

Parishes of The Forest of Dean and Newent

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PARISH PRIEST FATHER MARTIN QUEENAN

Newsletter for the Third Sunday of Advent (Year C) - Sunday 15th December 2024

Penitential Service: Saturday 21st December at Our Lady of Victories, Cinderford at 3.30pm. Here will be a chance to make use of the Sacrament of Reconciliation before Christmas. Don't let Advent slip by without taking up that invitation of allowing the Lord to find a home in you and bringing you his mercy and love.

Christmas Offering: Traditionally, the Christmas and Easter offertory collections are the only collections given to the priest during the year and are an important way by which the parishes support the unsalaried priests of the Diocese. Envelopes, into which offerings may be placed, are available at the back of church.

Anonymous Donation: Father Martin acknowledges safe receipt of cash donation for charitable purposes.

Beyond the threshold - Saturday 18th January 2025

A day to Explore the key principles that are needed before embarking on any specific programme of catechesis. The day at St Brendan's College, Brislington, will start at 10am (9.30am refreshments) and will be led by International Speaker and Author, David Wells as our keynote speaker. In addition there will be a series of workshops to look at how to apply the principles of creating a safe space, enabling others to know who we are, what we believe and what we are like!

To register for the day please click on the Eventbrite link: <https://beyondthethreshold.eventbrite.co.uk>

Used Postage Stamps for Charity

Thank you very much for the good response to this appeal. Your continued support is still needed please. Two charities have recently been sent packages of stamps, one to the RNIB (Royal National Institute of Blind People) and the other to Support Dogs.

Please keep bringing your used stamps to church. There is a large collection box in the entrance to St Margaret Mary's, Coleford and two boxes are to be placed in the foyers of Our Lady of Victories, Cinderford and St Joseph, Lydney in the near future.

Prayer Tree - From the beginning of Advent there will be a Prayer tree at the back of the church in Our Lady of Lourdes, Newent. You will find a variety of wooden shapes in a basket next to the tree for you to write your intentions to hang on the tree.

Advent Resources

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/the-gift-of-your-presence-advent-resource/>

<https://www.godwhospeaks.uk/advent/>

<https://www.sacredspace.com>

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/cafod-advent-resources/>

<https://www.lightoftruth.uk/join> - use this link to register for an Online Retreat, 3 sessions starting on 12th December 2024, time 19:30 – 20:30

Weekday masses

Tuesday 17th December 10am – followed by Adoration until 11am - St Margaret Mary, Coleford

Wednesday 18th December 10am – Our Lady of Lourdes, Newent (tea/coffee after)

Thursday 19th December 10am – St Joseph, Lydney

Friday 20th December 10am – preceded by Rosary at 9.30am - Our Lady of Victories, Cinderford

ALL WEEKEND MASSES REMAIN UNCHANGED

On Saturdays - 6.00pm Vigil Mass in Cinderford

On Sundays - 9.00am Mass in Coleford - live streamed

- 11.00am Mass in Lydney

- 11.00am Mass in Newent

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Tuesday 24th December - 6.00pm Vigil Mass St Joseph, Lydney preceded by carols at 5.30pm

- live streamed

Wednesday 25th December - 9.00am Mass St Margaret Mary, Coleford

- live streamed

Wednesday 25th December - 10.30am Mass Our Lady of Victories, Cinderford

Wednesday 25th December - 11.00am Our Lady of Lourdes, Newent

Please remember in your prayers the house-bound and sick of the parish:

Mags Oke, Mo Blinman, Catherine Williams, and Aroon Spencer.