakfast and evening meals. Single rooms are available at a supplement. Arranged with Joe Walsh Tours – who the Canon has been to Medjugorje with several times – they are offering a special Early Booking Discount of £100 off per person for bookings paid in full before 6 December 2019. To receive more information please contact the St Helier Parish Office. In May 2019 the Vatican sanctioned pilgrimages to Medjugorje.

### **Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 15 - 19 July 2020**

Will be led by Bishop Philip. Flying from Bournemouth Airport; price £695 staying at the Hotel La Solitude. Booking forms available from the St Helier Office.

## **MARRIAGE, YOUTH & FAMILY LIFE**

*Mary Cahill, Parish Coordinator of Pastoral Ministries:*  
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**Friday Friends** - meet in the Upper Youth Room at St Thomas' Hall: 7pm - 10pm. Fridays 6 & 13 December.

**Christmas Party** is on Sunday 5 January at 1pm - 3pm, St Thomas' Hall. Cost £4, pre booking needed.

**Advent Youth Night – Friday 20 December at 7pm in the Oasis of Peace for the 'Night with the Lord'.** We will share pizza and a DVD before taking our turns in Adoration during the night. Pre-booking is essential. Bring a sleeping bag and be collected by 8.30am on Saturday 21 December. £3 donation towards food and The Oasis of Peace.

**Christ Alive!** For young adults 16 – 30 years. Tuesdays at 7pm - 9.30pm. Bring cash for a takeaway.

### **Praise and Play Groups Mondays & Fridays**

Meet on **Monday** at 9.30am - 11.30am at St Bernadette's and on **Friday** at 3pm - 5pm in St Thomas' Hall **Closed next Friday 6 December.**

**Family Nativity & Christmas Crafts** Saturday 21 December 12noon - 3pm at St Mary & St Peter's Church. Come dressed as Angels, Shepherds or Sheep. Family Donation £3. Refreshments served.

# THIS WEEK'S PARISH MASS TIMES

Date	Time	Church	Mass intention
<b>Saturday 30 Nov</b>	<b>First Mass for the First Sunday of Advent</b>		
	6:00 pm	Sacred Heart	In Thanksgiving
	6:00 pm	St Patrick	The People of the Parish
	6:00 pm	St Thomas	Antonio & Conceicao de Castro RIP
<b>Sunday 1 Dec</b>	<b>First Sunday of Advent</b>		<b><i>Isaiah 2:1-5; Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:37-44</i></b>
	9:00 am	Our Lady, St Martin	Wynford Richardson RIP
	9:00 am	St Mary & St Peter	<i>Mass in Polish</i>
	9:15 am	St Thomas	Alice & Paco Blasco 45 <sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary
	9:30 am	St Matthieu	Jose Ferreira RIP
	11:00 am	St Patrick	Cristina Marques Gomes RIP
	11:15 am	St Bernadette	Ann Le Marquand RIP and deceased members of the Le Marquand Family
	11:30 am	St Mary & St Peter	Intentions of Patricia Le Masurier
	3:30 pm	St Thomas	<i>Mass in Portuguese:</i> Miguela Jose Moreia De Sousa RIP
	6:00 pm	St Thomas	Jose Cristiano Vares & Maria Alice Paulo RIP
	7:30 pm	St Thomas	<i>Mass in Polish</i>
<b>Monday 2 Dec</b>	<b>Of the 1<sup>st</sup> Week of Advent</b>		
	9:30 am	Our Lady, St Martin	<i>Sorry No Mass</i>
	12:15 pm	St Thomas	Bob Byrne RIP
<b>Tuesday 3 Dec</b>	<b>St Francis Xavier</b>		
	9:30 am	St Patrick	<i>Sorry No Mass</i>
	12:15 pm	St Thomas	Nicholas Chapman RIP
<b>Wednesday 4 Dec</b>	<b>St John Damascene</b>		
	12:15 pm	St Thomas	Peter Wall RIP
	6:30 pm	Sacred Heart	<i>Sorry No Mass</i>
<b>Thursday 5 Dec</b>	<b>Of the 1<sup>st</sup> Week of Advent</b>		
	9:30 am	St Matthieu	John Francis Harris RIP
	12:15 pm	St Thomas	Encarnacao Farinha RIP
<b>Friday 6 Dec</b>	<b>Optional Memorial St Nicholas</b>		
	9:30 am	Sacred Heart	<i>Sorry No Mass</i>
	<b>10:00 am</b>	St Thomas	Funeral Mass - Maureen Crago
	7:00 pm	St Mary & St Peter	<i>Mass in Polish</i>
<b>Saturday 7 Dec</b>	<b>St Ambrose</b>		
	9:30 am	St Patrick	<i>Sorry No Mass</i>
	12:15 pm	St Thomas	Julie Le Fondre RIP

## Catholic Trivia#15

Advent is thought to have begun in the fifth century when devout Christians in Tours, France began fasting in preparation for Christmas. In 567 the Council of Tours ordered all monks to fast in December until the 25<sup>th</sup>. This custom spread across France and beyond. A century later Pope Gregory the Great was preaching about the four weeks of Advent but the fasting element faded away. Purple has been the traditional Lenten colour since the 13<sup>th</sup> century although Pope Innocent III said it should be black. And the Advent wreath has its origins quite late, introduced in 1839 by Johann Hinrich Wichern, a German Protestant pastor to 'help' impatient children count down the days until the first Noel.



### Confessions, Saturdays

St Thomas, 11am - 12noon & 5pm - 5.45pm  
 Sacred Heart, - 5.15pm - 5.45pm  
 St Patrick, after 9.30am Mass & before 6pm Mass

### Exposition Of The Blessed Sacrament

Chapel of the Little Sisters – Sunday, 5pm followed by Benediction & Evening Prayer at 5.30pm  
 The Oasis of Peace – Thurs, 8.30am  
 Sacred Heart – Wed, 6pm (when Mass is at 6:30pm)  
 St Mary & St Peter (in Polish) – Fri, 8pm  
 St Patrick – Tues, 7pm to 8pm

### Rosary

St Thomas – Saturday, 5.30pm before Mass  
 Sacred Heart – Wed, 7pm (when Mass is at 6:30pm)  
 St Patrick – Sat, 9am before Mass  
 Oasis of Peace – Thurs, 8.45am



### SAINT FOR THE WEEK:

#### ST EDMUND CAMPION (1ST DECEMBER)

When Queen Elizabeth I visited Oxford University in 1566 she was impressed by the scholar chosen to greet her with words of welcome. He was Edmund Campion, a 26 year old Protestant. While studying the Church Fathers he began questioning his Protestant beliefs. This led to him travelling in 1572 to Douai, Belgium where a college existed to train Catholic priests for work in England. There he became a Catholic and began studying for the priesthood. A year later he joined the Jesuits in Rome. In 1578 he was ordained and in 1580 he returned to England. He preached several times a day, mentally preparing his homilies while traveling on horseback from one Catholic home to another. In July 1581 he was arrested for being a Catholic priest. He was tortured on a rack and on 1 December 1581 he was executed at Tyburn, London, one of the many English martyrs of that troubled time.