

## Third Sunday of Advent

**Entrance Antiphon:** Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say rejoice. Indeed the Lord is near..

**1st Reading:** Isaiah 35: 1-6 10

### Psalm 145

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever, who is just to all who are oppressed. It is he who gives bread to the hungry, the Lord, who sets prisoners free. . (R)

2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, who raises up those who are bowed down. The Lord, who protects the stranger and upholds the widow and orphan. . (R)

3. It is the Lord who loves the just but thwarts the path of the wicked. . The Lord will reign for ever, Zion's God, from age to age.. (R)

**2nd Reading:** James 5: 7-10

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! The spirit of the Lord has been given to me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor. Alleluia!

**Gospel:** Matthew 11: 2-11

**Communion Antiphon:**



### 3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT QUOTES:

The immense step from the babe at Bethlehem to the living, reigning triumphant Lord Jesus, returning to earth for his own people – that is the glorious truth proclaimed throughout Scripture. As the bells ring out the joys of Christmas, may we also be alert for the final trumpet that will announce his return, when we shall always be with him. (*Alan Redpath*)

**Requiems** Sadly, we ask your prayers for Elaine Roberts, whose Funeral Service will be on Wed 27th Dec 10.30am here in St Mary's) and also for Agnes Craig, both of whom died last week, May they rest in peace.

Abergele's St Teresa parish are having a **Reconciliation Service** next Wednesday at 7pm at St Teresa's church, in Abergele. All welcome.



## Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Church

119 WELLINGTON ROAD, RHYL  
DENBIGHSHIRE LL18 1LE

**3rd Sunday of Advent**  
**Gaudate Sunday** 17th December 2017

SUNDAY	10.00 am - Mass for the People
MONDAY	- no service -
TUESDAY	9.30 am - Maurice Fagan and deceased family members
WEDNESDAY	9.30 am - Seamus Corville RIP
THURSDAY	9.30 am - Joe McCormack RIP
FRIDAY	9.30 am - Deceased members Hughes and Carron family
SATURDAY	10.30 - 11.30 Holy Hour with morning prayer of the church and Sacrament of Reconciliation

SUNDAY (4th Advent) 10.00 am - Mass for the People

**Christmas Eve** 5.00 pm - Deceased members of the Bolger family  
9.00 pm - Mary Tovey RIP

**Christmas Day** 10.00 am - Mass for the People

**Sacrament of Reconciliation** Saturdays 10.30am-11.15am and 4.15-4.45pm  
**Open Office Day** Thursdays 9.00am—4.00pm

For all enquiries or sacraments see as below For **Baptism** tel  
01745354311

Please let Fr Charles know of anyone who is ill or housebound  
Who would like to receive Holy Communion at home or the **Anointing of the Sick** for healing

**Priest: Fr Charles Ramsay**  
Tel 01745 353395 email chas37free@gmail.com  
Parish website: catholicchurchrhyl.co.uk

( Webmasters: Christian Domingo, Shane Owen and Ernest Jones  
( webmaster@catholicchurchrhyl.co.uk )

**Diocese of Wrexham Registered charity No 700426**

**Parish Finances:** The church collection for Sunday, 10th December, amounted to £332.39p of which £201.29p was 'loose' and £131.00 was Gift Aid.

**Hospital Chaplains on call:**  
Glan Clwyd: Mrs. Sheila Johnson, 01745 354311 /07717182557 Llandudno Hospital: Fr Moses Amune 01492 877353 Ysbty Gwynedd; Bay Hospital: Fr Frank 01492 532670 group.

**Christmas Day Party** (from Liana Duffy of DCC Supporting People) This year once again a Christmas day celebration will take place in St. Mary's Parish Centre in Rhyl, including Christmas dinner, games, gifts, and general festivities! The only 'criteria' we ask for those coming along is that they have nowhere else to be or no one to be with on the day – in previous years we've had many attend who are homeless/vulnerably housed, and some who are just quite isolated, with no one to spend the day with. We've always had a good turnout, and we of course need to ensure there's enough food (and room!) for everyone. A big "thank you" to St Mary's parish for this great hospitality to some of the poorest in our society.

