

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans.

Jesus Christ, descendant of David, Son of God.

From Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus who has been called to be an apostle, and specially chosen to preach the Good News that God promised long ago through his prophets in the scriptures.

This news is about the Son of God who, according to the human nature he took was a descendant of David: it is about Jesus Christ our Lord who, in the order of the spirit, the spirit of holiness that was in him, was proclaimed Son of God in all his power through his resurrection from the dead.

Through him we received grace and our apostolic mission to preach the obedience of faith to all pagan nations in honour of his name. You are one of these nations, and by his call belong to Jesus Christ. To you all, then, who are God's beloved in Rome, called to be saints, may God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send grace and peace.

This is the word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia.

'The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel, a name which means 'God-is-with-us'.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus is born of Mary who was betrothed to Joseph, son of David.

This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but before they came to live together she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph; being a man of honour and wanting to spare her publicity, decided to divorce her informally. He had made up his mind to do this when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.' Now all this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet.

*'The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son
and they will call him 'Emmanuel,'
a name which means 'God-is-with-us'.*

When Joseph woke up he did what the angel of the Lord had told him to do: he took his wife to his home.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



THE PARISHES OF
**THE CATHEDRAL, BLACKPOOL,
THE GLEN, BALLYVOLANE
& SUNDAY'S WELL**
Newsletter



December 22 2019
Fourth Sunday of Advent

FIRST READING

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

The maiden is with child..

The Lord spoke to Ahaz and said, 'Ask the Lord your God for a sign for yourself coming either from the depths of Sheol or from the heights above'. 'No,' Ahaz answered 'I will not put the Lord to the test.' Then Isaiah said:

Listen now, House of David:
are you not satisfied with trying the patience of men
without trying the patience of my God, too?
The Lord himself, therefore,
will give you a sign.
It is this: the maiden is with child
and will soon give birth to a son
whom she will call 'Immanuel, '
a name which means "God is with us."

This is the word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R: Let the Lord enter! He is the king of glory.

1. The Lord's is the earth and its fullness,
the world and all its peoples.
It is he who set it on the seas;
on the waters he made it firm. **R.** seek the face of the God of Jacob. **R.**
2. Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?
Who shall stand in his holy place?
The man with clean hands and pure heart,
who desires not worthless things. **R.**
3. He shall receive blessings from the Lord
and reward from the God who saves him.
Such are the men who seek him,

SACRISTY / OFFICE HOURS:

Blackpool: 021 4300518
 Tuesday 10am to 12 noon
 Wednesday 9am to 12 noon
 Thursday 11am to 1 2noon
 Friday 9am to 10.30am
 Sunday 11am to 12 noon

Cathedral: 021 4304325
 Sacristy: 021 4210717

Cathedral Parish Office Hours:

Monday: 8.30am – 4pm
 Tuesday: 8.30am – 4.30pm
 Wednesday: 8.30am – 4.30pm
 Thursday: 8.30am – 4pm
 Friday: 8.30am to 4.30pm

Last weeks' Offertory Collection from the four churches of the parishes came to:

Cathedral: € 1,370
 Blackpool: € 1,042
 The Glen: € 510
 Ballyvolane: € 840

Sincere thanks for your generous support.

Last weeks' Maintenance / Renovation Fund Collection from the four churches of the parish came to:

Cathedral: € 853
 Blackpool: € 790
 The Glen: € 355
 Ballyvolane: € 600

Sincere thanks for your generous support.

WE REMEMBER AND PRAY FOR THOSE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Martin Dorney
 Thomas Martin
 Finbarr Murphy
 Noel Molloy
 Michael Corbert
 Sheila Jordan

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Celebrant's Introduction: In Jesus, God is truly with us. Gathered in his presence, we confidently raise our hearts in prayer.

Intercessions:

- As we come close to the season of Christmas, let us pray for the Church throughout the world, that this may be for her a season of God's favour and a time of renewal
Lord, hear us.....
- May the Lord bless our various preparations for the celebration of Christmas. May we keep Christ at the centre, and may we prepare our hearts to welcome him anew.
Lord, hear us.....

Christmas Mass Schedule

CATHEDRAL	BLACKPOOL	THE GLEN	BALLYVOLANE
Christmas Eve Night: 5.00pm: Music 9.00pm: Cathedral Choir with Fiona O'Reilly Christmas Day: 11.30am: Cathedral Choir	Christmas Eve Night: 6.00pm: Christmas Nativity by Blackpool Youth Club 9.00pm: Church Choir Christmas Day: 9.00am: Grace Fitzgerald and Tom Doyle 12noon: Church Choir	Christmas Eve Night: 7.00pm: Soloist Christmas Day: 10.00am: Glen Rovers Choir	Christmas Eve Night: 7.30pm: Church Choir Christmas Day: 11.00am: Folk Group
NORTH PRESENTATION CONVENT Christmas Day: 10am			

Penitential Services will be held on the 21st/22nd December in the Cathedral after the 11.30am & 5.30pm Masses and in the Church of the Annunciation after the 6pm Vigil and 12noon Masses.

