



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 email: stdavidandstpatrick@gmail.com

Website: www.stdavidandstpatrick.org

Mass times for: 18th December – 23rd December.

Week 3 of Advent, Year B. Gaudete Sunday

Mon 10:00am at Narberth

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

Wed 10:0am at H-west, 7:00pm at Narberth

Thur 10:00am at Haverfordwest

Fri No Mass

Sat 6:00pm Sunday Vigil Mass at Haverfordwest.

Sun 10:00am at Haverfordwest,

5:00pm at Narberth, Sunday Evening Mass.

5:00pm at Haverfordwest, Children's Christmas

Vigil Mass. 11:30pm. Carol singing.

SAINT OF THE WEEK This week starts with Gaudete Sunday - the Sunday on which we light the rose candle and use rose vestments. The rose colour is a lighter shade than the normal violet of Advent, reflecting the lighter character of this day: Gaudete means "rejoice" and the day is named after the Introit (Entrance Antiphon) of the Mass "Rejoice in the Lord always, again I say rejoice!" (*Gaudete in Domino semper: iterum dico, Gaudete!*). This day also falls close to the 17th December, which marks out a change in our Advent focus. No longer do we use Advent as a way of preparing for the coming of Christ at the end of time, but we now prepare to once again celebrate the Christ who came to us at Christmas: the Emmanuel, the God-with-us.

Parish Building Works Welcome home to a newly decorated church! So, what has been done? In short, we've had a new porch roof, the soffits were replaced where degraded, windows have been restored, the external woodwork has been repaired and painted, external ironwork has been painted, the consecration candles have been lowered and made usable, the electrics have been replaced and old equipment taken away, the hearing-loop has been replaced and the sound system relocated, damp damage to walls has been removed and a treatment added to limit future damp, there's been a full interior repaint, the floor has been cleaned, polished and buffed, the carpets have been replaced and the altar surrounded to give it a solid presence. In addition to works in the church, the hall and sacristy have been repainted and the flagstones power-washed. At Narberth the cloakroom has been refurbished and a new boiler installed, the sacristy has been repainted and the polystyrene roof tiles replaced with a proper ceiling. Ongoing works include the need to install proper lighting in Haverfordwest and to complete the remodeling of the sacristy and porch area at Narberth.

I am so thankful for the vast army of people who have so generously given of their valuable time to help on these projects. This has been a real parish effort and I'm so proud that together we've made for ourselves a worthy church. Several have said to me how grateful they are that I've done all this work - and how wrong they are. I've done nothing more than put a stamp on the envelope to the Historic Churches Committee to get planning permission. Everything else has been done by you. I'm told that you should never thank groups of people by name as you may miss someone out. Nevertheless, there is one particular person who needs to be mentioned. Without the effort of Bill Donovan our church would not be as it is now, This parish owes him a certain mark of gratitude because he has given more than can be expected, and has gone further than even the extra mile. I think he has spent more time over the past 3 months in the parish, than he has spent in the family home: his car was on my drive as I got up in the morning and sometimes it was there when going to bed at night! Thank you Bill for all that you have done for us and thank you to all those who have been involved in cleaning, washing, moving, painting, restoring, driving, making cups of tea and so on and so on. May you all be richly blessed.

Weekday Mass Times back to normal - see above!

Christmas Mass Times Please do take a copy of the Christmas Service cards with you; there should be enough for one per family.

Christmas Choir If anyone would like to sing in the choir for Christmas Midnight Mass, there will be some rehearsals before the event. The next rehearsal is after Sunday morning Mass and then on Friday 22nd at 6:30pm.

Flower Collection At the end of Mass there will be a retiring to help decorate the church with flowers throughout the Christmas season and New Year.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL Terri Atherton, Annie Carter, Mercedes Davies, Hannah Fennell, Peter Fowler, Jeffrey Frank, Bryn Hancock, Anne Harding, Margaret Higgins, Janet Jenkins, Mary Philips, John Rees, Indra Singh, Ben Stabow, Teresa Thomas, Toby Williams, Kay Whelan.