



St. Helen's Parish

Barry, Rhoose, Sully

St Helen's Church, Wyndham Street, Barry CF63 4EL

Parish Priest: Canon Pat O'Gorman

St Helen's Presbytery, Court Road, Barry CF63 4ET

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Registered Charity No 242380

Sunday 17th December 2017

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3rd Sunday Of Advent

'A man (John) came, as a witness to speak for the light'

17th December 2017, 3rd Sunday Of Advent

Saturday	6:30pm	Moore Family
Sunday	8:30am	People Of The Parish
	10:30am	Callaghan Family

24th December 2017, 4th Sunday Of Advent

Saturday	6:30pm	People Of The Parish
Sunday	8:30am	Patryk Sliwinsky
	10:30am	Geraldine (Gerry) Sellick

25th December 2017, The Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ

Sunday (24th) <i>(First Mass of Christmas day)</i>	8:30pm 9:00pm	Carols before Mass People Of The Parish
Monday (25th)	8:30am	All Our Families & Friends
	10:30am	For All The Children

Cleaners and Counters

Church Cleaners— Anne & Shelagh.
Counters- This Week B next week C

Sanctuary Lamp: Hardy Family

St Helen's Catholic Primary School
 Foundation Phase Site 01446 732834
 St Richard Gwyn Catholic High School

Mrs Kathy Giernalczyk (Head Teacher)
 Key Stage Two Site 01446 740116
 Mr Stephen Grech (Head Teacher)

01446 729250

3rd Sunday Of Advent (Gaudete Sunday)

Weekday Masses: Mon 18th Dec – Sat 23rd Dec 2017

Monday 3rd Week Of Advent	9:00am	Peter & Eileen Lowney
Tuesday 3rd Week Of Advent	9:00am	Adoration 12 Noon—8:00pm
Wednesday 3rd Week Of Advent	9:00am	Ellan Morgan Intention
Thursday 3rd Week Of Advent	9:00am	Mary and Joseph Mathers & Family Church Open For Prayers 9:30am-5:30pm
Friday 3rd Week Of Advent	9:00am	Mary Dodds Miraculous Medal Church Open 9:30am-5:30pm
Saturday 3rd Week Of Advent	9:00am 10am-11am	Cyril Timothy Brown Confessions/ Reconciliation

Sacramental Events

Baptism Preparation- On 10th & 17th January 2018 at **7:00pm** in the **presbytery**.

First Holy Communion— Christmas break. Will resume on Wednesday 10th January.

Confirmation Preparation— Will begin on Wednesday 10th January, Parents/Guardians, sponsors and Candidates at 7:00pm in the Parish Hall

R.C.I.A— Rite Of Christian Initiation Of Adults, Christmas break. Will resume on 11th January 2018.

Dates for your Diary

†Reconciliation/Confessions

In preparation for Christmas there will be additional times for the Sacrament of Reconciliation they are as follows:

Sunday 17th December 3:00pm– 4:00pm

Wednesday 20th December 7:00pm– 8:00pm

Saturday 23rd December 10:00am– 11:00am

†Piety Stall Christmas Stock

Reminder that in the piety stall there is new stock of Christmas Cards, Diaries & Calendars. Also available are Rosary beads, Birthday cards, First Holy Communion cards, Confirmation cards and other gifts.

†Offeren Nadolig yn Gymraeg – Mass in Welsh for Christmas.

A Vigil Mass for Christmas will be celebrated in Welsh on Christmas Eve at St Teilo's Church, Old Church Road, Whitchurch, Cardiff CF14 1AD. All welcome at 4 30pm on Sunday December 24th. 'O deuwch ac addolwn'. Croeso cynnes i bawb.

†St Helen's Catholic Primary School Christmas Celebrations

Well done to Foundation Phase children for the lovely re-telling of the Christmas story. Also well done to Key Stage two who led a wonderful Christmas Liturgy in Church on Wednesday and Thursday, the story was wonderfully told with beautiful singing.

All the Children and staff should be very proud of all their hard work that went into making it a success!

†Saint Richard Gwyn Advent Service

St Richard Gwyn Catholic High, Argae lane Barry invites you to celebrate Advent at the school on Tuesday December 19th at 6:00pm when we will have an Advent reflection in words and music, followed by seasonal refreshments and Christmas music. On Wednesday 20th December our SVP group will hold our annual "Coffee and Carols" in aid of Cancer Research" This event is from 2.45pm until 3.45pm so people can get home before the dark nights of winter! There are no tickets for either event but please phone the school on 01446 729250 if you are joining us or email n.price@strichardgwyn.co.uk You will be made very Welcome!

†Ladies Circle

We are now on our Christmas Break until January. Merry Christmas and a happy new year to everyone!

†Monthly Family Prayer

Next date is 22nd December in the Lady Chapel at 2:00pm.

†Altar Servers Christmas Practice

There will be a practice for the Christmas Eve Carol Service and Mass on Friday 22nd December, 5:00pm in the Church.

†Sick And Retired Clergy Fund Collection

The amount raised last weekend for Sick and Retired Clergy fund was £697.25, Thank you very much for your kind contributions.

†Christmas Flowers

If you wish to contribute to our Christmas flowers there will be a collection after all Masses this weekend.

†Year Books

The 2018 Directory and Year Book is now available to buy at the cost of £4 at the back of the church.

†The Cathedral Christmas Carol Service

A good preparation for Christmas is the Cathedral Christmas Carol Service which will take place at St. David's Cathedral on Sunday 17th December at 3:00pm. The choir of St. John's College will lead the service and there will be a brass ensemble to enhance the festivities. Refreshments will be served in The Cornerstone following the service. All are welcome

† Thoughts For Your Consideration

Today's reading from Isaiah is a clear proclamation about justice. It reminds us that justice is essential to the spirit of God.

God wants the poor to hear glad tidings.

God wants the broken to be healed.

God wants to free those in captivity.

God wants a year of jubilee – a year of God's favour toward the poor. Our coming celebration of the birth of Christ makes no sense if we do not connect it with the challenge of the great prophets, if we do not proclaim justice and peace, if we do not connect with those who are poor or in need in our world. Christmas makes no sense if it does not involve "glad tidings to the poor ... liberty to the captives ... release to the captives."

†Third Sunday Of Advent

"Rejoice: the Lord is nigh." As Christmas draws near, the Church emphasizes the joy which should be in our hearts over all that the birth of our Saviour means for us. The great joy of Christians is to see the day drawing nigh when the Lord will come again in His glory to lead them into His kingdom. The oft-repeated Veni ("Come") of Advent is an echo not only of the prophets but also of the conclusion of the Apocalypse of St. John: "Come, Lord Jesus," the last words of the New Testament.

Today is known as Gaudete Sunday. The term Gaudete refers to the first word of the Entrance Antiphon, "Rejoice". Rose vestments are worn to emphasize our joy that Christmas is near, and we also light the rose candle on our Advent wreath.