



CAROL SERVICE: We are all invited to join the children in Years 5 & 6 and their parents in church on Wednesday 20th at 5.30 pm for a service of carols and readings.

CRIB OFFERINGS: Last year we were asked by the Bishop to consider donating our Crib Offerings to "Friends of the Holy Land", the organisation dedicated to helping the most deprived Christian families living under Israeli occupation, especially around Bethlehem. This year, matters are even worse for them and so we are asking once again, for donations at the crib to be sent again to this organisation.

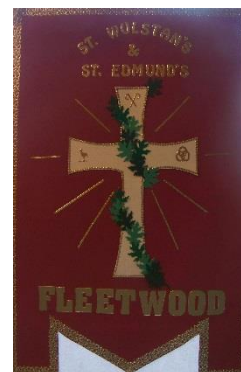
ADVENT PENITENTIAL SERVICE - Thursday 21st December: This will follow the same format as last time - a communal reflection an examination of conscience with individual absolution. John Pridmore talked often about confession being release for the soul, freeing us up for the grace of God to work powerfully in us. For those who haven't been to confession for a long time this is a really easy way to receive God's loving forgiveness and the lifting of nay burdens we've been carrying. Worth doing for the good of our souls.

PS FROM BRIAN WOOD: During the war, many British POWs were held in Changi Jail in Singapore where they were starved and mistreated by the Japanese. Because of their poor diet, some of the men suffered a very painful condition which caused the skin of their lower abdomen to peel off and fall away. When the first Red Cross parcels arrived late in the war, the British Medical Officer seized all the jars of Marmite which contained all the minerals and vitamins which would cure this condition. The men affected were told to attend at the sick bay with a spoon and were given a spoonful of Marmite and told to come tomorrow for another spoonful. Next morning, all the men turned up apart from one who arrived some minutes later, crawling on his hands and knees in great pain. The Medical Officer said, "What on earth has happened to you?" The man replied "I don't know, Sir. I was alright until I rubbed it on." Dear Jesus, please give eternal rest to all those who fought for our freedom.

REPEAT NOTICES

CHRISTMAS CHURCH CLEANING: Could anyone who can spare a little time to clean on Monday 18th come along at 9.30am, entry through the choir door and anyone who can help decorate the Church for Christmas, can they come on Friday 22nd at 9.30am Thanks so much!

MASS TIMES AFTER CHRISTMAS		
Tuesday 26 th	No Mass	
Wednesday 27 th	0930 1000	ST JOHN, APOSTLE William & Catherine Yates (Anniversary) HOLY HALF HOUR
Thursday 28 th	1800	Holy Souls
Friday 29 th	0930	ST THOMAS BECKET Justine Robinson (Anniversary)
Saturday 30 th	0900	Lancashire Infirm Clergy
Sunday 31 st	0930 - 0945 1000	THE HOLY FAMILY Confessions People of the Parish



Catholic Parish of St Wulstan's & St Edmund's

Parish Priest: Canon Alfred Hayes STB
St Wulstan's Presbytery, Poulton Road,
Fleetwood FY7 7JY
Tel: 01253 873609
Mobile. 07724850837

Email: wulstan1@sky.com
Website: www.sswulstanandedmund-fleetwood.org.uk
Twitter: @ssWulstanEdmund
Facebook: st. wulstansfleetwood

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR B ~ 17/12/23

Sunday 17 th	1000	John Lynch (RIP)
Monday 18 th	No Mass	
Tuesday 19 th	1800	Joy Warwick (LD)
Wednesday 20 th	0930 1000 1730	Deceased member of the Cuffe family Holy Half Hour CAROL SERVICE - Years 5 & 6
Thursday 21 st	0915 1830	WHOLE SCHOOL MASS Carmel Egan & Family Advent Penitential Service
Friday 22 nd	0930 10.15	John Quinn (LD) Whole School Mass - CACHS
Saturday 23 rd	0900	Jonathan Good (Anniversary)
Sunday 24 th	0930 - 0945 1000 1830 1900	4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR B Confessions Jean Sullivan (RIP) CHRISTMAS EVE VIGIL MASS CAROLS People of the Parish
Monday 25 th	0930	CHRISTMAS DAY MASS Robert Groves (Birthday Anniversary)

SUNDAY MASS IS NOW LIVESTREAMED ON YOUTUBE VIA OUR PARISH WEBSITE

The Lady Chapel is open every day from 0800-1700 for private prayer.

Confessions : Sunday 9.30 - 9.45

Collection

10th December £414.60

Attendance

141

Website - 75 Households

Keeping in Touch:

X (formerly Twitter) <https://twitter.com/ssWulstanEdmund>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/st.wulstansfleetwood/>
Instagram: St Wulstan & St Edmund



Please pray for: All the sick and housebound of our parish family and also those in care or in hospital.

ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK: Mary Earnshaw, Mary Gill, Christine Weetman, Ted Wilson, Mary Latham, Richard Hearty, Thomas Conroy, Fr Des Gallagher, Michael Kennedy, Terence Murtagh, James Walsh, Ida Pritchard, Eileen McKenna, Anthony Bird, Edward Funk, Jimmy Keane, Raymond O'Connor, Alexander Kennedy

BAPTISM ANNIVERSARIES:

Anna Rose Bowker-Harvey 21st December 2014

CHURCHES TOGETHER PRAYER CALENDAR: This week we are praying for Fleetwood & Cleveleys United Reformed Church and Trinity Baptist Church and the people of Brock Avenue, Brook Street, Fairhaven Avenue, Fairwater Close, Jones Grove, Keating Close, Maritime Street, Martindale Avenue, Ribble Road, Riversgate, The Strand and Thirlmere Avenue with the prayer: *May the peace of Christ be in their hearts and their homes.*

NEW NOTICES

BULLETIN: Please keep this bulletin for Mass times as there will be no bulletin next week.

HELPING HANDS - CHRISTMAS APPEAL: Traditionally, the SVP society have always helped less fortunate families at Christmas and 'Helping Hands', who are to continue the work of the SVP, have asked if parishioners are able to drop a Christmas donation in the box at the back of church to help with this work. They are, of course, very grateful for donations made on a weekly basis throughout the year.

A PRAYER FOR THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT:

God of all, John the Baptist came to bear witness to your light.

Fill us with faith and the courage to act upon it,
so that we may shine a light in the darkness
and share the love we have found in you.

Amen



DIOCESAN DIRECTORIES: Have now arrived and on sale at the back of church, price £7, which is a lot pricier than last year!

SUNDAY COFFEE IN GREEN HUT: Due to ill health, one of our 5 teams has reluctantly had to retire from our Coffee Rota after many years and we thank them very much for their service. It would be very much appreciated if 2 or 3 ladies or gentlemen would volunteer to make up another team to make tea and coffee after Sunday Mass once every five weeks. Please contact Maria Stansfield on Tel No 770776 if you can help.

CATHOLIC DIARIES: Are available at the repository stall, priced £3.30 (same price as last year!). There are also some calendars and gifts as well as nativity sets, especially ones for children which are reasonably priced.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES - 23rd-30th July 2024: Please join Bishop Paul Swarbrick on the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes. The Youth section will travel by coach with na evening and a day sightseeing in Paris 22nd July - 1st August 2024. For further information please check out the Diocesan Pilgrimage website lancafterlourdes.co.uk or email operationsdirector@lancafterlourdes.co.uk and for the youth email youth@lancafterlourdes.co.uk

A VIEW FROM THE PEW: as we have not received a home-grown one this week and we've got lots of space we can have the view of Matthew Plant, a visitor to our church in October, from Crewe, which will make us all feel good as we prepare for Christmas.

Dear Father Hayes,

I am writing to tell you how moved I was by attending Mass at St Wulfstan's today. I was visiting Fleetwood for the weekend. I regularly travel around the country in my campervan and often attend Mass in the places I am visiting. I would like to let you know that I am particularly inspired by my experience today.

I felt immediately uplifted by the interior of the building – it is light and airy and simple and spacious. I was struck by the beautiful harvest display. I was struck by the figure of Christ on the Cross above the altar – I so prefer the more modern images of Christ rising from the Cross rather than the traditional images of Christ impaled upon it. I was struck by the significant space given to the lovely quiet Lady Chapel, which I think is unusual in churches today.

Above all, I was struck by the warm feeling of human kinship and connection within the community this morning.

The lovely lady who greeted me recognised that I was not a local, and welcomed me. She was very sympathetic to the fact that I had forgotten my hearing aids, and went out of her way to talk to me in a way that I could hear.

Without my hearing aids, much of your humorous asides to the congregation was lost on me, but I could tell by the ripples of amusement that there was a warm rapport, and that warmed me, too.

I was very impressed by the young people who served at Mass – very reverential and well-rehearsed, even if the little candle-bearers were (endearingly) a bit lost on one occasion! The thurifer-bearer deserves a prize. As a longstanding altar-server from years ago, I know how important it is to master the art gracefully and fluently.

I was touched by the eucharistic minister who smiled shiningly throughout her service, as if the giving of the host were a source of personal joy for her. I received her blessing as if it meant something real to her and to me.

After Mass I approached the organist, because I thought, as I told him, that his work made a huge contribution to the ambience of the occasion. I am an occasional member of a choir at our church in Crewe, and leader of our primary school choir. Your organist and I had a good little chat about choral matters.

To summarise: in several ways, my attendance at Mass today was an unexpected uplifting experience. I go forward, returning to my life in Congleton and Crewe, enriched and encouraged. Thank you, and many thanks to your parishioners.