

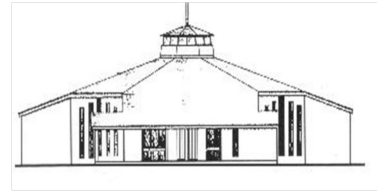
Holy Cross Catholic Community

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

Upper Kings Head Road, Gendros, Swansea, SA5 8BR Tel: 01792 586454

Email: gendros@menevia.org Website: holycrossmenevia.com

Parish Priest Fr Cyril Thadathil Email: thadathilckp@gmail.com



31st December 2023 Feast Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph
Reading Cycles: Sundays Year B Psalter Week 1

Day and Date	Mass Time	Intention	Recently Died
Saturday 30th December First Mass of Sunday	6.00 pm	Michael Pickett RIP Fr Tony Cullen RIP	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 <i>Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord</i> <i>R. And let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in Peace. Amen</i>
Sunday 31st December Holy Family	10.00 am	Salini & Emmanuel C Blessing Crudge Family C Blessings	
Monday 1st January Mary Mother of God	11.00 am	Ellen Fitzgerald RIP Steve Bevan RIP	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.
Wednesday 3rd January Most Holy name of Jesus	11.00am	Teresa Hacche B Blessings Angela Mainwaring B Blessings	
Thursday 4th January Weekday before Epiphany	11.00 am	Gerald McCarthy & Family C Blessings Tim O Sullivan & family C Blessings	
Friday 5th January Weekday before Epiphany	11.00 am	Kate & Family C Blessings Margaret & John C Blessings	
Saturday 6th January Weekday before Epiphany	12 noon	Maria Browne C Blessings Pauline Collins C Blessings	
Saturday 7th January Vigil Epiphany of the Lord	6.00 pm	Angela & Family C Blessings Karen McCarthy C Blessings	

Ministers of the Word	
Weekend 6th / 7th January	
Saturday 6pm	
<i>First Reading</i>	Shalini
<i>Second Reading</i>	Trish
<i>Bidding Prayers</i>	Luke
Sunday 10.00 am	
<i>First Reading</i>	Elisha
<i>Second Reading</i>	Dion
<i>Bidding prayers</i>	Diya
Church Cleaning	
<i>Week beginning :</i>	
1st January	Sigi & Smitha
8th January	No clean
15th January	Beena & Shiji
Ministers—if you cannot attend or need to change your rota, please let us know by contacting Donna (07745947773)	

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

O Holy Family, bless and protect all the families of the world; safeguard their unity, fidelity, integrity and dignity. Enable them to live according to God's law that they may fulfil their sublime vocation. May their lives be a reflection of yours and may they enjoy your presence forever. Amen

Holy Family, we consecrate ourselves and our family to you. May we be completely united in a love that is lasting, faithful and open to the gift of new life. Help us to grow in virtue, to forgive one another from our hearts, and to live in peace all our days. Amen



Christmas is a universal celebration of hope, commemorating the birth of Jesus Christ, who came to bring light to a world often over shadowed by darkness and despair. The holiday serves as a poignant reminder that, even in the bleakest moments hope endures, providing us with the faith that the situation will improve. Christmas challenges us to embrace a collective responsibility to make the world a better place. The question



naturally arises: how do we translate this responsibility into meaningful action, especially in a world often characterized by challenges and uncertainties? The answer lies in the simplicity of committed action—the conscious decision to be the change we wish to see in the world. It involves embodying qualities such as kindness, compassion, and empathy, reaching out with a helping hand to those in need. By cultivating a culture of care and sharing, we create an atmosphere of hope and optimism that becomes contagious, inspiring others to embark on their own journeys of positive change.

When we are confronted with seemingly insurmountable crises such as the war in Ukraine, the conflict in Gaza, and the looming climate catastrophe, hope becomes a vital and powerful force that inspires us to act and to change. As G. K. Chesterton wisely noted, “Hope means hoping when things are hopeless”. Hope is not a passive emotion that we wait for it; it is an active choice that we make. It is not a naive optimism that ignores the realities of the world; it is a courageous faith that acknowledges and confronts them. It is not a self-centred positive psychology that focuses on our own well-being; it is a compassionate empathy that cares for the well-being of others. It is not a complacent acceptance of the status quo; it is a creative resistance that challenges and transforms it.

To bring hope to a world grappling with darkness and despair, we must transcend personal hope and embrace a collective hope that motivates us to work together for the betterment of humanity. As we relive the experience of Christmas, the collective hope becomes a unifying theme, transcending differences in race, religion, or nationality. It is a time when people across the globe come together to celebrate the spirit of giving, love, and hope. The Christmas story, at its core, narrates a tale of hope - the transformative power of a small baby born in a manger that forever changed the world. In the midst of darkness, the birth of Jesus brought hope to a world yearning for a glimmer of light. As we live the message of hope of the New Born Jesus, let us remember the words of Martin Luther King, who said “ We must accept finite disappointment, but never lose infinite hope”.

MAY I WISH YOU ALL THE PEACE, JOY AND HOPE OF CHRISTMAS TOGETHER WITH A HAPPY AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR.

A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL for your love, friendship, prayers and support for me personally and your love and commitment for our parish community. You are all very much in my love and prayers especially during this Holy and Joyful season.

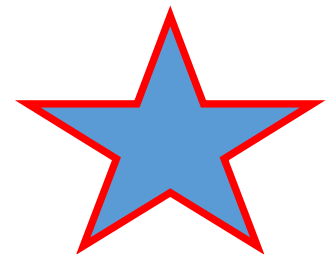
THANK YOU for your Generous Christmas Offering, gifts and wishes. HAPPY FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY TO ALL

Jesus the Incarnate Word, lead me from hate to love, from war to peace

Jesus my Friend, lead me from despair to hope, from fear to trust

Jesus my Redeemer, lead me from death to life, from darkness to light

Let peace fill our hearts, our world, our universe



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