



Whitchurch

Parish of St. Teilo's with Our Lady of Lourdes

A Parish of the Archdiocese of Cardiff, Registered Charity 242380

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Parish Newsletter

Weekend 2nd and 3rd January 2021

Second Sunday after Christmas

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Mass Times and Intentions week beginning 3 rd January 2021				
			Canon	Fr. Dwayne
Sunday 3 rd January Second Sunday after Christmas	Online	10.00am	For the People of the Parish	Brian Taylor – RIP (M&RT)
Monday 4 th January Monday of the Christmas Season	Online	10.00am	Eileen Coyne – RIP	Wellbeing of Canon Isaac (M&RW)
Tuesday 5 th January Tuesday of the Christmas Season	Online	10.00am	Wellbeing of Jason Haskins and Kate Burrows and their families (P&CS)	Rita Calderbank – RIP (M&RT)
Wednesday 6 th January The Epiphany of the Lord – Solemnity	Online	10.00am	All the Dead (CBY)	Rosemary Moore – Recently Deceased (CR)
Thursday 7 th January St. Raymond of Peñafort	Online	10.00am	Private Intention	Anthony Calderbank – RIP (M&RT)
Friday 8 th January Friday after Epiphany	Online	10.00am	Brian Young (CBY)	Joan Cowley – RIP (MS)
Saturday 9 th January Saturday after Epiphany	Online	10.00am	For the People of the Parish	Beryl & Percy Harris – Anniversary
Sunday 10 th January The Baptism of the Lord Feast	Online	10.00am	Brian Whiting – Anniversary (PW)	Wellbeing of Canon Isaac (CR)

Quote of the Week



“When a profound silence covered all things and night was in the middle of its course, your all-powerful Word, O Lord, bounded from heaven’s royal throne.”

Entrance Antiphon Second Sunday after Christmas





Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Keep Wales safe:

- stay at home
- meet only the people you live with
- maintain social distancing
- wash your hands regularly
- work from home if you can

All of Wales is at alert level 4.

Self-isolate if you or anyone in your household has [symptoms](#).

If you [have symptoms get a test](#).

Due to the Alert Level Four in place for the whole of Wales with a very high risk of infection and the 'at risk' profile of many of our parishioners **Mass will be live streamed only from St. Teilo's** until further notice.

Please take the Welsh Government advice and STAY AT HOME if at all possible.

The Bishops' Conference of England and Wales has confirmed that the obligation to attend Sunday Mass remains suspended.

Live Streaming

The webcam in St. Teilo's will be left on at all times, so please take the opportunity to 'look in' on the Church for prayer at any time.

Mass Times

Mass will continue to be broadcast live on the Parish Website from St. Teilo's at 10am each day. You are encouraged, not only to listen and watch the Mass but to take part by making the responses in your own home.

At Communion time each day, we will be led in praying St. Alphonse Liguori's Act of Spiritual Communion:

My Jesus,
I believe that You
are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment
receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You. **AMEN.**

Dial for Mass

We continue to operate the 'Dial for Mass' scheme for those who do not have access to the Internet. Ring to access our 'Dial for Mass' service. Mass will be available each Sunday from about 2.00pm and you can hear the previous Sunday's Mass by ringing the service at any time of day or night during the week.

The number is a local number from Cardiff based landlines – 22 670 999. If you are dialling from outside Cardiff or from a mobile phone, you will need to dial 029 2267 0999.

Polish Masses

Fr. Michał Oszczudłowski will continue to say Mass at St. Teilo's and broadcast it online. Times of Polish Masses and other updates will appear on the Polish Community website in Polish at <http://polskaparafiaincardiff.org/>.

Christmas Season

Many of us will have noticed that the shops had all removed their Christmas signs by the 27th of December. But for us Christians Christmas celebrations only begin on the 25th of December, they do not end then. The Church marks the end of the Christmas season on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, normally the second Sunday of January, that is, next Sunday, so this coming week we continue the Christmas festivities. Some traditional Catholics even retain the idea that Christmas does not end until the Presentation of the Lord in the Temple on February 2nd. But the modern liturgy sees next Sunday as the formal end of the season.

