



St David and St Patrick's Catholic Parish

St David and St Patrick's Catholic Church,
9, Fountain Row, Barn Street,
Haverfordwest. SA61 1SX.

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church,
Church Street, Narberth.
SA67 7BH.

Parish Priest: Rev. Liam Bradley. Tel. 01437 762284

Parish Deacon: Rev. Tony Lawrence. Tel. 01437 454381

Parish email: stdavidandstpatrick@gmail.com

Website: www.stdavidandstpatrick.org

Mass times for the week ahead: 02nd - 08th January

Weekdays of Christmas liturgical year A.

Mon 10:00am at Haverfordwest

Tue 2:00pm at St Luke's Chapel, Withybush Hospital

Wed 10:00am at H'west, 7:00pm at Narberth

Thur No Mass

Fri 10:00am 1st Friday Mass

Sat 6:00pm Haverfordwest

Sun 10:00am at H'west; 5:00pm at Narberth

This time of year - the Octave of Christmas and the days before the Epiphany - contain many feast days. St Stephen, the first Martyr was celebrated on boxing day, with St John the Evangelist and St Thomas Beckett soon following. As well as individuals, the Church also celebrates communal feast days such as the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph and feast of the Holy Innocents (the children King Herod had killed in the hopes of getting rid of Jesus). This weekend sees us celebrating the feast day of Mary under her most obvious and primary title of Θεοτόκος (Theotokos) that is, "Mother of God".

HAPPY NEW YEAR The past 12 months has seen many changes in our local communities and wider world. Some look to the future with fear and apprehension, while others see the same situations as ones filled with expectation and hope. The New Year is different for all of us but, no matter how we are feeling or what our expectations are, we are given confidence because Jesus Christ the Emmanuel, the God-with-us, accompanies us on our journey through life. While we may be anxious or excited, fearful or relieved, we can face the future together and be stronger as a Church community, for we know that God is our guiding light and His grace will not let us down. I wish you all a very blessed 2017.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS My heartfelt thanks go to each and every one of you who thought of me this Christmas. For all your generous gifts and donations, not to mention the overwhelming number of cards, I am truly thankful. It is so nice to know that I am part of all your families. I will keep you all very much in my thoughts and prayers.

FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT Please keep in your prayers the late Teresa Jeffrey of Gerald Road. Her funeral service will take place at 11:30am on Wednesday 4th January at St David and St Patrick's, followed by internment at City Road Cemetery.

CHRISTMAS CRIB COLLECTION Bishop Tom has asked that any money collected from Christmas Cribs in the Diocese of Menevia, be used to support two charities. They are Missio's free school meal programme in Kenya and our own diocesan refugee fund.

WHITE FLOWER APPEAL This will take place next weekend when we turn our thoughts and minds to protecting families and unborn children who are faced with difficult decisions in intolerable circumstances. The Church always supports and promotes the value of life from conception to death, while modern culture often sees babies more as a burden than a blessing. Please support this appeal's second collection and, if any of the issues mentioned affect you personally. Please never fear seeking Fr Liam for advice and support.

Papal Prayer Intentions Many of us will say 'a prayer for the Pope's intentions' when we say the Rosary or some other formal prayers, but do we know what the Pope's prayer intentions are, with which we are associating our own pious offerings? Every year the Pope publishes a list of the things he's specifically going to pray for in the year ahead. This year Pope Francis's prayer intentions are: Jan - Christian Unity. Feb - Comfort of the Afflicted. March - Supported of Persecuted Christians. April - Young People. May - Christians in Africa. June - National Leaders. July - Lapsed Christians. Aug - Artists. Sep - Parishes. Oct - Workers and Unemployed. Nov - Christians in Asia. Dec - The Elderly. In addition Pope Francis will publish an additional prayer intention each month in response to international events and circumstances.

TERM TIME As children and teachers return to School, and as university students get ready for exams, I hope the past few days have afforded you some rest and refreshment for your continued studies. Please also hold our seminarians in your hearts as they start pastoral placements; our own Greg Beckett will be spending a month at a large residential centre near London, for those with epilepsy and associated disabilities.

WILL YOU FIND ONE MOMENT THIS WEEK TO PRAY FOR THOSE OF OUR PARISH WHO ARE ILL? Including, Annie Carter, Mercedes Davies, Elizabeth Dobson, Hannah Fennell, Peter Fowler, Bryn Hancock, Anne Harding, Janet Jenkins, Mary Philips, Indra Singh, Yolanda Servini, Teresa Thomas, Toby Williams.