If you know someone who is interested in coming along, if you could please just whizz me a quick email: [liana.duffy@denbighshire.gov.uk](mailto:liana.duffy@denbighshire.gov.uk) (including any particular requirements they might have), that'd be great.

And while I'm here – I'm also appealing for donations of chocolate (boxes, tins and the like) and soft drinks for the day. If you would like to make a donation, could you please drop off to myself at Russell House (I'm on the ground floor, through the door next to the VisionTime monitor, and I'm straight ahead in the big corner office) by 21st December. All donations will be very gratefully received.

## Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection, you have set us free.

**Christmas Masses:**  
24th December (4th Sunday of Advent) Sunday  
Mass 10.00am

Christmas Eve  
Masses  
5.00pm and  
9.00pm

Christmas Day  
10.00am

Christmas party for  
homeless people  
11.15am Christmas Day

**Blessed Edward Jones Catholic High School** pupils are hosting a buffet reception for older people who are housebound or less mobile next Thur 21st Dec from 2pm—3.15pm. If any parishioners can help with transport or with visiting to alert people to this possibility, it would be greatly appreciated. (from Fr Charles )

Another way of helping at Christmas would be food for the **Foyd Road FOOD BANK** at Christmas. This, too, will be very well appreciated.

Apologies, as the consultation advertised for last Thursday was changed at the last moment. **Scarborough Developments**, working with **4thecommunity** are offering consultation time for the Rhyl community, especially in the West End, on this coming Tuesday 19th December from 4pm through to 8pm in the church centre.



## Weekly Guide to Daily Prayer

This third week of Advent begins with *Gaudete* (Rejoice) Sunday. Our daily prayer continues to allow us to become much more concrete about naming our desires and preparing the way for the Lord. We begin this week with joy, knowing that our celebration of all the ways our Lord comes to us is getting nearer.

In these familiar readings is an invitation to us to ask again for help, perhaps especially in dealing with our fears. We hear God's message to us via Isaiah: "Fear not. You shall not be put to shame". Fear can stop us from asking God for the very help we need in our lives. week we ask ourselves what are the will experience Advent.

In the midst of what our culture tells us should be a picture-perfect holiday season, we can step back and get in touch with our fears and ask God to help us deal with the relationships we are afraid of, the family tensions that make us apprehensive and the stress that can take us out of the spirit of Advent reflection. If we pause for just a minute, we can feel in our hearts that Jesus is saying gently to us each day: "Do not be afraid".

This is a season designed by our God to offer hope. Images from Isaiah, the prophet, offer hope to a people in the darkness and gloom of political captivity. It is all language that offers us hope to believe that the coming of Jesus into our world is all about our personal liberation from whatever captivity we are in, whatever darkness or discouragement envelopes us.

If we can put down our guard enough to imagine that this season - these four weeks - could help us know God's love for us more deeply, could help us hear about the first coming of our Lord into this world, so that we can be open to accept his coming into our hearts these days

then grace has entered in beyond the defences and Advent has begun in us. Honestly opening our hearts to the Lord, who knows us better than we know ourselves, brings about communion and a growing sense of being known, accepted and loved. Then the defences that protect us and also keep us captive, will allow grace to enter and bring new life.  
"Come, Lord Jesus, Come".

*Taken from the "Praying Advent" on the Creighton University's Online Ministries website*

## 3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT QUOTES

I don't know what your destiny will be, but one thing I do know: the only ones among you who will be really happy are those who have sought and found how to serve.  
(Albert Schweitzer)

Gratefulness is the key to a happy life that we hold in our hands, because if we are not grateful, then no matter how much we have we will not be happy -- because we will always want to have something else or something more.  
(David Steindl-Rast)

**Christmas Carols** Pupils and Staff of the guitar School are singing carols at Richmond House and at a second Care home in Mostyn today, Sunday, meeting at the parish house at 1.30pm for a 2pm start at Richmond house, Churton Rd. Any who would like to enjoy this event with us are welcome.