



Ss Joseph & Teresa Parish, Wells,
(Also serves St Michael, Shepton Mallet)
 16 Chamberlain Street, Wells BA5 2PF Tel. 01749
 673183
ssjosephteresa@cliftondiocese.com
 Parish Priest: Fr Philip Thomas

ADVENT III Gaudete Sunday

Sunday Worship

Sat. 13th Dec 6.00pm 1st Mass of Sunday in Wells (Colin Stoupe RIP)
 Sun 14th Dec 9.00am Solemn Mass in Wells(Desmond Costello RIP)
 11.00am Sung Mass in Shepton (Pro Populo)

Confessions *The holy Sacrament of Reconciliation is normally celebrated on*

Saturdays from Noon to 12.30pm in Shepton and from 5.00pm to 5.30pm in Wells. NO CONFESSIONS ON THE FIRST SATURDAY OF CHRISTMASSTIDE

Next Week – Advent IV – (Year B)

Sat. 20th Dec 6.00pm 1st Mass of Sunday in Wells (Lloyd Maylan RIP)
 Sun 21st Dec 9.00am Solemn Mass in Wells(Pro Popolo)
 11.00am Sung Mass in Shepton (Those whom we miss at this season RIP)

14th December 2008

Weekday Worship in Wells

Mon 15th Dec Advent Feria
9.30am Mass ()
 Tue 16th Dec Advent Feria
 9.30am Mass
7.30pm Reconciliation Service in Shepton with individual confessions
 Wed 17th Dec Late Advent Feria – O Sapientia
 9.30am Mass (Maurice Pulver RIP)
6pm Reception of Desmond Costello's cortege
7.00pm Mass in the Extra-ordinary Form ()
 Thu 18th Dec Late Advent Feria – O Adonai
10.30am Funeral Requiem for Desmond Costello
 Fri 19th Dec Late Advent Feria – O Radix Jesse
9.30am Mass in School (Hordern Family intention)
7.30pm Reconciliation Service with individual confessions
 Sat 20th Dec Late Advent Feria – O Clavis David
 9.30am Mass (Claire Morgan RIP)

newsletter pigeonhole by midday WEDNESDAY. Please include a contact name and number with the item. Thank you.

Last week's 2nd collection for CHRISTMAS FLOWERS raised £157.06. Thank you. This week there is a collection for REACHING THE UNREACHED

9.00AM SUNDAY MASS MUSIC

Hymns

Mass setting: Missa Emmanuel

Opening hymn 804

See separate sheet

Presentation 575

Communion 332

Final hymn 243

REST IN PEACE Frederick Speed (2000), George Smith (2000), Ena MacMahon (1993), Gertrude Worley (2000), Joseph Adang (2005), Anthony Trenchard (2003), Lloyd Moylan (2003) *Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine, et lux perpetua luceat eis. Requiescant in pace.*

Parish Phone / Fax
01749 673183

Parish Child Protection Officer
Nicole Craven
01749 672337

Parish Website
www.ssjosephandteresawells.co.uk

Diocesan Confidential Child Care
Helpline: 0117 935 1555

Parish Administrator
Barbara Lewis – Parish Office open
Wednesday s & Fridays
10.00am till 4.00pm

Diocese of Clifton
www.cliftondiocese.com

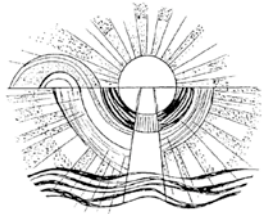
Weekday Worship in Shepton

Mon 15th Dec Advent Feria
9.15am Liturgy of the Word and HC
 Tue 16th Dec Advent Feria
9.15am Mass
7.30pm Advent Reconciliation Service
 Wed 17th Dec Late Advent Feria
9.15am Liturgy of the Word and HC
 Thu 18th Dec Late Advent Feria
9.15am Mass ()
 Fri 19th Dec Late Advent Feria
9.15am Liturgy of the Word and HC
 Sat 20th Dec Late Advent Feria
9.15am Liturgy of the Word and HC

NEWSLETTER Please e-mail items to the Office or drop it in or

volunteer please speak to Fr Philip or Ruth Hudson.

ADVENT GOSPEL ENQUIRY: Everyone is invited to come along to the Upper Room this Thursday 18 December at 7.30pm for the last of our Advent sessions. This week we reflect on the Annunciation. Connie Lane will lead our discussion. Do come along.



TO PONDER OVER AT HOME DURING THE WEEK: John 1:6-8, 19-28

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came for testimony, to bear witness to the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness to the light. And this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed, he did not deny, but confessed, "I am not the Christ." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" And he answered, "No." They said to him then, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said, "I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,' as the prophet Isaiah said." Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, "Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water; but among you stands one whom you do not know, even he who comes after me, the thong of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie." This took place in Bethany beyond the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

- *Question of the week:* How would I respond if he asked, 'What have you to say about yourself?'

SATURDAY HELP IN THE SACRISTY CAN YOU HELP?