Second Sunday of Christmas

The readings for this Sunday move from the action of the birth of Jesus and of the Holy Family in their journey into Egypt and become more reflective. What does this birth mean? The Gospel for the day, the Prologue to St. John's Gospel, is a deep reflection on the mystery of the Incarnation. But do not be put off by any potential complexity. It is a simple statement of faith in which we should all join. In verse 1, we hear that the Word of God which was made flesh had His beginnings with God before creation. In verses 2 to 5, we hear the story of creation, understood as an ongoing process of which Jesus is the fulfilment. In verses 6 to 8, we hear the call and the mission of St. John the Baptist and recognise in him the vocation of all the followers

of Jesus. In verses 9 to 14, St. John presents the Incarnation as a remarkable, a strange mystery that the One who made and sustains humanity is rejected by this same humanity. In verses 16 to 18, we are invited to benefit from the grace of the Incarnation. Cardinal St. John Henry Newman said: "Lord, we thank you for the deep moments of Bible reading when we knew that we were in the presence of the Word which existed from the beginning before time began, which was with You before You created the world, which was truly divine, with You from the beginning, and which was made flesh and was living among us." This sums up the invitation of this Sunday, that we stand in awe at the great things which God has done for us in sending His Son to be one of us in all things but sin.

Epiphany

On Wednesday, January 6th, we celebrate the great Solemnity of the Epiphany. On this day the Church celebrates the shining forth of Jesus to the world. The word Epiphany means "manifestation" or "showing forth." Historically several moments in Christ's early life and ministry have been celebrated as "epiphanies," including His birth in Bethlehem, the visit of the Magi, His baptism by John, and His first miracle at Cana. On this day the liturgy of the Church focuses on the visit of the Magi.

We know little about the Magi. They come from the East and journey to Bethlehem, following an astrological sign, so we believe them to be astrologers. We assume that there were three Magi based upon the naming of their three gifts. The Gospel does not say how many Magi paid homage to Jesus. In Matthew's Gospel, they represent the Gentiles' search for a saviour. Because the Magi represent the entire world, they also represent our search for Jesus.

We have come to consider the gifts they bring as a foreshadowing of Jesus' role in salvation. We believe the meaning of the gifts to be Christological. Gold is presented as representative of Jesus' kingship. Frankincense is a symbol of His Divinity because priests burned the substance in the Temple. Myrrh, which was used to prepare the dead for burial, is offered in anticipation of Jesus' death.

As we celebrate the coming of the Magi, may we bring ourselves, our hearts, and lay them before the Lord Jesus, that He can use them as He will. We are to be gifts of faithful service to Him.

Rest in Peace



In your mercy, please pray for the repose of the souls of Joan Gwendoline Collins and for Stella Lawson both faithful parishioners of St. Teilo's with Our Lady of Lourdes. Mrs. Collins funeral is on Wednesday, January 13th At Thornhill and Mrs. Lawson's Requiem Mass is on Thursday, January 14th at St. Teilo's at 11.30am. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, attendance is limited to family members and invited guests. However online attendance at Mrs. Lawson's Requiem Mass will be available on the Parish Livestream.

Please pray also for those whose anniversaries occur at this time: James Fowler, Michael McGee, John Gruberman, Kathleen Jenkins, William Emmott, Florence Woodall, Richard Walsh, Albert Godwin, Olive Cotter, Shirley Crothers, Kathleen Ryan, Francis Hammond, Lilian Imperato, Graham Perryman, David Roche, Thomas Dwyer, Kathleen Bristow, Maurice Fackrell, Wilfred Davies, James Conroy, Walter Blakeman, Dorothy Allen, Richard Jones, Luke Haines, Honora Riach, Elizabeth Poole, Elsie Fullerton, Irene Charles, Olive Griffiths, James Watchorn, Peter Mulcahy, Philomena A'Herne, Margaret Holtham, Edith Holman, Theresa Harris, Peggy (Agnes) Fuse, Percival Harpur, Ada Kinsey, Brian Whiting and David Fitzgerald.

A message from Canon Isaac

I wish you all a very Happy New Year, and more importantly, I wish you a faith filled New Year. 2020 has now finished and it is a date I am sure will be remembered in history! For us Catholics, it has been a time when we have had to do things in a different way. A number of parishioners have written, by letter or email, to tell me that it is only when things which they have taken for granted for so long are taken away, that they realise how important they are. At the beginning of March 2020, we were used to daily Mass accessible to all, four Sunday Masses across the churches of the parish, St. Teilo's open for prayer from 8am to 5pm seven days a week, parish, group and sodality meetings, rosary and adoration in Church. The list goes on! Now this is replaced for most of us with online or phone access at the most. Many of us are also missing the regular face to face interaction with our family and friends which we used to take for granted. We have become used to the new ways, but still miss the old.

