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14 – 15 December 2019

RAISING QUESTIONS

Year A

Why did the Baptist send his urgent question from his prison cell to Jesus: "Are you the one that is to come?" Did John have doubts or second thoughts about Jesus? If John did have doubts, it was because of the peaceful way that Jesus behaved, so different from the violent revolutionary the Jews expected as their Messiah. Questions - honest searching ones - do not reveal a lack of faith; they reveal a longing for faith to be strong. Questions reveal a desire to strengthen our faith.

PRAYER BEFORE THE ADVENT WREATH

Father in heaven, Our hearts desire the warmth of your love and our minds are searching for the light of your Word. Increase our longing for Christ our Saviour and give us the strength to grow in love, that the dawn of his coming may find us rejoicing in his presence and welcoming the light of his truth; Our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you, for ever and ever, Amen

		Mass Times and	l Intentions fo	r This Week	
Saturday	14	St John of the Cross, Priest, Doctor of the Church	10.00 am	Holy Mass	Mary Ferguson & Bill Grubb
Saturday	14	THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT	6.00 pm	Holy Mass	Paul Wright (Cecilia Wright)
Sunday	15	THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT	10.00 am	Holy Mass	People of the Parish
Monday	16	Advent Feria	12 noon	Holy Mass	Special Intention (Barbara Mitchel)
Tuesday	17	Advent Feria	9.15 am	Whole School Mass IN SCHOOL	School Children and Staff
Wednesday	18	Advent Feria	9.15 am	Eucharistic Service	
Thursday	19	Advent Feria	9am 6.45pm 7.00 pm	Exposition Benediction Holy Mass	Cecily Taggart & (H OConnor)
Friday	20	Advent Feria	9.15 am	Holy Mass	Cecilia Taggart ช (H O'Connor)
Saturday	21	St Peter Canisius	10.00 am	Holy Mass	Alice Tagart ∄ (H O'Connor)
Saturday	21	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT	6.00 pm	Holy Mass	People of the Parish
Sunday	22	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT	10.00 am	Holy Mass	Members of the Murphy Family � (L Harper)

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

'Come, Lord, and save us.'



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Parish Office Opening hours this week

 Monday
 09.00 - 12.00

 Tuesday
 09.00 - 12.00

 Wednesday
 Closed

 Thursday
 Closed

 Friday
 10.00 - 13.00

SPECIAL PARISH EVENT THIS WEDNESDAY! <u>The Amazon synod</u> WHAT was it? WHY is it important? Initial answers can be found in the Parish Magazine. But that's not the whole story! To find out more, come to a joint CAFOD/One World Group meeting this Wednesday 18th December at 7.00 pm in the McEnnis Room

Fr Naz will be on leave from Thursday 26th December until Wednesday 8th January.



Thank you everyone who prayed for us while we were away. We had Lovely time with our families in the Philippines and Australia. We wish you all a very a happy Christmas **Dee & Martin**

Thank you for the generosity of our parishoners from the **Missionary Society of St Columban.** Our parish raised £359.32; this was a wonderful result from the appeal made by Fr. John Collins.

Parish Magazine The Advent issue is now available at the back of church. Be sure to get your copy.

There is one final Advent Reconciliation Service **Our Blessed Lady & St Alphonsus**, Blackmore Park: Sunday, 15th December at 3.00pm

The Diocesan Education Service are offering a oneday course on Saturday 11th January 2020 at Don Bosco House in Coleshill for aspiring and existing school leaders presently working outside the faith sector, who are interested in applying for a leadership post in a Catholic School. Please contact Charlotte Kirby <u>c.kirby@bdes.org.uk</u> to book a place.

Friday 20th December: Look out for over 1000 knitted angels that will be descending on Malvern, Barnards Green and Malvern Link bringing a message of love and blessings to the local Community.

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR MASSES				
Christmas Eve Children's Mass	5pm			
Carol singing Midnight Mass	11.30pm 12 midnight			
Christmas Day	10.00 am			
Boxing Day Feast of St Stephen	10.00 am			
New Year's Day	10.00 am			

2020 YEAR of the WORD: "The God who Speaks"

The year-long celebration will serve to commemorate two important anniversaries of Scripture's role in the life of the Church. First, 2020 marks the tenth anniversary of Pope Benefit XVI's Apostolic Exhortation, Verbum Domini. The year will also mark the 1600th anniversary of the death of St Jerome, whose Latin Vulgate translation of the Bible would serve the Western Church until the end of the last century.

Worcester Passion Play on Good Friday 10 April 2020. If you would like to be involved in this Passion Play, please see the Information packs up in the Narthex. Organisers are hoping that groups from each parish would join the project. It is necessary to register interest soon and there are many ways you may take part. For further information please see

joinin@onegoodfriday.com, facebook /Worcspassion, twitter @Worcspassion.

An update and current shortages at Malvern Hills Food Bank: Food Bank volunteers have prepared 94 Christmas Hampers. People are so kind and generous with their donations. Someone in our parish of St Joseph's left lots of advent calendars – thank you! The calendars have made some children very happy. Shortages at this time are: jars of coffee, pasta sauce, tinned meat, tinned custard, tinned potatoes, tinned peas and carrots, size 5 and size six nappies, baby wipes, men's and ladies toiletries, men's shaving cream, men's razors.

The ecumenical intention this week is for St Mary's Church, Madresfield with Newland. Revd Gary Crellin,

PLEASE PRAY FOR: The sick and housebound of St Joseph's parish, including: Anne Wiseman, Martin Burger, Monika Hill, Barbara Innes, Raymond Bree, Nicholas Ratcliff, Ellen Verdul, Jonah Willis, Ann O'Donoghue, Anna Tyack, Anne-Marie Elder, Jessica. We include all those in hospitals, nursing homes and their own homes. Our Lady, Health of the sick, pray for them.