

St John the Evangelist

with the English Martyrs'

Sunday 28th November 2021

'Communion – Participation – Mission'

First Sunday of Advent

Parish Diary Week:

Date	Time	Feast	Pray for:
Saturday Nov 27 th	6.00pm	First Sunday of Advent SUNDAY Vigil MASS – St John's	People of the Parish
Sunday Nov 28 th	9.00am	SUNDAY MASS – St Martin's	Private Int
	11.00am	SUNDAY MASS – St John's	Thanksgiving
	3.00pm	Advent Light Workshop & Service ... of the First Week of Advent	Ss Hilda & Martin
Monday Nov 29 th	-	NO PUBLIC Prayer & Liturgy of Word <i>St Andrew</i>	-
Tuesday Nov 30 th	9.30am	Morning Mass (St John's) (A Class of school children will join us) Tea after Mass	Joe (Thanks)
	6.00pm	Parish Social Group Meeting	Presbytery
RED WEDNESDAY			
Wednesday Dec 1 st	NB Venue	... of the First Week of Advent	
	9.30am	Morning Mass (St Martin's Chapel)	Ann Ward
	7.00pm	ADVENT Prayer in St John's	St John's Church
Thursday Dec 2 nd	NB Venue	... of the First Week of Advent	
	9.30am	Morning Mass (English Martyrs') Tea after Mass	Special Intention
	6.00pm	Christmas Flower Decoration Evening	St John's Church
Friday Dec 3 rd	9.30am	St Francis Xavier Morning Mass (St John's)	Frances & Austin Keane
		... of the First Week of Advent	
Saturday Dec 4 th	10.00am	English Martyrs' Group Planning Meeting	EM Hall
	6.00pm	Second Sunday of Advent Sunday Vigil Mass (St John's)	People of the Parish
Sunday Dec 5 th	9.00am	SUNDAY MASS – St Martin's	Special Intention
	11.00am	SUNDAY MASS – St John's	Special Intention

(Mass Readings: **Sundays of Year C;** **Weekdays: ...of Advent**)

Reconciliation: If you wish to celebrate the sacrament of Reconciliation please contact Fr Peter and we can arrange a time to meet in the Presbytery at a distance (Providing neither of us has the symptoms)

Please pray for: Veronica Morris, Megan (aged 11), Louis Crowson, Christopher Brown, Pauline Cafferty, Antonio Palmer, Joanne Porter, Ann Marie Cooke, Margaret Johnston, Pat Jackson, Shelly Caine, Fr John Walsh, Alan Klews, Audrey Wallace, Maureen Brown, Ann Ward and all those who are sick.

Anniversaries: NOVEMBER 2nd James Porter, 3rd Bernard Broome, 14th Freda McGrahan, 17th Leo & Margaret McNicholas, 20th Jennifer Cassidy, Gloria Miller, 24th Kathleen Wainman, 27th Fr George Pennington; 30th Kathleen Hickey

Lately Dead : Pat Marks

Christmas Smellies: We are collecting 'washbag' things and the odd chocolate gift for young homeless people whom Streetlife work with. Please leave donations in the basket at the back of church = or ask someone to take them. Thanks.

This is

ADVENT



ADVENT is not simply time to prepare for Ch.....!
It is a time to open our selves to God's possibilities for us –
So that we will appreciate with surprise what God does!

There are special words associated with Advent: like 'Hope', 'Wonder', 'being awake', 'Repent', 'Turn round', 'Straight Roads'..... Some helpful offers:

Advent Prayer & Reflection:

In Lent we are used to Stations of the Cross – but why don't we reflect on the Advent scriptures in Advent? Each Wednesday we will have prayer and scripture reflection at 7pm in St John's church – all welcome.

Advent Light Service

This Sunday (28th November) at 3pm in St. Martin's and St Hilda's Church Hall there will be an Advent Light workshop, for all ages, followed by the Advent Light Service in Church at 4pm. All invited for this magical service of celebration and beforehand, at the workshop, to decorate your own Advent Light jar.

The Advent Mass Readings

Advent is a wonderfully hopeful time to celebrate weekday Mass with others and take in the Word of God in the scripture readings. If you miss a day please catch up with the promises God is making to us in his Word.

The Bishop's Advent Letter: is at the back of church.

