

Collections for last Sunday

Parish	Gift Aid	Loose	Levy	Total	At Mass
Immaculate Conception	£208.68	£84.87	£88.64	£382.19	114
All Saints	£234.00	£108.86	£118.94	£461.80	108
St. John's	£132.00	£25.21	£27.51	£184.72	36
			Total	£1028.71	258

Development Fund: Immaculate Conception £165.71 All Saints £662.00

100 CLUB NOVEMBER DRAW

1st Prize	No. 126	Andrew Davies
2nd Prize	No. 105	Bernadette Francis
3rd Prize	No. 47	Joseph Thomas

There are numbers available. Please see Sandra Wilcox

Grateful thanks to all organizers and patrons for your support. God love you.

PARISH NOTICES

GRATITUDE: We thank the Town Mayor of Tredegar, Councillor Jacqueline Thomas for visiting our parish on Tuesday 29th November 2016 to join us in the celebration of Holy Mass and for her kind donation of £225.00 towards the Maintenance and Development works of the Parish. Let us pray for her Special Intentions.

* **Defibrillator:** Thanks be to God we have finally purchased our first Defibrillator for use in our Pastoral Area. We are very grateful to all who supported and generously contributed to this project. May God richly bless you! We still have some money left and hoping that in the very near future we will have more donations to get the second. **For those who signed up for training** - this will be on Wednesday 7th December at 7pm in St John's Hall, Rhymney

* **All Saints Luncheon Club Christmas Dinner:** on Monday 5th December at 5pm

* **Immaculate Conception Christmas Raffle** Please return counterfoils by Sunday, 11th December. The draw will take place after Mass on Tuesday 13th December in the Conservatory where mince pies etc. will be provided. All welcome.

* **St Joseph's school fete** will be on Thursday 15th December at 1:30pm in the school hall. All welcome and a special visit from Father Christmas.

* **Bishop Hedley Annual Community Meal** on Thursday 15th December at 1pm. Food and drink and an afternoon of entertainment will be provided by the learners of Bishop Hedley. Please contact Robin on 07943 397511 or the school.

* **St John's Christmas Coffee Evening** will be held on Friday 16th December at 6:30pm in the Parish Hall in Rhymney. Everyone is welcome.

* **St John's Christmas Fun Night** and Raffle on Wednesday 21st December at 6:30pm



Pastoral Area of Immaculate Conception, Tredegar All Saints, Ebbw Vale and St John's, Rhymney

Parish Priest: **Fr. Edmund Neizer**

The Presbytery, Cross ways, Dukestown, Tredegar NP22 4AT

Tel: **01495 717162** (Emergency Calls only: 07964 366710)

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2nd Week of Advent Year A Mass Book p85 4th December 2016

Vigil	5:30pm	Immaculate Conception	Marion & Charles Ypres Butler; Shirley Owens; Fred & Mary Simmons
Second Sunday of Advent	9:00am	Immaculate Conception	Davie Sylve Vaughan Agnus & Stephen Wickransinge
	10:30am	All Saints	Andrea & Giuseppina Roffi RIP Lionel Lewis RIP
	5:30pm	St John's	Patricia Stephens & Mary James RIP
Monday 5th	10:00am	St John's	Comfort Ofori RIP & Martha Amoah RIP
Tuesday 6th	7:00pm	Immaculate Conception	Holy Souls
Wednesday 7th	10:00am	All Saints	Jeff Challice RIP
Thursday 8th	10:03am	All Saints	Carol Concert by All Saints School
	6:30pm	St. Joseph's	Feast of Immaculate Conception
Friday 9th	7:00pm	Immaculate Conception	Holy Souls
Saturday 10th	10:00am	All Saints	Harry Pritchard RIP
Vigil	5:30pm	Immaculate Conception	Mary & Christopher Sheehy Idris Williams & Kate Marshall
Third Sunday of Advent	9:00am	Immaculate Conception	Mavis & Brian Garrett Wedding Anniversary
	10:30am	All Saints	Bill Worthington RIP. George & Jimmy Gough RIP. Patrick Murphy RIP
	5:30pm	St John's	Beynan Morgan & Christine Eddy

Vigil Lamps

Immaculate Conception:	Our Lady	Veronica Yandle RIP
Immaculate Conception:	Sacred Heart	Pam Williams
All Saints:	Our Lady	Canon Magner RIP
All Saints:	Sacred Heart	Julia & David Rowlands RIP

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

St John's:	Monday 10:30am until 11:00am
All Saints:	Daily from 10:30am until 6:00pm
Immaculate Conception:	Friday 12 noon until 3:00pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

