

## THE SORROWFUL AND IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

### ST MARY'S, RYDE & ST MICHAEL'S, BEMBRIDGE

#### REFLECTION

Advent is a season of preparation. For most people, it is about preparation for Christmas Day. For people of faith it is also about preparation for Christ's return at the end of time. Advent is also a time of new beginnings. Today we begin a new liturgical year, a new year of grace.



At this point in the year it is almost winter with shorter daylight hours, changing weather patterns, and increased busy activity as we shop, bake, clean and decorate. New seasons always call for adjustments – not just in clocks, clothing and calendars but also in the way we approach each other and the tasks of Christian living before us.

The gospel today calls us to look to the signs of the times for Christ's coming. The second reading reminds us that who and how we live today are some of the very signs we must discern. To be sure, Christ will come at the end of time with judgement and redemption. But this ought not to make us miss his many presences now with their challenge of growing in holiness and loving as he does.

The 'cares of life' often enough blind us to the genuine signs of Christ's presence and saving actions. This time of year, is filled with all kinds of distractions. The Advent season invites us to a more balanced perspective on what we are really about: continually opening ourselves to Christ's presence. Thus, Advent calls us to a deeper discernment about our very lives and this discernment is already a way to prepare for Christ's comings now and in future glory.

#### Father Steven

**Priest:** Fr Steven Restori - [srestori@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:srestori@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

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**St Mary's Church:** High Street, Ryde, PO33 2RE

**St Michael's Church:** Walls Road, Bembridge, PO35 5RA

**Safeguarding Representative:** Cecilia Rawlings 01983 613398

**Emergencies Only:** 07845 426081

## **READINGS FOR SUNDAY YEAR C**

**First Sunday of Advent** – Jer 33:14-16; 1Thes 3:12-4:2; Lk 21:25-28, 34-36.

**Second Sunday of Advent** – Bar 5:1-9; Phil 1:4-6,8-11; Lk 3:1-6

## **RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

## **PENITENTIAL ACT DURING ADVENT**

The penitential act in the Mass, formerly known as the penitential rite, may take three different forms. Many already know form A. the Confiteor, and from C, the triple invocation of Christ with the response, “Lord have mercy” or “Christ have mercy.” Form B is less well-known as we will be using it during the Advent season. It is a short dialogue between priest and people and concludes with the absolution and the singing of the Kyrie.

Priest: Have mercy on us, O Lord. People: For we have sinned against you.

Priest: Show us, O Lord, your mercy. People: And grant us your salvation.

## **ST MARY’S CHRISTMAS REPOSITORY**

The parish repository is open this weekend and will be selling Christmas Cards, Calendars, Diaries & “special Christmas Items.” Please take the opportunity to have a look at what is available and buy here to support Church Funds.

## **WALK WITH ME**

Please take a copy of this Journey of Prayer booklet for Advent & Christmas 2018 which helps us explore what it means to proclaim, witness and live the gospel.

## **BEMBRIDGE PARISH CHRISTMAS CARDS**

Volunteers are required to post the Parish Christmas cards allocated to St Michael’s church. Cards and street names can be found in the church porch.

## **IW FRANCISCAN GROUP**

The next meeting is on Monday 3 December 1400-1630, at the McAuley Centre, Newport. If you would like the opportunity to discuss faith and share time with others come along to our reflection on Hope - 'For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope' (Jeremiah 29:11). Everyone is welcome.

## **IOW PASTORAL AREA DIVINE MERCY RETREAT AND PENITENTIAL SERVICE**

December 16 2018 at Our Lady and St Wilfrid’s, 1400-1800 led by Divine Mercy Apostolate Marion Brothers. There will be opportunity for Confessions during this programme.

## **FHC PARENTS MEETING**

There will be a meeting for all Parents of children enrolled in next year’s First Communion course on Monday 17 December, 1800 in St Therese Hall, Presentation House.