First Holy Communion Preparation

If your child is year4+ and Baptised please pick up a copy of the leaflet at the back of Church which contains details of the preparations for First Forgiveness and First Holy Communion. Advent is a perfect time to be accompanying your child to Sunday Mass and they we can help you prepare your child for First Holy Communion. Please drop the form in at the presbytery so that we can order work books before Christmas. We will not be taking any new candidates for this year after the commissioning Mass in January.



Welcome to Shawn & Declan

You will (I hope) remember that Declan and Shawn are our two Gappers with CAFOD who are working at St Mary's school and living at St Wulstan's. They wend with CAFOD to the recent COP26 conference and will let us know what it was like for them at 11am Mass

Parish Social Events – this week!

Now that people are beginning to break out after lockdown many said we should look to events. Please keep in mind that the English Martyrs is keen to accept help for their people to join in:

Social Planning Group: will meet at the presbytery (That means anyone who has idea etc) Tuesday 30th November at 6.00pm.

Christmas Flower demonstration in church on Thursday 2nd December at 6.00pm.

As a result of our parish survey, we arranged for a parish get together for anyone interested in all things floral. Maureen Ashworth, one of our parishioners, will demonstrate three ideas for decorating the home for Advent and Christmas. A wreath for the door, a decoration for the mantelpiece and a centre-piece for the Christmas table. It will be about an hour and a half and will include coffee and a mince pie. All are welcome, please come and join us and bring a friend along.



Welcome to all parishioners and visitors to our Parish today and throughout the week

Parish Priest: Fr Peter J Sharrock
Parish Deacon: Rev Bill Milton

Presbytery: 98 Breck Road, FY6 7HT
Telephone: 01253 893184 (**Newish Number!**)
email: saintjohnpoulton@gmail.com
Website: www.stjohnspoulton.org.uk

Parish School: St John's Primary School:
Telephone: 01253 883690
Website:
www.stjohnscatholicprimarypoulton.co.uk/

Poulton Churches & Chapels:

St John's: 98 Breck Road, FY6 7HT
St Martin & Hilda: Fleetwood Road South FY6 7NH
English Martyrs: 154 High Cross Road, FY6 8DA

Please pray for those living in: Hadleigh Rd, Hardhorn Rd, Hardhorn Way, Harewood Close, Haworth Crescent, Hawthorn Grove, Hayfield Ave, Heaton Close, Highcross Ave, Highcross Hill, Highcross Rd, Higher Green, Hodder Way, Hodgson Place, Holts Lane, Howden Heights.

Kendal Ave, Kerslea Ave, Kevin Ave, Kinder Corner, Kingfisher Drive /The Bramblings / The Rowans, Kingfisher Mews, Kings Close, Knaresborough Close

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention November: People Who Suffer from Depression
We pray that people who suffer from depression or burn-out will find support and a light that opens them up to life.

Baptism Preparation: The next preparations for parents of children for Baptism will be:

Tuesday 16th November at 7pm &
Tuesday 23rd November at 7pm

Please take a leaflet from church.

St Oscar Romero Fund: Is our parish fund for local poor – you may see the collection after Masses.

Parish Bulletin News: If you have any items for the bulletin please contact Elaine 886219.

Electronic Bulletin: If you desire a regular electronic copy – let us know

Parish Bank Details: (Please use correct title on cheques)
Although we have two church buildings this is one parish and the parish account is a business account named:

'Parish of St John the Evangelist – Poulton le Fylde'
Please could you make cheques out to this title only as banks are becoming less imaginative!

Acc Number: 71335227
Sort Code: 40-27-02

(This information has worked online since 24.02.2021)

Fleetwood Foodbank: Thanks for your continued delivery of food for the foodbank – they are very appreciative. If you know of people who need help – or have food to send yourself, please phone: **07821 498161** (New number)

Parish WhatsApp Group: Emily Halliwell (as part of the above group) has set up a closed parish WhatsApp account. I have finally been beaten into joining but am a bit of a WhatsApp virgin as yet! Emily says: "My number is 07969643648 if you want to be added just reply with your mobile number or text me."

Ss Hilda & Martin's Social Committee: Has decided not to hold a Christmas Fayre this year for safety's sake. However they will hold a Christmas Raffle. The Joint Committee has agreed to provide a first prize of £100 and ask for donations from the Carlton Community and both congregations. The draw will be on 11th December. Could you declare items for prizes but hang on to them for now as there is a problem with storage. Collection for Food and chocolate hamper as well.

