



Ss Joseph & Teresa Parish, Wells,
(Also serves St Michael, Shepton Mallet)
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 Parish Priest: Fr Philip Thomas

ADVENT II
Second Sunday of Advent 2009

Sunday and Weekday Worship in Wells

Sat 5th Dec 6.00pm Vigil Mass
 Sun 6th Dec 9.00am Solemn Mass
4.00pm Vespers & Benediction
 Mon 7th Dec St Ambrose of Milan
 9.30am Mass ()
 Tue 8th Dec SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
 9.30am Mass ()
 Wed 9th Dec St John Diego Cuahlatzoatzin
 9.30am Mass ()
7.30pm 'One in the Spirit': Liturgy to celebrate the role of women in the parish
 Thu 10th Dec Feria
 9.30am Mass ()
 Fri 11th Dec St Damasus
 9.30am Mass (Sheila Neary RIP)
 7.00pm Mass in the Extra-ordinary Form
 Sat 12th Dec Our Lady on Saturday
 9.30am Mass

Next Week: ADVENT III

Sat 12th Dec 6.00pm Vigil Mass
 Sun 13th Dec 9.00am Solemn Mass

4.00pm Vespers & Benediction

Confessions Normally, the holy Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated on Saturdays, Noon to 12.30pm in Shepton and from 9.30am to 5.30pm in Wells. Do ring and check

Last weekend's collection for the 'Poor Missions' of the Diocese raised £151.33

This weekend there is a second collection for our Christmas Flowers. Please be generous so that we can make the church beautiful for the Christmas season. We will be arranging the flowers at 10.00a.m. on Christmas Eve - please could as many members of the flower rota come along to help as possible so that we can be home early in order to get our turkeys ready for the next day! Thank you for all the work you've done during this year. The 2010 rotas will be in the church post box before Christmas.

ANNIVERSARIES AT THIS TIME Arthur Andrews (2001), Des Costello (2008), Alan Stevens (1991), Rosa D'Agostino (2004), Janet Eggar (1995), Anastasia Ridewood (2000), Bridget Little (1993), David Lancashire (1997) William Vicary (2006), Sheila Neary (2008), Giovanni Porfiro (1991) *Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine, et lux perpetua luceat eis.* May the Lord grant them eternal rest and light.

CHOIR PRACTICE Choir meets in the church this Thursday at 7pm. Please speak to Fr Philip or Ruth Hudson if you would like to have a go

NEW TO THE PARISH? You are very welcome. Please make yourself known, and, if you are attending the 9am Mass, do please join us for coffee afterwards. It would be helpful to us if you would fill in one of the yellow registration forms in the porch

Worship in Shepton

Sun 6th Dec **Second Sunday of Advent**
 11.00am Mass ()
 6.30pm Mass at All Hallows' Prep School, ()
 Mon 7th Dec St Ambrose
 9.15am Liturgy of the Word and HC
 Tue 8th Dec SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
 9.15am Mass
 Wed 9th Dec St John Diego Cuahlatzoatzin
 9.15 am Liturgy of the Word and HC
 Thu 10th Dec Feria
 9.15am Mass
 Fri 11th Dec St Damasus
 9.15am Liturgy of the Word and HC
 Sat 12th Dec Our Lady on Saturday
 Confessions
 Sun 13th Dec **Advent III**
 11.00am Mass ()
"PAINT IT IN PINK" FUNDRAISER.
 6.30pm Mass at All Hallows' Prep School, ()

PRACTICAL MINISTRIES - ROTAS FOR NEXT WEEK

CLEANING	COFFEE	FLOWERS	WELCOMING
Jan Doyle & Aisha Jones	Veronika Borzymowski & Frankie Lambery	No flowers during Advent	6pm Margaret Graham 9am Jim & Peggy McDonald

PARISH POCKET DIARIES have arrived! Please put a donation of £1 in the marked box by the front door. A few Liturgical Yearbooks remain to be sold, price £5.99.

TO PONDER OVER DURING THE WEEK – Luke 3:1-6 In the



fifteenth year of the reign of Tiber'i-us Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Iturae'a and Trachoni'tis, and Lysa'ni-as tetrarch of Abile'ne, in the high-priesthood of

Annas and Ca'iaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechari'ah in the wilderness; and he went into all the region about the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet, "The voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be brought low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways shall be made smooth; and all mankind shall see the salvation of God."

Question of the week: What is your concept of 'The Coming of the Lord?' Will it be at the end of time; at the end of our lives, or should it be happening every day?

Question for the children: If you knew that someone as special as Jesus was coming to your house, just how excited would you be?

ADVENT GOSPEL ENQUIRY As part of your spiritual preparation for the coming of the Lord, why not join a friendly group of parishioners who are meeting this Tuesday at 7.30pm at the back of the transept/side chapel to discuss the Gospel for next Sunday? We hope to see you there!

BIG CLEAN OF THE CHURCH

Saturday 19th December - Do pop this date in your diary as we hope to see many of you for the Big Clean of the church, starting at 10 o'clock. Please come and help make your church sparkle. Reward a mince-pie, or even two!

FROM THE CHILDREN'S LITURGY TEAM We have decided to do as we did last year and support a local group which works with local homeless young people. They have asked for CHOCOLATE, lots and lots of chocolate to give to these youngsters. There will be a box in the vestibule until Sunday 20th December. Please help us to fill it !!

