



THE PARISH OF OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP, CARLISLE

SUNDAY 18TH DECEMBER 2022

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (A)

MASSES THIS WEEK:

Liturgical Year A / Psalter Wk 4

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

4pm Vigil (OLSW) Holy Souls
6pm Vigil (St B) Paulina RIP
9am (CtK) Ray & Alan Stevens RIP
9.30am (St B) People of the Parish
10am (OLSJ) Ray Morton RIP
11am (St A) DM's of Cox & Montgomery Families
11am (St MM) Tom Caples RIP (Anniv)
1pm (OLSJ) Mass in Polish
4.30pm (OLSJ) Paulina & Miroslav RIP

Monday 19th December

12noon (OLSJ) Larry Poland RIP (Anniv)
7pm (St B) Queen Elizabeth II RIP

Tuesday 20th December

10am (CtK) Private Intention (M.C)
12noon (OLSJ) John & Anne Poland RIP

Wednesday 21st December

12noon (OLSJ) David Nugent RIP
7pm (St A) Kevin Whelan Ints

Thursday 22nd December

10am (OLSW) Special Intention (J.C)
12noon (OLSJ) 'Pilgrim Paul'

Friday 23rd December

12noon (OLSJ) Mariusz Bednarczyk RIP
7pm (St MM) Hugh McQuillian RIP

Saturday (24th) CHRISTMAS EVE

10am (OLSW) TLM Teodora Grobelna RIP (1st Anniv)
12noon (OLSJ) Private Intention
4pm (St A) Sean Michael Fehrenbach RIP
6pm (St MM) Tom Caples RIP
6pm (St B) People of the Parish
6.30pm (OLSJ) Mass in Polish
12am (OLSJ) *Midnight* Andrew Harvey RIP

Sun: CHRISTMAS DAY

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

9am (CtK) Maria Anne Reid RIP
9.30am (St B) Clergy of OLPH, Carlisle
10am (OLSJ) Vera Finlinson RIP
11am (St A) Derek Young RIP
11am (St MM) Tadeusz Nieradko RIP
1pm (OLSJ) Mass in Polish

*Please note that Mass intentions have been assigned for the rest of December 2022. Masses are available from February 2023, do expect at least a eight week wait for an intention on a Sunday.

HUMANITY'S RELUCTANCE – GOD'S PERSISTANCE

Ahaz (in the First Reading) reigned as King of Judah 732BC – 716BC. During this time the Assyrian empire (its capital was Nineveh, located near Mosul in modern Iraq) was expanding to the west. The Assyrian armies conquered and destroyed anyone who stood in their way. The King of Damascus and the King of Samaria turned to Ahaz to form a coalition to fight off the Assyrians. Ahaz refused to join them. Angered by this rejection, they marched against Ahaz instead, threatening to conquer Jerusalem the capital city of Judah. Ahaz was gripped with fear and looked for protection against Damascus and Samaria. The prophet Isaiah counselled Ahaz to trust in God who would protect Jerusalem. Isaiah even suggested that Ahaz could ask for a sign from heaven to reassure and encourage him. Ahaz was more than hesitant.

Ahaz refused to accept any signs from God because he thought he had a better plan. Ahaz turned to Assyria and asked the invaders for help. They readily responded and provided assistance so that Ahaz and Jerusalem were preserved from the attack of Samaria and Damascus. But from then on Ahaz, Judah and Jerusalem were subject to the Assyrians who treated Judah as a conquered state. It was as if they had successfully fled the lion but run into the arms of a bear.

After such a rejection, we might think that God would simply say: it serves you right. But in fact, by the prophet Isaiah God gave the sign which Ahaz had refused to request. Deliverance would come through a child named *Emmanuel*. The name means: God-with-us. Even though Ahaz abandoned God, God did not abandon Ahaz. God is with us always. We may give up on God, He never gives up on us.

Confessions in the week before Christmas:

Every day 6pm-6.50pm in one of the churches:

Mon 19th December: St Bede's

Tues 20th Our Lady & St. Wilfrid

Wed 21st: St Augustine's

Thurs 22nd Christ the King

Fri 23rd St Margaret Mary's

Every day after midday Mass at Our Lady & St. Joseph's

Priests of the Parish: Canon Luiz Ruscillo,
Fr Paul Harrison, & Fr Daniel Etienne

Deacon: Bill Kirkley

Parish Office Address: Blessed Christopher Robinson
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Retired Clergy: Fr Norman Johnston & Deacon John Constable

We are a Catholic Parish of the Diocese of Lancaster
Lancaster R.C. Diocesan Trustees Registered Charity No. 234331

CONFESSIONS IN OUR PARISH:

OLSJ: Mon-Sat immediately after noonday Mass
St B: Sat 5.30-5.50pm, Mon 6.00-6.45pm
St A: Wed 6.00-6.45pm
St MM: Fri 6.00-6.45pm
CtK: Sun 8.30-8.50am