I know things will not immediately go back to normal. We still have many months before each of us has received the vaccine and even then, we may do things differently, and some of what we have learnt in the past year will lead to new patterns in the years to come. As Catholics however, some central things will remain. Mass will continue to be celebrated throughout the world, with or without a congregation, online and phone Masses, something we had not thought of doing at St. Teilo's before the pandemic, will continue, even when most people are able to attend, as an additional service for our sick and housebound parishioners. These are signs of the vibrance and renewal which are so much part of our faith.

As the New Year begins, I sit in quarantine in the Presbytery. Those of you, who know me well, will know that not being able to interact with people will be a challenge for me. But the Lord is teaching me that He is enough for me. If all goes according to plan, I will go into the hospital on Sunday, January 10th and have the operation on Monday, January 11th. This, of course, depends on the NHS being able to cope during the current stage of the pandemic. I pray that they will go ahead as planned and I ask you to pray for me, as so many of you are doing already, especially on the 10th and 11th. Many thanks for all the messages of prayer and support you have sent via email and letter. It means such a great deal to me. I will continue to say Mass each day for the intentions advertised in the newsletter until Sunday, January 10th. As I say Mass each day and say my daily Rosary, I offer prayers for each of you, the parishioners, and for all the sick and housebound in particular. I am finding the Rosary even more of a joy than ever. It is a great wealth of devotional content as we reflect on the different aspects of faith as the mysteries of the rosary are recalled. Our Catholic Faith is rich in ways to strengthen and

support us at all times, especially when trials come. We have much to be thankful for in being Catholics as we journey in faith.

Many thanks to all of you who donated so generously to Fr. Dwayne and I through the Christmas Offerings. We are very grateful for your support.

As we continue to celebrate the season of Christmas with Our Lady and St. Joseph treasuring their child, may we ask their prayers and commend ourselves anew to them, so that they may bring us closer to Jesus, that we may give thanks for all the blessings which we enjoy, and with the Shepherds and Kings, can come and lay our gifts before the Lord, who gives Himself wholly for us all,

Love and prayers,

Canon Isaac

A message from Fr. Dwayne

I would like to offer so many thanks for all those who contributed to the parish celebrations of Christmas.

A team of volunteers did a great deal of work to enable us to celebrate Christmas. Much of the work is done quietly while no one else is around: the Crib prepared, the brasses polished, the flowers arranged, the rest of the Church cleaned and decorated. None of these things happen by themselves; they take time and effort and I would like to thank all those who gave of their time to do this work for the benefit of all of us who worship at St. Teilo's

Thanks too to the Altar Servers, who, though limited in number due to COVID-19 restrictions, were so faithful in their service. The musicians and readers who assisted with the Christmas Masses are also to be thanked as are the stewards, without whom we would not have been able to open for the Masses on Christmas Day itself.

This is my first Christmas among you and I have been inspired by the commitment and generosity of all those who volunteer and support the parish of St. Teilo's. I am also grateful for the generous Christmas Offerings which you donated to Canon and me via Virgin Giving and direct donations to the Parish Bank.

With virtual hugs and kisses,

Fr. Dwayne

The Light has come: Reflections through Art for the Christmas Season.



The Newborn 1648, Georges de La Tour (1593 – 1652), Oil on canvas. 29.9 x 35.8 inch. Musée des Beaux-Arts de Rennes, France. Source: Wikimedia Commons.

“And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.” (Luke 2:7)

THE
GOD
WHO
SPEAKS

Georges de La Tour was a French Baroque artist who spent most of his professional life in the Duchy of Lorraine. He became a master painter whose works were collected by several French kings. In

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the 1630s La Tour began to develop his nocturnes or evening mood pictures. He would portray a few biblical figures, or sometimes just one person, magically caught in the light and shadow of a flickering candle flame. These religious chiaroscuro scenes are stylistically similar to Caravaggio in both his treatment of subject and colour. La Tour died in 1652, probably of the plague but his legacy is one of enduring beauty.