FORTHCOMING DATES FOR THE DIARY

Tue 8 Dec	7.30pm Church	Advent Gospel Enquiry
Tue 8 Dec	7.30pm St Cuthbert's	Beaumont Singers Advent Service
Wed 9 th Dec	7.30pm Church	'One in the Spirit'
Sat 12 Dec	Stoberry House, Wells 7.30pm	'A musical evening of Christmas Merriment' in aid of St Margaret's Hospice
Sat 19th Dec	10am Church	THE BIG CLEAN
Tue 18 th May	7pm St Mary's Glastonbury	Deanery Confirmation Mass

'ONE IN THE SPIRIT': Acknowledging the role of women in our parish. Wednesday 9th December at 7.30pm. This is the chance for the **men of the parish** to recognise how much the **women do to keep our community together**. We need the following:

- 1) Ten male volunteers to work on the evening. (Speak to Fr Philip or call Peter Baxter on 674234).
- 2) The men to support the costs of event. (This is probably preferable to going out and buying stuff). We'll make a retiring collection this weekend and next.
- 3) A good showing of blokes on the evening itself.

CAKE STALL for the VICTIMS of the LAKE DISTRICT FLOODS THIS SUNDAY, 6th December. Please bring cakes, biscuits, goodies of any kind, and a purse-ful of money! All monies raised will be sent to The Wainwright Society which has established a fund for the specific relief of flood victims.

SCHOOL 100 CLUB Results for October: £5: K. Sadgrove, P and J McDonald, M. Mena, M.Dahan. £100 winner- K. Sadgrove. Results for the August and September draws are on the noticeboard

Hymns

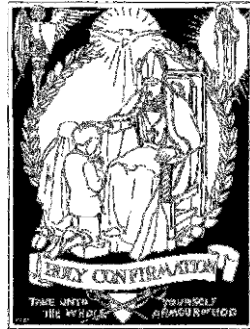
Opening hymn 10
Presentation 253
Communion 379
Recessional 582

Mass setting: see separate sheet

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia. Your words, O Lord, are spirit and life. Alleluia. Open our hearts to your word.

ATTENTION TRADCRAFT FANS There will be at our regular December Traidcraft stall on the weekend of 12/13 December for your last chance to stock up on all those essentials before Christmas

CONFIRMATION 2010 Calling all our younger teenagers! If you will be 14 (or almost) by Tuesday 18th May, you are eligible for Confirmation. This Sacrament completes Initiation and makes a person strong/firm in the faith by the gift of the Holy Spirit. It also conforms them more closely to Christ. We shall be sharing preparation with St Michael's in Shepton. Bishop Declan will celebrate a Deanery Confirmation Mass on Tuesday 18th May in St Mary's, Glastonbury. Older candidates should not exclude themselves either!! Candidates need to speak to Fr. Philip about this



CZECH CHRISTMAS Our first celebration at Christmas is on 5th December, the Eve of St Nikolaus day. On the 5th, families and especially children are visited by St Nikolaus, an Angel and a Cert, a devil. If the child has been good during the year, St Nikolaus gives him or her a present. If the child has been bad, he or she will get a rotten potato or if they have been very, very bad they will be taken away by the devil. Despite how it sounds, it is a very jolly celebration, with the streets filled with students dressed as devils, angels and St Nikolauses, getting increasingly intoxicated by the spirit of the celebrations.

In Czech, Christmas Eve is the most important day. Since this is a fast, we do not eat anything during the day. In the evening the fast is broken with carp fish and potato salad. The Christmas table is not as substantial as the Polish one, but we compensate by baking tons of different sort of biscuits, cukrovy. There are vanilla horns, aniseed rings, chocolate pralines etc, etc. And all very delicious and very delicate. On Christmas Eve, children are not visited again by St Nikolaus but get a visit by the baby Jesus. This is symbolised by one of the parents sneaking away and ringing a little bell. And miraculously the presents are under the Christmas tree.

The celebrations are ended by Midnight mass and then an attack on the fridge, hunting for meat!

CTS PAMPHLETS There is a new supply of CTS (Catholic Truth Society) pamphlets available. Please put the money in the box opposite - maked 'Pamphlets'.

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Primary Patron of our Diocese – next Tuesday 8th December

LITHUANIAN MEETING at Emmaus House, Clifton, Bristol on Sunday 20th December at 5.30 pm. If you are missing the Lithuanian language and interested in meeting other Lithuanians, you are invited for a cup of tea and a chat. Fr Petras Tverijonas from London will be with us, so Mass will be celebrated for those who wish to attend. Come and bring your friends! For more information contact Raimonda on 07940 379052 or email raimonda.ja@gmail.com

PARISH LAY VICE-CHAIRMAN Nominations are invited for this important role in the parish. The lay vice-chairman chairs meetings of the Parish Assembly (3 or 4 a year), the Pastoral Council (8 or 9 a year) and quarterly meetings of the Finance & Fabric Committee. The period of office is 3 years from next February. The parish chairman must be resident within the parish boundary. Peter Baxter has said that he is willing to stand for re-election but other nominations are welcome. The election will take place at the AGM on Saturday 6 February. Nominations, with the names of proposer and seconder, should be submitted in writing to the Secretary, Barbara Lewis, by 31 January.

SAINTS THIS WEEK **St Ambrose** was Bishop of Milan in the 4th Century. More than any other man he handed on to the Middle Ages the sense of the responsibility of office; the conception of objective justice and of law; pride in integrity and dignity. He introduced the eastern custom of singing hymns into the western church. The Bishop of Clifton's official residence in Leigh Woods is called St Ambrose.



St John Diego Cuahatlatoatzin was an Aztec Indian who received a vision of the Virgin Mary in Guadalupe Mexico. He is an important saint for those who have suffered persecution including slavery.