

The Churches of Our Lady of Victories, Cinderford, St Margaret Mary, Coleford,
St Joseph, Lydney & Sacred Heart, Sedbury.
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Second Sunday of Advent (Year A-2) Sunday 8th December 2019

Mass times for Saturday 7th December & Sunday 8th December

Lydney Saturday 6 pm
Cinderford Sunday 9 am
Newent Sunday 11 am

Mass times for Saturday 14th December & Sunday 15th December

Coleford Saturday 6 pm
Cinderford Sunday 9 am
Newent Sunday 11 am

Weekday Services

Tuesday 10th Dec - 9am Mass Coleford followed by
Eucharistic Adoration 9.30 am and 11.15 am
Wednesday 11th Dec - 10 am Liturgy of the Word Newent
Thursday 12th Dec - 9.30 Mass Lydney
Friday 13th Dec - 9 am Mass Sedbury

Parish information

YEAR OF COMMUNION 2019-2020

At the beginning of 2017, Bishop Declan wrote a pastoral letter inviting us to ponder the question: what is it to be the Church for our day and our culture? Two additional questions followed: what is God calling me to be and do as a member of the Body of Christ, the Church? What is it for me to be a Catholic today?

During the Year of Mission 2018 our focus was to reflect upon the ways in which we can grow in discipleship and so become more actively effective in our mission, especially to the poor and to those on the peripheries of society.

In our Year of Prayer 2019 we have focused on the fact that in the work of evangelisation we are entirely dependent on the gift of the Holy Spirit for which we must pray unceasingly.

As we begin our Year of Communion we will focus on a Spirituality of Communion and how we are called and saved, not as individuals but as God's people. We will build upon existing ways in which parishes collaborate and will encourage the work that has already begun.

BECOME CLOSER TO GOD

We have an opportunity this advent to increase our spiritual awareness. There will be three 'Lectio Divina' sessions on Wednesday 4th, 11th, and 18th December at 2.30 - 3.30 pm. These will be held in the Church Hall at St Margaret Mary, Coleford. They are individual sessions so you may attend just one, two or three. Everyone welcome.

GIFT AID OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

Box sets of numbered envelopes for 2020 are now available at the back of the church only for Parishioners who have already signed a Gift Aid declaration.

For those not already in the Gift Aid Scheme, have you considered Gift Aiding your Offertory contributions? If you pay UK Tax it is possible for the Church to recover the Income Tax which you have paid on the amount of your contributions. This equals an additional 25p for every £1 you have donated. You must obviously ensure that the total amount of tax which is reclaimed for your annual donations does not exceed the total amount of tax which you have paid in that year.

For those who have not signed a declaration but would like to use a box, a limited quantity with unnumbered envelopes is also available. Please do not use old numbered envelopes from previous years as this causes confusion at the counting and can lead to difficulties in recording the correct amount for Tax refund claims. If you wish to know more about Gift Aid please contact Dorothy Lord who is the Covenant Secretary for both Parishes.

CONFESSIONS FOR ADVENT- OUR LADY OF VICTORIES - CINDERFORD

On Saturday 14th, there will be a Mass at 10.30am in Cinderford followed by Individual Confessions head by Fr. Paul Brandon from Churchdown.

COME AND S.E.E. TALKS

Our Lady of Lourdes, Newent is holding another selection of talks by people of God. These talks have proved inspirational and exciting hearing what God is doing in people of faiths lives. Come and S.E.E. (Spiritual Enlightenment and Encouragement) returns Wednesday 11th December 2019 7.30pm – 9pm with Fr Matt Anscombe. Come and hear his faith journey, all are welcome.

READERS AND NEW READERS

A new Readers List has been put up in St Margaret Mary, Coleford. All Readers from any of the forest churches are very welcome to put their name down for reading. We would also like to encourage other parishioners who would be interested in Reading to come forward, there is help and guidance available for this ministry. If you are interested and would like to find out more, please speak to Beverley.

CHURCH CLEANING

St Margaret Mary will be having a church clean on Wednesday 11th December at 11.30 am. If you can spare a small amount of time, please come along. All help is extremely appreciated.

SECOND COLLECTION - ST MARGARET MARY

There will be a second collection next weekend (Sat 14th Dec) for Christmas Flowers.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES - Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord

Tuesday 24th December 6.00pm, Vigil Mass – Our Lady of Victories, Cinderford
Tuesday 24th December 9.00pm, Vigil Mass – St Joseph, Lydney
Wednesday 25th December 8.00am – St Margaret Mary, Coleford
Wednesday 25th December 10.00am – Our Lady of Lourdes, Newent

Responsorial Psalm: In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fails.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights, and behold the joy which comes to you from God.