

Readings for 2nd Sunday of Advent (Year B)

First Reading

Isaiah 40:1-5.9-11

Console my people, console them, says your God. Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her that her time of service is ended, that her sin is atoned for, that she has received from the hand of the Lord double punishment for all her crimes. A voice cries, Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord. Make a straight highway for our God across the desert. Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, let every cliff become a plain, and the ridges a valley; then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all mankind shall see it; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken. Go up on a high mountain, joyful messenger to Zion. Shout with a loud voice, joyful messenger to Jerusalem. Shout without fear, say to the towns of Judah, Here is your God. Here is the Lord coming with power, his arm subduing all things to him. The prize of his victory is with him, his trophies all go before him. He is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms, holding them against his breast and leading to their rest the mother ewes. ***The Word of the Lord.***

Ps: 84:9-14

[R]: *Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help.*

Second Reading

2 Peter 3:8-14

There is one thing, my friends, that you must never forget: that with the Lord, 'a day' can mean a thousand years, and a thousand years is like a day. The Lord is not being slow to carry out his promises, as anybody else might be called slow; but he is being patient with you all, wanting nobody to be lost and everybody to be brought to change his ways. The Day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then with a roar the sky will vanish, the elements will catch fire and fall apart, the earth and all that it contains will be burnt up. Since everything is coming to an end like this, you should be living holy and saintly lives while you wait and long for the Day of God to come, when the sky will dissolve in flames and the elements melt in the heat. What we are waiting for is what he promised: the new heavens and new earth, the place where righteousness will be at home. So then, my friends, while you are waiting, do your best to live lives without spot or stain so that he will find you at peace.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia! Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight, and all mankind shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!*

Gospel Reading

Mark 1:1-8

The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is written in the book of the prophet Isaiah: Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way. A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight, and so it was that John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. All Judaea and all the people of Jerusalem made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. John wore a garment of camel-skin, and he lived on locusts and wild honey. In the course of his preaching he said, 'Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.'

The Gospel of the Lord.



The Reminder

Sunday 4th December 2011
Second Sunday of Advent
Year B

Holy Souls' Presbytery
 Frodingham Road
 Scunthorpe
 North Lincolnshire
 DN15 7TA

Holy Souls' Catholic Church

Mass Timetable for the Week

<i>Day</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Intention</i>
Saturday 3rd December 2011 <i>St Francis Xavier</i>	9.30 am 10.30 am Polish 5.30 pm Winterton 5.30 pm	Sheila Dyson Coope RIP Polish Priest's Intentions Shaun Aitken RIP People of the Parish
Sunday 4th December 2011 <i>Second Sunday of Advent</i>	9.30 am 5.00 pm Polish 6.30 pm	James Neary RIP Polish Priest's Intentions John Waters RIP
Monday <i>Advent Feria</i>	9.00 am	Alister McPhillips RIP
Tuesday <i>Advent Feria</i>	No 9.00 am Mass 9.30 am Polish	- Polish Priest's Intentions
Wednesday <i>St Ambrose</i>	12 noon Mass	MB Intentions
Thursday - Immaculate <i>Conception of Our Lady</i>	9.00 am 9.30 am Polish	Mary & Bernard Dooley RIP Polish Priest's Intentions
Friday <i>Advent Feria</i>	9.00 am 9.30 am Polish	Liz Herbert RIP Polish Priest's Intentions
Saturday 10th December 2011 <i>Blessed Martyrs of Lincolnshire</i>	No 9.30 am Mass 10.30 am English 5.30 pm Winterton 5.30 pm	- Hetty McCaul RIP Betty Wolkowski RIP Dennis Bowman RIP
Sunday 11th December 2011 <i>Third Sunday of Advent</i>	9.30 am 5.00 pm Polish 6.30 pm	Hynes Family RIP Polish Priest's Intentions People of the Parish
Rosary	<i>20 minutes before Mass Monday to Friday</i> <i>Saturday after 10.30 am Mass</i>	
Confessions	<i>Saturday 11.00 am-12 noon; 4.30 pm-5.00 pm</i>	
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	<i>Wednesday 12.30-1.30 pm concluding with Benediction</i> <i>Saturday 4.30-5.15 pm concluding with Benediction</i>	

Parish Clergy: Canon Edward Jarosz/Rev Deacon Bernard Croft
Tel: (01724) 842197 e-mail: holySouls@btinternet.com
Parish website: www.holysouls.co.uk
Diocesan website: www.nottingham-diocese.org.uk
Polish Chaplain: Rev Wlodimierz Pajak Tel: (01724) 855698

Scunthorpe General Hospital – For the ministrations of a Catholic priest contact Fr Eddy Jarosz on (01724) 842197

Welcome

Welcome to any visitors this weekend. Please come and join us in the Parish Hall for tea and coffee after the 9.30 am Mass.