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:

OLSJ: Sat 11.00-11.50am & 1st Sun 3.00-4.00pm
St B: Mon 6.00-6.50pm
St A: Wed 6.00-6.50pm
St MM: Fri 6.00-6.50pm

WEEKDAY ROSARY

Mondays **St MM:** 7.00pm
Wednesdays **St A:** 6.30pm

PRAYING FOR THE SICK:

Steven Allison, Caroline Amos, Jean Bell, Pat Casey, Betty Cully, Kieron Donnelly, Baby Kamil, Joan Elton, Patricia Fisher, Annette Harwood, Fr. Harry Holden, Audrey Kavanagh, Baby Lincoln, David Lowe Jnr, Ted Machin, Jenny MacLeod, Teresa McCormick, Carole McCulloch, Winifred Mooney, Irene McNarney, Sr. Maureen, Amy Scroggie, Peter Vincent, Yvonne Ward and all in need of our prayers.

PRAY FOR OUR LATELY DEPARTED:

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR DECEMBER

We pray that volunteer non-profit organisations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation.

DIVINE MERCY PRAYER GROUP

The last Divine Mercy Group in St Augustine's for the year is this Monday, 19th December and will resume on Monday 9th January 2023.

SCRIPTURE PRAYER GROUP

There will be no meetings for the rest of this year, but they will resume on Tuesday 10th January at 2.30pm in Blessed Christopher Robinson House.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers are required Mondays or Thursdays, at the Parish Office. The duties will include welcoming and assisting visitors, answering the phone, taking messages and ensuring that clergy are contacted as appropriate. Email: christopherrobinson@carlislecatholicchurch.org

RED MISSION BOXES

Red Mission boxes requiring emptying at St Augustine's or St Margaret Mary's can be brought to church for emptying or contact your local representative.

St Margaret Mary - Alison Hather on 01228 538823 / 07711391049

St Augustine - Anne Parrini on 01228 674553

SVP WINTER WARM WELCOME

SVP welcome you to some Winter Warmth in the Waterton Hall, Fridays, 12.30-3pm. Teas, coffees and biscuits are provided. Please bring your own packed lunch. More hosts also welcome, contact the SVP.

MINI-VINNIES – SVP YOUTH SECTION

St Margaret Mary School are holding a Reverse Advent Calendar Initiative. The intention is to open a door to give something away each day. Please donate small gifts in the boxes in St Margaret Mary and Christ the King churches.

ADVENT LUNCHES

Every Friday in Advent after the 12noon Mass at OLSJ, at the New Waterton Hall. A sign-up sheet is at the back of OLSJ church for volunteers willing to make soup.

LADIES GROUP AT ST MARGARET MARY

Will meet on Tuesday 20th December at 7pm for their Christmas flower arranging.

SVP'S FRIENDSHIP EVENT

This month's event is on Wednesday 21st December at 10.30am in St Augustine's Social room. Please join us for a coffee, tea cake and a chat. All are welcome

ST. AUGUSTINE'S AT CHRISTMAS

If you are able to help with reading, welcoming, etc at Christmas (18th December onwards) please contact Tracey Lewis at traceyalew@btinternet.com

SANCTUARY LAMPS FOR CHRISTMAS

If you would like to buy a Sanctuary Lamp that will be lit for Christmas and throughout the year, please sign the sheet at the back of our churches. This should have your contact details and the name of a loved one to be printed on the candle. We will be asking for a donation of £5 which should be enclosed in a marked envelope

POINSETTIAS FOR OUR CHURCHES

We welcome contributions of poinsettias to decorate our churches at Christmas. Please bring to church this Sunday 18th December.

CRIB OFFERINGS

This year Bishop Paul would like the Crib Offerings for the Friends of the Holy Land (FHL). FHL help the most deprived Christian families, especially those living around Bethlehem, in Gaza, Israel and Jordan. With pilgrimages only slowly returning and little income for almost 3 years, many families in and around Bethlehem are increasingly calling on FHL for help. Further information on FHL is available on their website -

www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk

CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT

At the church of Our Lady & St Michael, Workington, performed by Adamas Voces this Sunday, 18th December 2022 at 3pm. Tickets can be bought at www.eventbrite.co.uk or by calling the parish office on 01900 60211

ALTAR SERVERS RETREAT

The Diocesan Youth Service are hosting a one-night open retreat for altar servers at Castlerigg, January 13th - 14th 2023 cost £35. Open to anyone in Year 6+. Details: director@castleriggmanor.co.uk

SVP – ITEMS FOR ASYLUM SEEKERS

Required: Warm clothes for women and teenage children.

PARISH STATISTICS 10th /11th December

Last Week	Offertory	Special	Attended
OLPH	£2340.61		730