

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### **HOLY HOUR**

This Monday 9th December 7pm—8pm

### **ADVENT DISCUSSION**

Thursdays 5th, 12th and 19th December at 7pm in Church  
**The Nativity through the eyes of Matthew, Luke and John.  
What about Mark?**

Do come and join in the discussion as we prepare for Christmas  
If you have a Bible or New Testament please do bring it with you.

### **ST MICHAEL'S SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION**

With individual confession

**16TH DECEMBER AT 7PM**

### **YOUTH MASS**

Every third Sunday of the month during term time

### **THE BIG CLEAN**

This **SATURDAY 7TH DECEMBER, 9.30AM** onwards  
for the cleaning of the inside of the church before Christmas.  
Please join us for 30mins - 2hours to get the Church ready for  
Christmas. Sign up sheet now available at the back of Church

### **THE CHRISTMAS FLOWER ARRANGING WORKSHOP**

IS NOW FULL

### **BISHOPSWOOD, CAROL SERVICE 10.30AM**

FRIDAY 13TH DECEMBER

**ST MARTIN'S CAROL SERVICE WILL NOW BE HELD AT ST MARTIN'S**

## **Thought for the week Second Sunday of Advent 8th December, 2024**

Advent is a time of preparation and expectation. Everyone is getting ready for Christmas — shopping and decorating, baking and cleaning. The shops are lit up and filled with goods that the TV adverts try to convince us are indispensable to our enjoyment of the festive season.

There is a danger that we are so busy with the material preparations that we lose sight of the real reason for our activity: the Word made flesh coming to dwell among us.

Let us try to keep Advent a season of waiting and longing, working to become closer to the person that we are meant to be, preparing a place in our hearts where we can welcome our Redeemer.

In our shopping and baking, let us remember to purchase and prepare something for the poor. When we clean our homes, let us distribute some of our possessions to those who lack many necessities.

When the work is done and we celebrate Christ's birth, let us be thankful for the time spent with our friends and family but also remembering those that may be on their own or far from loved ones.

A Parishioner



**We ask you please, to pray for the following people who need your prayers:**

Please pray for Rogan, (Peter Halter's sister Jean's great grandson) whose Leukaemia has returned and very sadly they say nothing more can be done. Prayers are needed more than ever now. Please also pray for Jean herself who has macular degeneration.

Please pray for Mary Edwards who is awaiting knee surgery and for her son Ian who is unwell.

Thank you for your continued prayers for Robert Brooks who is now undergoing chemotherapy and awaiting further blood test results

Thank you for all your prayers for Joe Bunton who is transitioning into a care home and continues to need our prayers as he lives with Tuberous Sclerosis, Epilepsy and Autism with Severe learning difficulties. These conditions present huge challenges to his life.

Please Pray for Maria McNamara's niece who is undergoing chemotherapy. Her name is Alison Flynn née McNamara.

Please pray for Savanna Clark (aged 3 with eye trouble).

Please pray for Isobel Messenger (Vera Bird's great granddaughter) she has now had her operation to improve her hearing.

Please pray for Mary Hagger.

Please pray for Vivien Kear (Krissie's friend) who has cancer.

Please pray for Vera Bird's Great, Great Grandson Harry.

Prayers please for Antonita's nephew Peppin who has long covid.

Please pray for the children and staff at St Martin's school

Please pray for our parishioners in St Luke's and Abbeycrest Nursing Homes



**Please also remember in your prayers those whose anniversaries occur at this time including;**

David Bourne, Roger Carroll, Mr and Mrs Myers, Joan Woodward, Lesley Farquhar, Gwen Payne, John and Fiona Gallagher, Kitty and Henry Jackubizyn, Sheila Mary Westcar, Fr John Ellis, Sophia Graham, Mat and Chris Fagen and family, Rita and Owen Walter, Sue Carey, Sophia Carikas, Angela Fung, Joanne Webb, Stanislaus Rozdolski, Anna Maria Dias, Margaret Skevington, Paquita Wettenhall.