COVID Safety and comfort in Church:

Whilst many of us are feeling more confident about getting out and coming to church after lockdown please remember that some people are still a bit nervous. It does help them if others wear a mask (I think most of us would rather not – but think of others. If you sit behind people in church please avoid kneeling close to them when they are sitting. If you have these concerns could I remind you that the seats at the front of church are clear of people behind. Thanks.

"I found this"

Thanks to those who have signed up for this already!

Many of you have found the 'Virus Times' edifying for faith development over Lockdown – thanks for your feedback.

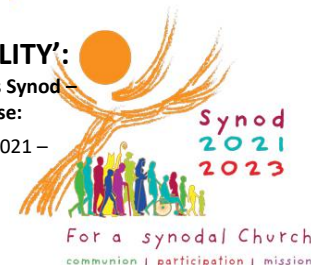
I wondered if any of you would like to sign up for an 'occasional' email of news, thoughts, things which come across my desk, reading or web-browsing which I thought you might be interested in? I thought this could be a 'not too often' email under the title "I found this"?

Please ponder this and reply if you wish to be put on the list for future 'ponderings'. Thanks, Fr Peter.

'SYNODALITY':

Pope Francis's Synod and our diocese:

17th October 2021 –
April 2022



Synodality: The Diocesan papers following Pope Francis' call for us to walk together sharing faith have been released – but a bit too near to the first Sunday of Advent – so we will look at them again. Actually Advent would be a good time to address them together.

Applications to St Aidan's School:

When families apply to St Aidan's school they are expected to be practicing Christians. The school writes to their minister to ask then whether they have been at church at least every other week. I presume they let you know this?

Tables for Sunday Tea at St Martin's:

Marie-Carmen has asked that some strong people (of any gender) could offer to put up tables for them when the week arrives. Could you speak to her?

St Martin's & St Hilda's Chapel

Christmas Raffle Tickets

As we know the social group at Ss Hilda & Martin have decided not to have their usual Christmas Fayre this year due to COVID, but are to have a raffle. The tickets are available now and should be with us soon.

The gathering for the pulling of the Raffle will be on Saturday 11th December at 11.30am in Ss Martin & Hilda's Hall – it's a social event, not just a Raffle!



Parish Diary:

28 th November	First Sunday of ADVENT	11 th December	SsM&H Christmas Raffle Event
30 th November	Parish Social Planning at 6.00pm	12 th December	Third Sunday of Advent
1 st December	Advent Prayer & Reflection (St J's)	15 th December	Advent Prayer & Reflection (St J's)
2 nd December	Christmas flower demonstration at 6pm in St John's church	17 th December	School Closes for the Feast
4 th December	EM Parishioner's Meeting 10am	19 th December	Fourth Sunday of Advent
5 th December	Second Sunday of Advent	21 st December	SsM&H Christmas Carols
8 th December	Advent Prayer & Reflection (St J's)	22 nd December	Advent Prayer & Reflection (St J's)
		25th December	Christmas Day is a Saturday!!!
		19 th January	Reflection on Epiphany & Baptism of the Lord

Malawi Christmas fundraising

(EM's has been helping with this project for some years – Ann Quirk has news:)

Fr Alfred has asked us to help install solar lighting at Lihaka Primary School: it will cost about £3000. As in previous years, Gift Cards (for those of your friends who already have everything) are now available for a donation of £10 or £20. Please contact Ann Quirk or email englishmartyrspoulton@gmail.com with Malawi in the subject line.

Please keep praying for Malawi especially as the vital rains should be starting now. Zikomo kwambiri - thank you so much.

Iraqi Latin Refugees in Jordan:

Thank you. We have sent £3,000 this week from our parish and Keswick to Sr Sara to be a Christmas help to our Iraqi friends in Jordan – I'm sure we will hear from her.

As the air routes to Australia are beginning to be opened up it is hoped that those refugees who have been offered help there will be able to go soon.

The Epiphany & the Baptism of the Lord

One of the great traditions of the English Martyr's parish is that they have had the prayerful presence of Martin Bennet with them at various times of the year. Many in the parish (and around) have appreciated his scripture, prayer and knowledge of the faith.

To ensure we can all gain from this the parish has invited him to come after Christmas so that we can all benefit – especially since so many called for more adult education in faith and scripture after the lockdown period!

Martin is hoping to come over on the **19th January** to English Martyr's Hall at **2.00 pm** for all those who can make use of him. Please put this in your diary now – we will need some spiritual guidance after the excitement of the feast!

