



St. David's Parish  
Monastery Road, Pantasaph,  
Holywell. CH8 8PE



**PARISH NEWSLETTER**  
**The Octave of Christmas**

**Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God**

**January 1, 2023**

“May the road rise up to meet you, May the wind be always at your back, May the sun shine warm upon your face And the rains fall soft upon your fields, And until we meet again, May God hold you in the palm of His hand.

**Traditional Gaelic Blessing**

**NEW YEAR PROGRAMMES**

**December 31, Saturday**

Eucharistic Adoration 3.30-4 pm

New Year Vigil Mass 4.00 pm

**January 1, Sunday**

New Year Holy Mass 10.00 am

**READINGS**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading Nm 6:22-27

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading Gal 4:4-7

Gospel Lk 2:16-21

## **Scripture Reflections**

**Scripture lessons summarized:** Today's first reading gives us, for the New Year, the beautiful Divine blessing from the book of Numbers, and the Responsorial Psalm (Ps 67) begs for that blessing. In the second reading, Paul reminds the Galatians and us that God's Son has become one of us through Mary and that it is through her son, Jesus that we have become the children of God. Today's Gospel describes how the shepherds spread to all their neighbors the Good News surrounding the birth of Jesus which the angel had revealed to them, and how Mary treasured "all these things" in her heart. The Gospel also tells us that on the day of Jesus' Circumcision, the Child received the name Jesus which had been chosen by God Himself.

**Traditional belief and Church doctrine:** We honor Mary primarily because God honoured her by choosing her to become the mother of Jesus, the Second Person of the Holy Trinity, when He took on human flesh and became man, as stated in the Bible. The angel said to Mary: *"Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a Son, and you shall call His Name Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High..."* (Lk 1:30-32).

After the Angel had received her consent to become the mother of Jesus, the Blessed Virgin *"Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! And why is this granted to me, that the Mother of my Lord should come to me?"* (Lk 1:42-43; RSV 2 Catholic) Hence, the Council of Ephesus affirmed in AD 431 that Mary was truly the Mother of God (*Theotokos*), and in AD 451, the Council of Chalcedon affirmed the Divine Motherhood of Mary as a dogma, an official doctrine of the Holy Catholic Church.

## **FEAST OF EPIPHANY**

January 6, Friday, the Feast Epiphany, is a Holyday of Obligation. The Holy Mass will be at 10.00 am.

## **HOLIDAY OF FR. PAUL PAREKKATTIL**

Fr. Paul Parekkattil will leave to India on January 5, 2023 and will be back on February 8<sup>th</sup>. In his absence Fr. Jacob Mattappillil will discharge the duties of the parish priest. Office contact number is 0741-7 49-4277.

## **FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTION**

All are welcome to the First Saturday Devotion on January 7, 2023. The programme will start at 10.00 am with praise and worship followed by preaching of the Word of God, Healing Mass, Healing Adoration, Novena to St. Padre Pio, and Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

## **CHRISTMAS COLLECTIONS**

### **December 24-25, 2022**

Gift Aid collection	52.00
Loose cash	286.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>338.00</b>

### **Christmas offering**

Gift Aid	265.00
Loose cash	620.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>885.00</b>

## **A WORD OF GRATITUDE**

With immense gratitude I thank all parishioners who took part in Christmas Friend Prayer Programme; and all those who dedicated their valuable time, resources, and talents to decorate the church, prepare the crib, and singing the carol hymns, and those who contributed generously during the Christmas offering. All these really

enhanced the solidarity, and unity among the members of the parish family.

### **MASS INTENTIONS**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Offered by</b>	<b>Intentions</b>
1		For the Parishioners
2		Mary Moffatt
3		Louise Parry
4		Emma
5	Tolentino	Tolentino- Thanksgiving
6	Carmel Jones	Christopher and Mary Glynn

### **SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION**

**Sacrament of Confession at 11.30 am on Saturday  
ON EMERGENCY ANY TIME 0741-749-4277**

### **Please Pray for our Sick**

Eliza Brizzi, Mary Toumaine, Patrick Nagle,  
Phillip Mc Greavy, Anthony Parry

### **ANNIVERSARIES (Jan1-7)**

William Fleming, Annie Cushnahan, Margaret Jane Jolley,, Sr  
Edmunda, Veronica Munro, Fr. Malchy Manley, Sr. Philomena  
Stanley, Marjorie Conway, Ronan Dunne, Christopher Glynn,  
Katherine Merriman, Kevin Cummins, Bill Bothwell, William  
Roberts, Nora Husion,

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