

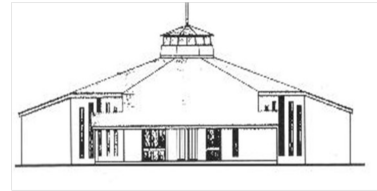
# Holy Cross Catholic Community

'A family for all cultures to nurture disciples of all ages'

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**17th December 2023 Third Sunday of Advent GAUDETE SUNDAY**

**Reading Cycles: Sundays Year B Psalter Week 3**

**COME LORD JESUS COME....**

Day and Date	Mass Time	Intention
<b>Saturday 16th December</b> <i>First Mass of Sunday</i>	<b>6.00 pm</b>	<i>Joan Mc Shane C Blessings</i> <i>Carl &amp; Julie Morris C Blessings</i>
<b>Sunday 17th December</b> <i>Third Sunday of Advent</i>	<b>10.00 am</b>	<i>Pro populo</i>
<b>Monday 18th December</b> <i>3rd Week of Advent</i>	<b>9.30am</b>	<i>Alfredo &amp; Julie C Blessings</i> <i>Paula &amp; Andrew C Blessings</i>
<b>Wednesday 20th December</b> <i>3rd Week Advent</i>	<b>7.00 pm</b>	<i>Pam &amp; Mike C Blessings</i> <i>Fr Cyril Thanksgiving</i>
<b>Thursday 21st December</b> <i>3rd Week Advent</i>	<b>9.30am</b>	<i>Gerald Mc Shane C Blessings</i> <i>Mary McCarthy C Blessings</i>
<b>Friday 22nd December</b> <i>3rd Week Advent</i>	<b>9.30am</b>	<i>Jack Kelly RIP</i> <i>Ellen Massey RIP</i>
<b>Saturday 23rd December</b> <i>3rd Week of Advent</i>	<b>12 noon</b>	<i>Josie Shepherd C Blessings</i> <i>Angela &amp; Sarah C Blessings</i>
<b>Saturday 23rd December</b> <i>First Mass of Sunday</i>	<b>6.00 pm</b>	<i>Mona C Blessings</i> <i>Jane Harris C Blessings</i>

## Recently Died

All Souls whose names are entered in our Book of Remembrance and all victims of war & violence  
Our family & friends whose anniversaries occur around this week

*Eternal rest grant unto them*  
*O Lord*  
*R. And let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in Peace. Amen*

## Pray for the Sick of the Parish

Heavenly Father, look with mercy on the sick of our parish community and help them in this time of sickness, Restore them to health, we pray, Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament for personal prayer and silent Adoration on week days 30 minutes before the Mass. Confessions on Saturdays from 11 to 11.50 am.



Advent urges us to stay awake and not sleep through the opportunities life gives us to discover God in our midst. Advent calls us to 'watch' to pay attention to the signs of God's unmistakable presence in our lives, to live expectantly not as a death sentence but as gift from God. The disciple's life is centred in such a 'watchfulness' in 'attentiveness' to the love of God in every joy and sorrow, every pain and trauma, every victory and setback before us.

Our lives are an Advent, a prelude, to the life of God to come. While confronting us with the reality that our lives are finite and fragile, these Sundays of Advent also assure us of the mercy of God, who is with us in the midst of all the struggles of our everyday Advent journey to the dwelling place of God. Advent challenges us to see our lives not as a disjointed set of experiences and circumstances but as a pilgrimage to the dwelling place of God—a journey in which every moment, every step is a new revelation of God's presence in our midst. God is both the road we travel and the destination of our pilgrimage.

Waiting is a reality of human condition. It is often in waiting that love is realised: In waiting for someone, our own everyday business becomes almost meaningless as we anticipate, worry, and prepare for his or her return. In waiting, we realise our own powerlessness, our deepest hopes and needs, and the gift of the person we are awaiting is to us. Our lives are Advents of waiting: to be healed, to make things better, to complete and move on. Our experiences of such waiting are fulfilled in the Messiah Jesus, who makes our lives whole, who brings healing to those difficult times we all experience.

**Parish Bank Details for your Offering**

Name : Gendros Parish  
A/C NO: 90264630  
Sort Code 55 -61 -20  
Last weekend Offering £ 505  
Many Thanks

Parish Hall available  
for hire.  
Please contact on  
01792586454

Hard copies of the Pastoral Letter from the Archbishop  
Mark is available at the church porch to take home

*He came for testimony, to testify to the light, so that all might  
believe through him.*

Send us too,  
like John, Lord.  
Let us be the  
sound of your voice  
crying out in the desert.  
Let our whole life be a witness to your light.  
Make it our reason for being.  
Without guile in us.  
Or dimness.  
Not any more.

*Rejoice*  
IN THE *Lord* ALWAYS.  
I WILL SAY IT AGAIN:  
*Rejoice!*  
-PHILIPPIANS 4:4



**Ministers of the Word**  
**Weekend 23rd/ 24th / 25th December**

**Saturday 6.00 pm**  
First Reading Rita  
Second Reading Mark  
Bidding Prayers Karen

**Sunday**  
First Reading Annarose  
Second Reading Steve M  
Bidding Prayers Anto

**Christmas Vigil 6pm**  
First Reading Trish  
Second Reading Karen  
Bidding Prayers Mark

**Christmas Morning 9.30 am**  
First Reading Ryan  
Second Reading Avril  
Bidding prayers Reymiele

**Church Cleaning**  
Week beginning :  
18th December Shini & Aisel  
25th December No clean  
1st January Sigi & Smitha

**Ministers—if you cannot attend or need to  
change your rota, please let us know by  
contacting Donna (07745947773)**

Your Christmas Offering envelopes are in the Church porch.  
Your Christmas Offering is your personal gift to Fr Cyril

This year our Crib Offering is for Caritas  
Menevia and Friends of the Holy Land

**Christmas Mass Times**

**Saturday 23rd First Mass of 4th Sunday of Advent at 6 pm**

**Sunday 24th 4th Sunday of Advent at 10 am**

**Sunday 24th Early Mass of Christmas ONLY for vulnerable adults at 3 pm**

**Sunday 24th Family Mass of Christmas at 6 pm**

**Monday 25th Christmas Morning Mass at 9.30am**

**Monday 25th Syro Malabar Mass at 11 am**

**Tuesday 26th St Stephen (Altar Servers Day) Mass at 11am**

**Wednesday 27th St. John, Mass at 11am**

**Thursday 28th Holy Innocents, Mass at 11am**

**Friday 29th St Thomas Becket, Mass at 11 am**

**Saturday 30th 12 noon & 6 pm Feast of The Holy Family**

**Sunday 31st Holy Family & Thanksgiving Mass at 10 am**

**New Years Day, Mary Mother of God Mass at 11 am**