Scholars disagree on the meaning of this painting's title 'The Newborn' or 'Newborn Child' – painted in 1648. Is it a Nativity scene or a domestic scene? What we see first is a young mother gazing intently at her swaddled infant, illuminated by a candle held by an older woman. De La Tour personally suffered from a history of family infant mortality – he had 10 children and only three survived into adulthood. Perhaps it is a window onto guarded grief that we sense in this group.

There is undoubtedly an introspective mood and there are enough signs to suggest that it is the Nativity. The artist's brushstrokes depict the sheer fragility of a new-born baby whose life still hangs in the balance yet open up the eyes of faith in the light of the Christ. Mary's own life, given to God in one act becomes a shrine, a new Ark of a new Covenant, conveyed in her triangular form enclosing her son. Her story is one of vulnerability and self-sacrifice. She not only holds her baby boy and learns the art of motherhood, but holds God made man in her loving embrace. Here heaven and earth meet in a sacred encounter. Instead of her traditional blue, La Tour robes her in red. Red for bloodshed. Jesus is born to die, and she will witness that death.

La Tour captures a moment in time before the heartbreak. An inner realisation and reflection of the scale of this pure gift. The canvas emphasises this act of contemplation echoing Luke 2:19 'But Mary treasured all these things in her heart...' .. Yet who is the matronly figure with Mary? Is it St Anne her own mother? Although St Anne isn't mentioned in any of the Gospels, her name as Joachim's wife appears in the apocryphal writings from the 2nd century onwards. It was Pope Sixtus IV who introduced the devotion to St Anne in 1481. In art she is often depicted as Mary's teacher as well as her mother. Here we delight in the maternal genealogy of Jesus joining grandmother and mother in their homage to the mystery of this new life.

The painting appears to be deceptively simple in composition. Only on close inspection do we see its complexity. The intense red of Mary's dress is achieved by tiny dots of colour of varying hue, and similarly, St. Anne's lilac garment is almost pixilated in effect. Just as the ambience is concentrated on a moment of adoration and silence, so also the colours focus on a limited but concentrated palette so that the details, where we encounter them, are more powerful in their revelation. Mary's collar is elaborately decorated, her fingers beautifully defined as she carefully holds her baby, and both her and St. Anne's profiles are painted with an exceptional delicacy of line. St. Anne's hat is textured and her chin given weight through age.

Turning to the candlelight half-covered by St. Anne's hands, its light becomes a blessing and protection towards her grandson revealing the Christ Child's own light. There is a double revelation here of the divine light and of the Virgin Birth. Transcendence and immanence are enfolded in one small bundle. Mary's hands are so careful in their holding of Jesus, her fingers lightly embracing his weight and purpose. They reflect reverence before the Incarnation, the revelation of the holy in the ordinary.

A deep calm becomes evident the more we look at this painting, in the figures so focused and still. The overall impression is of a more modern style of art since no other Nativity at this time employs or arouses such exquisite gentleness of form or grace. Wonder and silence are all we can offer in return. We are invited to simply gaze – we dare not make a sound or move a muscle. Faith is wrapped up as perfect gift and tender truth.

This image helps us to draw close to Jesus, but not just at His birth. With His tight swaddling he prefigures the shroud at death. Bound like a mummy and with eyes closed, He is prepared for what is to come. Without any other symbols in this darkened room, the new-born child becomes timeless. Jesus is born anew in eternal love.

Marriage Care

Despite the challenges presented by Covid-19, Marriage Care, in partnership with the Cardiff Archdiocese, continues to provide support to local couples at all stages of their relationship. By moving both its Counselling & Marriage Preparation Services to webcam delivery, Marriage Care has been able to continue providing both services, in a timely manner, without having to worry about lockdowns or social distancing.

The marriage preparation and support service, which Marriage Care provides, enable couples to nurture faithful and fruitful marriages that last, as they draw on Catholic teaching and contemporary research to help couples focus on the quality of their relationship with each other. Through their relationship counselling service, they accompany, with compassion and practical wisdom, couples who find themselves in need of support on their journey. Recognising that the coronavirus pandemic has both increased stress and can lead to financial difficulties they remain unique in asking couples who come for counselling only to pay what they can afford, reflecting their commitment to support those most in need.