St John's:	Monday after 10:30am Mass and Sunday at 5pm
All Saints:	After Mass on Wednesday and Saturday
Immaculate Conception:	Before Mass on Tuesday, and Saturday at 5pm

From the CATECHISM of the CATHOLIC CHURCH

“We can therefore hope in the glory of heaven promised by God to those who love him and do his will. In every circumstance, each one of us should hope, with the grace of God, to persevere "to the end" and to obtain the joy of heaven, as God's eternal reward for the good works accomplished with the grace of Christ. In hope, the Church prays for "all men to be saved." She longs to be united with Christ, her Bridegroom, in the glory of heaven:

Hope, O my soul, hope. You know neither the day nor the hour. Watch carefully, for everything passes quickly, even though your impatience makes doubtful what is certain, and turns a very short time into a long one. Dream that the more you struggle, the more you prove the love that you bear your God, and the more you will rejoice one day with your Beloved, in a happiness and rapture that can never end.” (CCC, 1821)

GOSPEL REFLECTION (MATTHEW 3: 1-12)

One of the personalities that we encounter during the Season of Advent is John the Baptist. In today's Gospel, he calls us to repentance. His life bore witness to the message that he preached. He lived a somewhat austere life surviving on locusts and wild honey. He preached a baptism of repentance to all without mincing words. Very characteristic of John, he took a swipe at the Pharisees and the Sadducees and invited them to show their true repentance by bearing good fruits. He showed his own unworthiness compared to Jesus. Jesus' baptism is superior to his for Jesus will give the Holy Spirit to those who receive his baptism. What is still needed is repentance and bearing good fruits for there will be a time of judgement when the wheat will be separated from the chaff.

The repentance that the Baptist describes is a very decisive one - a change of heart and mind, a radical and a conscious one. For us who are already baptized, we can fan into flames our baptismal promise in order to bear the required good fruits. We know very well that John the Baptist will not mince words with us. Our repentance should be true in order to bear the good fruits as we prepare for the coming of the Lord.

Please pray for parishioners of our Pastoral Area, especially:

✠ *the sick and housebound:*

Jeanette Badham, Elise Burgess, Denise Burrows, Yvonne Brown, Molly Cini, Jim Clarke, James Cullen, Maria Davies, Maria Death, Brian Garrett, John Godfrey, Michael Gough, Margaret Griffiths, Margaret Hancock, Sally Harris, Nicola James, Gary Jones, Celia Jones, Leslie Jones, Mandy Jones, Yvonne Jones, Steve Joyce, Nina Kokkali, Mabel Kelly, Margaret Lawrence, Colin Lee, Tom Markey, Eileen Michael, Louis Moorhead, Damian Morgan, Maureen Morgan, Kieran Moseley, Mary Moseley, Des Murphy, Shirley Murphy, Adam Newbury, Brian Norman O'Leary, Ruth Phillips, Bill Pritchard, Owen Pritchard, Christopher Rich, Eileen Richards, Paul Riley, Samuel Roach, Maureen Roberts, Norman Roberts, Ivor Rolfe, Paul Roper, Mary Thomas, Alison Utting, Grant Walshe, Rachel Watkins, Neville Whitcombe, Joan Williams, Kathleen Williams, Pam Williams, Nora Worthington, Helen Yabsley, Tony Zeraschi, Debra Richards, Daniel Morgan Bennett, Raymond Titley, Jeanette Prothero, Pauline Thomas. Barbara McCarthy, Gavin Hughes, Donna Marie, Keyon Hughes, John O'Leary, Raymond Thomas Jenkins

✠ *those whose anniversary occurs at this time:*

Alice Murphy, Lionel Lewis, Veronica Crawley, Thomas Clarke, Bessie Gough. Patricia Baines, Christopher Vincent Yandle, June Arlene Heath, Eileen Mary Desmond, Rita Williams, Norah Kennedy.

✠ *Eternal Rest*

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Veronica Yandle** who passed on Friday 2nd December 2016. May she Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory.
Our prayers and sympathies go to her family.

ADVENT RETREAT 2016

Led By: Rev. Jerry Able Manomey of Sacred Heart Parish, Northampton.

Friday 9th December 6.30pm IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Introductory Talk for the Retreat.

Saturday 10th December 10am - 2.00pm ST. JOHN'S

Holy Mass/ Talks/ Adoration/ Confessions /Q&A/ Shared Lunch/ Benediction

Sunday 11th December Thanksgiving Mass at all the Parishes.

***Please keep these days open to prepare the way for the Lord.
Come, Lord Jesus Come!***

THE SOLEMNITY OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
is on Thursday 8th December 2016. **It is our Parish Feast.** Holy Mass will be at 6:30pm at St. Joseph's School followed by Refreshments.
For catering purposes, please add your names to the list in the porch.