

Dear Parishioner,

**EIN HARGLWYDDES SEREN Y MÔR
OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA
LLANDUDNO**

35 LLOYD STREET. LL30 2YA

SUNDAY 6 DECEMBER 2009
Second Sunday of Advent
*may we know Christ more clearly
love him more dearly
and follow him more nearly*

DAY	FEAST	MASS	INTENTION	DEVOTIONS AND ACTIVITIES
SAT 5th	Advent Feria	12 noon 530pm	Brenda Hartson RIP Kathleen Murray	Young People's Adoration. 10am Confessions after both Masses and 415-515pm
SUN	Advent 2C	930am	For the Parish	
MON	St Ambrose			
TUE 8th	THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION	12 noon	Jackie Davis RIP	Catechism: Years 7 and 8, 4pm Stella Maris Catechumenate 730pm, Stella Maris
WED 9th	Advent Feria	12 noon	John Goggins RIP	Infants' Nativity Play, Sch, 2pm. Welcome SVP 730pm, Stella Maris Eucharistic Adoration. 8pm-9pm
THU 10th	St John Roberts	12 noon	Paul and Elsie Goggins RIP John Guarnieri	Juniors' Nativity Play, Sch, 2pm. Welcome. Open House, 2-4pm, Stella Maris Outreach with Sister Mary Childs, 730pm St John Robert's Mass, Dolgellau, 7pm
FRI 11th	Advent Feria	12 noon	Charlotte Simhani RIP	Exposition of Bl. Sacrament from 1230—415pm 3pm Holy Hour; 4pm Benediction ORDINATION. BANGOR. 7pm (SEE INSIDE)
SAT 12th	Advent Feria	12 noon 530pm	Robert Stadnik RIP Mark Beardsall and Family	Young People's Adoration. 10am Confessions after both Masses and 415-515pm
SUN	Advent 3C	9.30am	For the Parish	Baptism Team Meeting with FrAJ after Mass

Thanks for Last Sunday's Collection: £666, (falling over £300 short of what the Parish needs just to survive—could you run your household on two thirds of what it takes?)

Thanks for Feed my Lambs:£466 (feeding some 580 starving Sudanese children for a week) Brilliant!.

The Feed my Lambs Christmas Gift Cards are available in the Sacristy

**Next Week (14th—18th) is our Deanery Advent Penitential Week.
There is a Service in each Parish Church at 730pm. Please make the effort.**

Newsletter designed by Owen Williams

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Outreach on Thursday evening was magical—but with the magic of the Holy Spirit. It was a truly beautiful experience. A mixture of meditation and reflection, the hour had both a pacifying and an illuminating effect. Sister Mary Childs, who had led an ongoing retreat for my parish in Pwllheli some twenty-odd years ago, had evidently lost none of her talent for leading such an inspiring prayer session. Based on the techniques taught by St Ignatius of Loyola in his famous Spiritual Exercises, Outreach led us through the readings of this Sunday's Mass, using imagination and silence to bring home the wonderful message of these Scripture passages. Despite the cold and miserable weather, those who attended went home warmed and renewed and eager to attend next week's session.

Sister Mary will be there every Thursday evening at 730pm to lead us through the following Sunday's liturgy in the same peaceful and inspiring way. I have every confidence that the numbers attending will grow considerably. Take a look at the leaflets that appear in the porch early every week; they will give you further insight into the workings of Outreach.

We have two exciting events happening this week. On Thursday, the opening of the celebrations marking the 400th anniversary of St John Roberts, a North Wales martyr, who was executed for his Catholic Faith. And on Friday, the Ordination to the Priesthood of Gordon Cambell-Owen at Bangor.

John Roberts was martyred for his Catholic Faith at Tyburn, London, exactly four hundred years ago on Thursday. At 6pm, the Bishop and many of the diocesan priests will celebrate Mass at Dolgellau, just down the road from Trawsfynydd, where St John Roberts was born and bred. The twenty-nine seater bus we have booked for the Mass passes through Trawsfynned on its way, having left our car park at 330pm. I hope it will be full. We expect to be back by 9pm. Please join us.

John was born and bred an Anglican, with the Anglican Church itself having only come into existence forty years before his birth. But he was converted, some say, by one of the monks of nearby Cymer Abbey, who had been dispossessed of his monastery by Henry VIII. (One of the events in this year-long celebration of the anniversary will be a diocesan Mass in the ruins of this monastery on 6 June, the Feast of Corpus Christi—which means that our celebration of First Holy Communion will be a week later, the

13th).

He trained for the Priesthood on the Continent and joined the Benedictine Order, probably as a result of the influence of the monk who had converted him to the Faith. He returned to England, where Catholic Priests were utterly banned, and was twice captured and twice banished to Europe. While he was here, he worked among the plague-ridden poor of London.

During his second exile, he spent about fourteen months in Douai where he founded and became the first Prior of a Benedictine House, originally meant for English and Welsh Benedictines who had trained abroad and who were scattered in monasteries across Europe. Douai became very famous and played an important part in the history of the Church's effort to re-establish itself in Britain after the Reformation. In the 19th Century the community moved to England and settled itself at Downside, near Bath, where the monastery still flourishes.

On his third return to England, John Roberts was captured again, this time recognised as a priest, and sentenced to death. But he escaped from the Gatehouse Prison in London and, until his next arrest a year later, continued his work as a priest with the poorest of the poor of London. He was arrested yet again in May 1609, but was exiled instead of executed at the behest of the French Ambassador.

He visited his beloved Douai Abbey and encouraged all he met. He returned to England yet again, knowing full well that if he were caught this time, death by hanging would be certain. He was arrested on 2 December, 1610, while saying Mass, and taken to Newgate Prison in his vestments. On 3 December 1610 he was tried and found guilty of being a Catholic Priest; he was sentenced to be hung, drawn behind a horse through the streets of London while still alive, and then his body to be quartered. This took place on 10 December, four hundred years ago this Thursday. What a man! What a Priest! What a truly great Catholic!

The other significant event this week is the Ordination of Gordon Cambell-Owen at Bangor Church at 7pm on Friday.

Gordon, like John Roberts, was also born and bred an Anglican. He married Marian and became a Vicar. Some years ago he and his wife converted to Catholicism and he sought permission from the Holy Father to be ordained as a Catholic Priest. This permission was granted, to his utter delight; and his dreams will be finally realised on Friday.

Gordon is an extremely personable character and so is Marian. He is Cymro Cymraeg, a Welsh-speaking Welshman, exactly what our Diocese needs at this moment. I hope many of you will attend his Ordination, which is followed by a buffet reception to which you are all cordially invited.

God bless you,

Fr Antony