Centenary Mass

Thank you very much to all who worked so hard to make the Centenary celebration a great success. A good number of people were involved both in preparing the Church and the Hall during the day, and during the actual Mass itself. Both the Bishop and the Mayor of North Lincolnshire were very pleased with the occasion. Orders of service and prayer cards are available at the back of church.

Home from University

If you know of parishioners who will be home from university over the Christmas vacation please let Fr Eddy have their name and address as he would like to invite them to an informal social gathering early in the new year.

Carol Service

On Saturday 17 December at 3pm. A chance to recall the events of the first Christmas through carols, readings, and prayer followed by tea, coffee and mince pies in the Hall. All ages welcome. Invite your relatives, friends, and neighbours to join us. Fr Eddy hopes to finalise an order of service by next

weekend. If anyone would like to take an active part please let him know.

Diocesan Paper

We have resumed receiving this; copies of the December edition are available at the back of church (no charge).

Addresses

For your Christmas Card list:
Father John Cahill, St Peter's Church,
21 Hinckley Road, Leicester, LE3 0TA
Father Michael Moore, The Presbytery,
75 Knighton Road, Leicester, LE2 3HN

Missals

A few people have asked about getting a new People's Sunday Missal now that we are using the new translation. They are available (for example CTS publish them at £18) but before buying one please remember that in perhaps three to four years' time we will have new translations of the readings and it might be prudent to hang on to your current Missal until then. If you don't have one at all then we do have Sunday Missals on sale at £5, these contain the former translation of the Mass that is now obsolete but the texts of the readings are still good for another few years.

Holy Souls

As has been the custom over the past few years offerings from the November Holy Souls list are sent to Lindsey Lodge and this year have amounted to £400.

Weekday Mass

From this coming week Mass on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday will normally be celebrated at 9 am. One of the reasons for this change is to make it possible for parents to attend Mass after taking their children to school. **Please note** there are a couple of variations to the usual pattern of Mass this week (Tue and Sat).

Second Collection

Will be taken up next weekend for the New and Poor Parishes Fund.

Christmas Mailing

Many households should receive a letter from Fr Eddy this week together with a post card giving details of our Christmas Mass times. If you do not receive such a letter this week there

will be an opportunity to collect one next weekend together with a chance to help us update our parish database.

Fr Eddy Further Studies

During my last two years in Leicester I was studying for a MA in Interreligious Relations through De Montfort University. This week I received the news that I had successfully completed the course. I hope that I will be able to use my studies to serve the mission of the Church both in Scunthorpe and perhaps further afield. Following on from my studies Bishop Malcolm asked me to take an interest in Interreligious and Multifaith matters across the Diocese and this may mean travel and meetings away from the parish from time to time

Sick and Housebound

Fr Eddy would like to visit sick and housebound parishioners during Advent. If you are aware of anyone who would particularly welcome such a visit please let him know in good time.

Christmastime in Bethlehem

Over the coming weeks we will hear the Carol, 'O little town of Bethlehem' and imagine a town of peace and joy. I had the opportunity to visit Bethlehem during the summer and the reality is somewhat more complicated. I did meet much good will from the people of Bethlehem but also a lot of suffering and hardship too. Although the lack of a permanent peace throughout Israel and Palestine has a negative impact on the lives of all the people living there, the residents of Bethlehem seem to suffer more than most. There is a 'security wall' virtually surrounding their town, often dividing people from their families and places of work, and whereas for a tourist or pilgrim crossing the check point is a relatively minor inconvenience, for the citizens of Bethlehem it can be a major headache with long delays and sometimes a denial of permission to cross for no apparent reason. The number of pilgrims visiting Bethlehem has declined and obviously this has had an effect on the economy of the town and particularly on the Christian community which has been involved in the running of hotels, eating places, and souvenir shops. One practical way of showing our support for that community is through buying a Christmas Tree decoration which our recently confirmed young people will be selling after Masses this weekend. The cost is only £1 and as well as the financial support having a decoration from Bethlehem on your Christmas Tree will provide a tangible link with the place of Jesus' birth and with the people who live in that place today. For more information about Bethlehem see www.paxchristi.org.uk (find the Bethlehem story PowerPoint presentation).