Weekly Masses after Christmas Day

CATHEDRAL	BLACKPOOL	THE GLEN	BALLYVOLANE
St. Stephen's Day 10.15am	St. Stephen's Day 11.00am		
Friday 27th Dec. 10.15am	Friday 27th Dec. 11.00am		
Saturday 28th Dec. 5.00pm Vigil	Saturday 28th Dec. 6.00pm Vigil	Saturday 28th Dec. 9.45am	Saturday 28th Dec. 6.00pm Vigil
Sunday 29th Dec. 11.30am 5.30pm	Saturday 29th Dec. 12 noon	Sunday 29th Dec. 10.00am	Sunday 29th Dec. 11.00am
Sunday 29th Dec. North Presentation Convent: 9.00am			

- We pray for the poor of this world, the victims of war, civil unrest, famine and natural disaster. May our solidarity with them impact on how we celebrate Christmas.
Lord, hear us.....
- We pray for those who are mourning, and who will be aware of an empty chair at their table this Christmas. May their faith be their consolation, and eternal life for their loved ones be their hope.
Lord, hear us.....

Celebrant: May our lives as well as our words give you glory, almighty Father, as we make these and all our prayers. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

CATHEDRAL

Saturday 21st December 5pm
 (Vigil):
 Eileen Walsh R.I.P
 Raymond Hippeli 1st Anniversary
 David Murphy R.I.P.

Sunday 22nd December
 11.30am:
 Maurice, Bill and May O'Connell R.I.P.
 Mary & Jerry Kelly R.I.P.
 Jack Feehily R.I.P.

Sunday 22nd December
 5.30pm:
 Noonan Family
 Barry Family
 Hayes Family

Monday 23rd December
 10.15a.m:
 Christmas Triduum Mass

Tuesday 24th December
 10.15a.m:
 Missa Pro Populo

Tuesday 24th December
 Christmas Eve Night 5pm
 Christmas Triduum Mass

Tuesday 24th December
 Christmas Eve Night 9pm
 Christmas Triduum Mass

Wednesday 25th December
 Christmas Day 11.30a.m:
 Christmas Triduum Mass

Thursday 26th December
 St Stephen's Day 10.15a.m:
 Thomas & Catherine Coughlan R.I.P.

Friday 27th December
 10.15a.m:
 Golden Book of Remembrance

NORTH PRESENTATION

CONVENT

Sunday 22nd December 9a.m.
 John O'Sullivan and Michael & Nora Hegarty

Wednesday 25th December 10am
 Christmas Day
 No Intention

CHURCH OF THE ANNUNCIATION

Saturday 21st December 6pm:
 Rita O'Neill 2nd Anniversary
 Feeney Family RIP
 Alex and Ger Manning RIP
 Julia O'Neill and Chrissie O'Sullivan RIP

Sunday 22nd December 12 noon:
 Patrick Jones RIP
 Rene Culhane RIP
 James Murphy RIP

Monday 23rd December 9.45am:
 Thomas and Mary Barry and Family, Harry McCarthy RIP

Tuesday 24th December 6pm
 Vigil Christmas Eve:
 Christmas Novena Mass

Tuesday 24th December
 Christmas Eve Night 9pm:
 Christmas Novena Mass

Wednesday 25th December
 Christmas Day 9am:
 Christmas Novena Mass

Wednesday 25th December
 Christmas Day 12noon:
 Christmas Novena Mass.

Thursday 26th December 11am:
 Christmas Novena Mass

Friday 27th December 11am:
 Shared Mass

ST OLIVER'S, BALLYVOLANE

Saturday 21st December 6pm:
 Susan Walsh RIP
 Thomas and Margaret Jones RIP
 Trevor Hosford Birthday
 Remembrance RIP

Sunday 22nd December 11am:
 John Ahern RIP
 Thomas O'Callaghan RIP
 Margaret Wallace RIP

Tuesday 24th December 9am:
 No Intention

Tuesday 24th December
 Christmas Eve Night 7.30pm:
 Christmas Novena Mass

Wednesday 25th December
 Christmas Day 11am:
 Christmas Novena Mass

ST. BRENDAN'S CHURCH THE GLEN

Sunday 22nd December 10am:
 William & Lorraine Loveridge R.I.P.
 Alec Morrissey R.I.P.
 Jim Faye R.I.P.

Monday 23rd December 10am:
 Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion

Christmas Eve 24th December 7pm:
 Christmas Novena Mass

Christmas Day 25th December 10am:
 Christmas Novena Mass

Sat 28th Dec 9.45am:
 Jimmy Nodwell
 Birthday Remembrance

Prayer for the lighting of the Fourth Advent Candle

Heavenly Father you reveal to us the coming of your Son by the message of the Angel Gabriel. We now look forward to his coming again in glory. Fill us with your love and lead us to the happiness of your eternal home with Jesus and the Holy Spirit. Through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.

BLACKPOOL ALTAR SOCIETY Christmas Donations for flowers gratefully received.

AUTUMN DUES ENVELOPES are available in all the Churches of the Parishes.