If you need to make use of, or want to know more about, either of these services please visit Marriage Care's website at www.marriagecare.org.uk

Housebound Parishioners without internet access

If any parishioner knows of any Catholic in the parish who is housebound and unable to access the parish newsletter online, please let us know at whitchurch@rcadc.org so that the newsletter can be mailed directly to them. Many thanks to Peter Searle who prints and posts the newsletter to housebound parishioners each week.

Christ the King Catholic Primary School – Reception Class Applications

The application system for admission to Christ the King Catholic Primary School deadline is Monday, January 11th, 2021. Application forms will be available on the school website <https://www.christthekingcathprm.co.uk/> or by email christthekingprm@cardiff.gov.uk or can be sent by post. Please contact the school admin team Tel: 029 2075 4787.

Donations to the Parish – Virgin Money Giving

Donations to the parish made online should be completed at the following web address: <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/fund/Steiloswitholol>

Please continue to donate via Virgin Money Giving for those one-off donations or consider a Standing Order for regular monthly donations to the life of the parish. If you would like to set up a standing order, please e-mail whitchurch@rcadc.org for more information.

For Sale – To Benefit Church Funds

A brand new folding eLife Power Assisted Folding Touring Bike including charger and added extras, helmet, hi viz, lock.

Tried once.

Cost £750, sell £500 or nearest offer.

Proceeds to the Church. For more information or to view, please telephone John on 029 2061 9410.

Mass Intentions

A reminder that Canon will not be able to say Mass while he is in hospital, so we will have less slots for Mass Intentions than we have had for the last few months. If you do have any special dates you would like to book in advance, you can now do so for the whole of 2021. 75 slots have already been booked in advance, so there are only 280 remaining dates in the year. The sooner you place your request, the more likely it is to be said on your preferred date.

If you would like to book Masses, please do so by email to whitchurch@rcadc.org The donations can be made via the [Donation link](#) on the Parish Website or you can write the intention on an envelope with the donation inside and drop it into the Presbytery letterbox. The guidance is that the minimum donation for a Mass intention should be £10 but your donation amount is at your discretion.

Praying for the Sick and the Dead

We have a long-standing tradition of praying for the sick and the recently deceased by name during our Masses on weekdays. During the pandemic, we are remembering our sick and dead at each Mass. Please do let me know if you would like me to add someone to the sick list or the list of the recently deceased. To do so, please email me on whitchurch@rcadc.org ensuring that you include the person's name and whether (s)he should be added to the sick list or the list of those who have died.

Online Newsletter

If you have any items you would like us to include in the newsletter, please email: whitchurch@rcadc.org.

Staying in touch with the Parish

If there are any updates on the situation or items of parish news, these will be updated first on the parish Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/stteilos.olol/>) or the parish twitter account (https://twitter.com/stteilos_olol) followed by the parish website (<https://stteilos-olol.co.uk/>) Updates are often made on these sites before they can appear in the following week's newsletter.

Children's Liturgy and Family Time

The sheet that would have been used for Children's Liturgy this weekend is below; many thanks to Nick for all that he is doing to support the children of our parish at this time. You can also access the Family Time Leaflet by clicking on [this link](#).

Name _____

ROOTS Activity Sheet

3-9 January 2021
Epiphany

Matthew 2.1-12

The wise men search for a baby king, but make a mistake when they visit King Herod.



The wise men need God's direction on their way to find baby Jesus.

Draw

Draw what helped the wise men to find Jesus.

Write

Can you find these hidden words?

- Bethlehem
- frankincense
- gold
- Herod
- Mary
- myrrh
- search
- star
- worship

c	w	m	t	d	o	r	e	H	f	l	c
g	m	o	j	e	a	c	j	e	h	a	t
m	o	e	r	s	o	k	s	c	e	B	c
e	z	z	h	s	o	f	r	s	e	r	p
M	a	r	y	g	h	a	c	t	h	a	g
s	s	s	x	s	e	i	h	o	r	t	o
m	d	y	s	s	w	l	p	j	r	s	l
n	y	e	y	e	e	y	s	c	y	u	d
n	m	p	o	h	z	n	a	u	m	n	u
e	s	n	e	c	n	i	k	n	a	r	f
i	c	m	i	w	n	d	n	o	p	y	c

Puzzle

Help the wise men to find their way to Jesus.