## **ISLAND MARTYRS ANNIVERSARY MASS**

St. Thomas of Canterbury church, Cowes, 0930 on Saturday 15 December, followed by an Act of Remembrance at their memorial stone. This is an annual Mass on date of their beatification (1929).

## **ROSARY**

Fr Steven will be praying the rosary for all who have suffered abuse after Mass on Fridays.

## **PILGRIM STATUE HOUSE VISITS**

The sign-up sheet for 2019 is now available at the back of the church.

## **DECEMBER IS THE MONTH OF THE DIVINE INFANCY**

*During this month of December, as we look forward to Christmas, we call the Divine Infancy of Christ. This month, let the paradox of Christ's birth and childhood strike us a new. Let us pray with Mary in the words of an ancient hymn by St Ephrem the Syrian: "I am your Mother but I will give honour to you. I have engendered you, but you are older than I am. I have carried you in my womb, but you sustain me on my feet. You have been born of me like a little one, but you are as strong as a giant. The height of the heavens are filled with your majesty, and yet my womb has not been too small for you."*

Please pray for the sick and homebound of our parish community and all those in need of our prayers especially: Elizabeth Bain, Marie Bartlett, Mary Belston, Joan Chapman, Philomena Echlin, Mavis Fisher, Mary Gilbert, May Gregory, Natalie Johnston, Jean Lobb, Sue McHale, Julia Morley, Tony Obeysekere, Mary Porter, Olive Roch, Peggy Ryan, Mo Sansom, Pat Sinclair, Phillip Stillman, Peter Trafford, Liz Watling and June Yardley.

For those who have died and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

## **HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTION**

In his prayer intention for the month of December 2018, Pope Francis invites us to pray for Evangelization: In the Service of the Transmission of Faith That people, who are involved in the service and transmission of faith, may find, in their dialogue with culture, a language suited to the conditions of the present time.

**THANK YOU FOR LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTION: £883.95 incl DD/SO**

## **NEWSLETTER**

Items for the newsletter should be received by 1200 Wednesday.

Please email: [stmarysryde@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:stmarysryde@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk),

Or you may put a note through the letter box of Presentation House.



## PARISH MASS TIMES

<b>Saturday 1 December</b> 1800 St Mary's	<i>FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR C</i> Relatives and friends of Mr & Mrs Walk
<b>Sunday 2 December</b> 0915 St Michael's 1100 St Mary's	<i>FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR C</i> Pro Pop Sir Norman Echlin RIP
<b>Monday 3 December</b> 1200 St Mary's	<i>ST FRANCIS XAVIER, PRIEST, MEMORIAL</i> In memory of the Murphy & Roch family RIP
<b>Tuesday 4 December</b> 1000 St Michael's	<i>OF THE FIRST WEEK OF ADVENT</i> Mrs Hicks <b>P</b>
<b>Wednesday 5 December</b> 1200 St Mary's	<i>OF THE FIRST WEEK OF ADVENT</i> Janet Jameson RIP
<b>Friday 7 December</b> 1200 St Mary's	<i>ST AMBROSE, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH, MEMORIAL</i> Private Intention
<b>Saturday 8 December</b> 1100 St Mary's	<i>THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BVM, SOLEMNITY</i> Charlotte Elliot <b>P</b>
<b>Saturday 8 December</b> 1800 St Mary's	<i>SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR C</i> Countess of Clare <b>P</b>
<b>Sunday 9 December</b> 0915 St Michael's 1100 St Mary's	<i>SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR C</i> Edmund Randolph (father & son) <b>P</b> Pro Pop

**P:** Perpetual **F:** Foundation

## OTHER MASS TIMES

St Mary's Abbey, Quarr	1000 Sunday and Holy Days 0900 Weekdays
St Cecilia's Abbey, Ryde	1000 Sunday and Holy Days 0930 Weekdays

## EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

St Michael's	Tuesday 0900-1000
St Mary's	Friday 1000-1200

## CONFESSION/RECONCILIATION

St Mary's	Saturday 1730-1800
St Michael's	By Request