We are urgently seeking someone or a group of people willing to assist with sacristy duties in connection with our Saturday morning Mass. The necessary training will be given. If you would like to know more or to



THE ADVENT PRESERVATION SOCIETY

As yet, this society is a piece of whimsy, generated via e-mail by a group of priests. It has a Chaplain General from Salford diocese. Perhaps we could have a Wells parish branch? It has nothing to do with being against anything, but is about what we are in favour of! We do not seek to stop anyone having a good time. We do not want to curtail the buying and wrapping of presents, the writing of Christmass cards or the holding of parties. We are, however, in favour of preserving the Church's season of Advent in purple (with a touch of rose pink) without the anticipation of the season of the Incarnation. PLEASE NOTE THE ADVENT CELEBRATIONS OF RECONCILIATION AND PENANCE THIS WEEK IN WELLS AND SHEPTON.

'PAINT IT PINK' At Shepton this Gaudete Sunday, as also in Wells, Mass is in joyful pink – not only the vestments. **The congregation in both churches is invited to wear at least one item of pink, rose, salmon or coral colour.** After the 11.00am, everyone is invited to a Get Together with a pink theme in the Shepton Parish Room. A Bring and Buy will include gifts for Christmas plus jams and chutneys, light refreshments and a raffle. There is a **Pink Quiz** on sale now for just £1. A 2Gb MP3 player (pink of course) is the prize for the winner on the day. Fr Philip encourages Wells parishioners to support this rosy event just as he encourages Shepton parishioners to support the Wells bazaar

ALTAR SERVERS AND PARENTS Please would you make sure that albs are cleaned and in good order for Christmas.

BIDDING PRAYER ROTAS are now available in the pigeon holes.

MINISTERS OF COMMUNION: Please collect the new rotas – *which start next week* – from your pigeon holes.

FOR THE DIARY In January, we shall hold a Parish General Meeting as our AGM. We shall receive the accounts etc. Fr. Philip looks forward to re-activating the Pastoral Council at that meeting. It will be at Saturday 31st

January at 10.00am, following a **9.00pm Morning Mass**

FROM THE CHILDREN'S LITURGY TEAM As part of the Children's Liturgy through Advent we will be telling the children about the Nativity, which will include journeys, homelessness, new babies, parties and how lucky we are to be a part of God's family. This year like some that have gone before we would like to support a charity by doing something small that means so much more to the recipient "*Oh no I hear you say not more I've just given to the bazaar or filled my Christmas Child Shoebox and still have my Christmas shopping to do*" Do not fear we never ask for more that you can bear so this year we decided it would be great to support something local and that ties in with our themes of the Nativity and so we have spoken to people who help support our local homeless young people. They have asked for CHOCOLATE!!!! Lots and lots of chocolate to give to these youngsters to just enjoy! If you would like to help us there is a lovely christmassy box in the vestibule waiting to be filled with lots of yummy scrummy chocolatey things what ever you can afford to give you can be sure will be gratefully received! (Our box will be out there begging until Christmas Eve.) Thank you so much.

1ST CONFESSION & HOLY COMMUNION 2009 Parents of children in Year 3: if you would like your child to prepare to receive Holy Communion for the first time, please remember to apply using a form available from the Parish Office. The course will start in January and there will be sessions for parents as well as for children.

CHRISTMASS BIG CLEAN Next Saturday, 20th December, from 10.15am, we shall hold a Big Christmass Clean. Please come along and join Richard and the cleaning team to help make our church ready for Christmass. We will provide coffee etc. All welcome. Brass polishers especially welcome. Bring own elbow grease!!

FLOWER ARRANGERS We will be arranging the flowers for Christmas at 9.30am on Christmas Eve. All flower arrangers are very welcome: there will be mince pies and coffee as an incentive to be there! Please come along to help make our church beautiful for the Christmas season. Next year's rotas are in the pigeon holes.

DOORWAY A few Christmas gifts are still available under the 'Doorway' rack in the narthex/vestibule. Please have a look.

PARISH CAR PARK Please do not take offence if you have parked in the parish car park and find a notice on your windscreen explaining our car parking policy. This is part of a campaign by the Finance and Fabric Committee to make people more aware of what that policy is and to try and prevent use by non-parishioners without permission or unauthorised long term use by parishioners. The primary purpose of the car park is for parishioners to attend services at the church. The secondary purpose is to allow parents to drop off and collect children from the school. At other times parishioners have the right to occasional use of the car park but never for long term parking.

CHRISTIANS TOGETHER IN WELLS will be anticipating the Christmas story in the Market Place, this coming Saturday 20th 10am to 12 noon – with a real donkey! Starting at the Ancient Gatehouse. Mince pies & non-alcoholic mulled wine will be served to the public in the Market Place. Hundreds of mince pies needed – please contact Sue Peel on 677502

THE POPE AND THIS ROSE PINK

SUNDAY Besides the vestments, there is another rose connection with this Sunday. It is the custom for the Holy Father in Rome to bless jewelled roses made of gold, which he then presents to Catholic queens. Sadly, since our sovereign lady the Queen is a member of the Church of England, she does not receive one of these sacred gifts. Perhaps in this ecumenical age, this custom could be extended towards other Christian monarchs, like Great Britain, the Netherlands and Denmark.



THE DELICATE QUESTION "HOW IS FATHER PAID?"

The annual salary is £1715. He receives the offerings made by the Faithful for Mass, Baptisms, Funerals and Weddings. He also receives the collections on Christmass and Easter Day. Your financial support is not about liking him personally but about maintaining the office of the Priesthood in the life of the parish.