

Newsletter for the octave of Christmas.



Diocese of Wrexham Registered Charity Number 700426

Our Lady Star of the Sea R.C Church, Llandudno

Served by the Missionaries of St Paul



Mass times:

Saturday : 4:30pm

Sunday : 09:30am

Friday : 12 noon

All other Masses will be celebrated privately by Father Isek.

Parish Contact details

Our Lady, Star of the Sea, 35, Lloyd Street

Llandudno, LL30 2YA

Parish Priest: Fr Agbor F. Isek, MSP: 01492 860546

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Safeguarding: Mike Hendry 01492549973

Announcements

Happy Christmas!

May you all have a wonderful Christmas, thank you all for your kindness, cards and gifts. May the joy of the new-born King enter your hearts and homes.

Reminder

The office is closed on Mondays, send all enquiries via email. Please call 01492 860546 for any emergency such as anointing.

Food bank– If anyone would like to donate, then they can do so, by placing in the plastic box next to the Presbytery, many thanks to Ronnie who kindly organised this.

Christmas Raffle

Many thanks to Elizabeth McTear for organising the Christmas raffle winning numbers are displayed in the porch.

Matthew's Gospel 12: 49-50



That same day, Jesus left the house and sat by the lakeside, but such large crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat there. The people all stood on the shore, and he told them many things in parables. He said, 'Listen, a sower went out to sow. As he sowed, some seeds fell on the edge of the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Others fell on patches of rock where they found little soil and sprang up at once, because there was no depth of earth; but as soon as the sun came up they were scorched and, not having any roots, they withered away. Others fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Others fell on rich soil and produced their crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Anyone who has ears should listen!'

Weddings and Funerals: Bereaved families and newly engaged couples, please contact the Parish office first, on these occasions, this will allow the Parish office to also make all the necessary arrangements.

In your charity please pray for our sick and housebound brothers and sisters:

Jennifer Congreve, Doreen Barker, Bob Lemon, Mary Howells, Pat Wilcox, Janice Lockwood, Stephen O'Connell, Jim Kane, Shelagh Scraggs, Jennifer Hamlett, Olive McStay, John Kelly **Sick clergy:** Fr Tony Jones, Mgr James Fealey, Fr Paschal Dormer and Cn David Eccleshare; Fr Ian Dalglish and Canon Bernard Lordan

Last weeks' Offering

Plate: £196.10

Gift Aid: £285

Thank you for your generosity!

We encourage you to join the gift aid scheme if you are able please contact 01492860546

2020

What is Christmas?

Christmas is a lovely story about the birth of the Son of the living God, whose names are Jesus (Saviour) Luke 1:31 and Emmanuel (God with us) Matthew. 1:22-23. Every year we celebrate Christmas, or the Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord on the 25th of December. Officially, though, the season begins on the Christmas Eve (vigil or late-night) Masses and concludes with the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord on January 8th; A week after the Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary on January 1st.

Reasons for Christmas:

1. God's love for the world is so much that he gave up his Son, so that everyone who trusts in him shall not be lost, but have eternal life – John 3:16. "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace" – Isaiah 9:6.

With our trust and faith in Christ, during this Christmas season, we hear the angel saying, "Do not be afraid" (Luke 2:10). The Lord is on our side; we should not fear. COVID-19 has no doubt treated us without mercy, but God's only begotten Son is the prince of peace, and Prince of hope for us all. For the child born, was not born according to the principles of biological generations. His birth was supernatural to a virgin: "The virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Emmanuel" (Isaiah 7:14).

This is why the true message of Christmas is that Eternal God came to earth in the form of a man in order to save His own creation.

2. Christmas is also celebrated with family. Where families enjoy each other's company with eating, sharing, drinking, laughter, jokes and joyous stories in the air. However, the year 2020, has dampened many families' celebrative mood because COVID-19 has taken away loved ones. With many still recovering from its effect in various health facilities. We must not forget them in our prayers. We must also thank God for the gift of so many courageous men and women from all works of live, who have continued to give of themselves, to save the lives of others. Too many, already, have paid with their lives for others. We thank them. They embodied the spirit of Christmas which is about totally pure, unconditional, irrepressible and self-denying TRUE LOVE for others. May their reward be infinite in God's own home.

3. Christmas is also a social event. Those with shelter and food should never forget that some others are homeless, sick, elderly and/or live alone, or far away from home and loved ones. We must not neglect to comfort them as best we can, in their situations.

4. Christmas is a beautiful and meaningful time of year. It is a time to reflect on the year that is concluding and a time to consider the mercies and favours of the Lord. Carols in the air, lights and elaborate decorations, quality time together with family and friends in line with thanksgiving to God. Christmas is also about giving and receiving gifts and it is about celebrating the family and friends in our lives. One of the most profound gifts to give at Christmas is the gift of the ear, to listen to a lonely person in the same way as our God the father, listened to our miserable state of sin in the world, and came to our aid by sending His Jesus to be born to save us.

I wish you all, a very happy Christmas and a healthy new year.

Living is Sharing.

Agbor Isek, MSP

Parish Priest