

PARISH OF ST JAMES & ST BONIFACE
with St John's RC Primary School
The Catholic Community in the Heart of Mid Devon

NEWSLETTER

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B)
Sunday 29 November 2020



YEAR OF THE WORD
2020
THE GOD WHO
SPEAKS

Parish Clergy:

Canon Kristian Paver - Parish Priest
Rev Michael Tosh – Deacon
Rev Peter Found - Deacon

Parish Office:

Parish Secretary: Rosie Croker
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Parish Office Hours:

Mon-Tues 10-11am
Wed-Fri 10am-1pm
FOR THIS WEEK ONLY

www.stjameschurchtiverton.org.uk

Twitter: @StJamesRCTiv

Facebook: Parish of St James and
St Boniface, Mid-Devon

St James' Church

Old Road, Tiverton EX16 4HJ

St Boniface's Church

Crow Green
Cullompton EX15 1EW
Old Road, Tiverton

St John's RC School

Melbourne Street
Tiverton EX16 5LA
www.stjohnstiverton.co.uk
Tel: (01884) 253630

**Parish Safeguarding
Representatives**

Siobhan Gilroy (07809 341603)
Marion Coombs
Iwona Pacosz

Advent Season

This Sunday marks the beginning of a new Church Year and the start of the short Season of Advent. As we will celebrate in the Advent liturgy, the coming – *adventus* – of Christ is manifold: the joyful home of the return of Christ at the end of time when all will be made new; the history-changing moment of the entrance of Christ into the gritty human reality of our world in the Incarnation to transform it from within; and the myriad ways in which Christ comes into our lives each and every day, leading us along the paths of change and conversion so that we may be transformed into “other christs”, which, after all, is what being a “Christian” means. So, much to celebrate and much to ponder over these next four weeks.

We will not be able to have the usual Advent meetings, but there are lots of resources on the internet that we can use. For example, [Praying Advent \(creighton.edu\)](http://PrayingAdvent.creighton.edu) which contains lots of different Advent prayers and reflections and the [Advent Course \(4 weeks\) - Sycamore](#), based on four short videos: **1. The Search for Happiness.** The impossibility of sitting still. What is happiness? How to press the pause button; **2. A God Who Speaks?** The hiddenness of God. When God broke the silence. Discovering the face of God; **3. The Bible.** What is the bible? Can we trust the bible? How the bible can change your life; **4. The Power of Prayer.** What is prayer? Does prayer make a difference? How to pray.

Our parish **CAFOD** group has also put together a sheet of great Advent resources and ideas for us to access in their attached December Newsletter.

Tiverton Virtual Advent Calendar

Some of the local churches have got together to produce a virtual advent calendar that anyone and everyone can access. It features short 2-3 minute videos about different aspects of Christmas. Each day a different numbered door will be posted online so that anyone of any age can enjoy and anticipate the festive season. For a bit of puzzle fun, each day's door has been photographed from around Tiverton, but can you guess where they are?

The Tiverton Online Advent Calendar is completely free to use and can be found online at <https://tivertonadventcalendar.online/videos> from 1 December.

Advent Prayer Intentions

Pope Francis' intention for evangelisation in Advent is that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ might be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer. This Thursday, 3 December, is a **Day of Prayer for Migrants**, that our society may always welcome the stranger.

End of Lockdown and Recommencement of Holy Mass

The national lockdown ends at midnight on Tuesday and, although Devon has been classified as "High" risk and is now subject to Tier 2 restrictions, socially-distanced Masses can restart from Wednesday 2 December. Until then, the periods of Eucharistic Adoration and Private Prayer will continue.

Once Mass restarts, it will be necessary to recommence the booking system, so please contact Rosie at the Parish Office, either by telephone (please not the Office hours for this week on the front of the Newsletter) or by email if you would like to come to Mass from Wednesday onwards.

Both St James and St Boniface have their own QR code for use with the NHS App and these are posted at the entrance and exit of each church. We have been asked to continue to take people's details manually as well. Thank you for your co-operation and to the stewards for their great commitment.

Daily Joint Act of Prayer for an End to the Pandemic

We are invited, together with people of all faiths throughout the country, to participate in a joint act of prayer at **6pm** each day, wherever we happen to be, for an end to the Covid pandemic. Bishop Mark recommends that at this time we should pray the **Angelus**.

Diocesan Yearbooks 2021

The new Diocesan Yearbook, containing information about the diocese, the diocesan offices and the parishes is available for purchase at the entrance to church, price £4.00.

Sacramental Preparation 2021

Parents who would like their children (aged 7 and over) to make their **First Holy Communion** in 2021 are asked to fill out the [Application Form](#) and to return it to the Parish Office as soon as possible. If you are 12 or older – or have a young person of this age – and would like to be **confirmed** by the Bishop in July 2021, please complete the [Application Form](#) and return it to the Parish Office as soon as possible.

Message from Frank Poole

As many will know, Frank Poole celebrated his 90th birthday last Monday. He telephoned in this message: *"Thank you for all your lovely cards and kind wishes on my 90th birthday. They helped to make my day a very special day. God bless you all, Frank."*

Collection for Christmas Flowers

Next weekend there will be a second collection for the flowers that will adorn our churches over the Christmas period.

Fund-raising for the Parish and Donations to CHAT

Easyfundraising is an easy way of raising funds for the parish when buying from some of the most frequently used online sales websites. All you need to do is to [sign up](#). Why not take a look and join other parishioners who donate while they shop?

This year's "**Canon Kristian's Christmas Cake**" will be on display at St James this weekend. You have one more week to get your raffle tickets (£1 each) before the draw is made next weekend!

Some lovely [Christmas Novelties](#) are on sale at the church. Orders for the Christmas Novelties can also be emailed to the Parish Office and Margaret Found will put them together for you ready to pick up at church. Payment can be made by cash, cheque or card via our contactless facility.

Christine Pickford has kindly offered to make **bespoke face coverings** in "Christmassy" fabrics, £2.50 each. Samples of the materials can be found at the entrance to St James, together with an envelope to place your order. Proceeds will be donated to CHAT. You can also donate to the [CHAT Christmas Foodbank appeal](#) and make preparations to take part in the **Reverse Advent Calendar**.

Private Prayer, Holy Mass (from 2 December) and Events

Saturday 28 November - Weekday

- 6.00pm-7.00pm

Sunday 29 November – First Sunday of Advent

- 10.00am-11.00am
- 11.30am-12.30pm (St Boniface)

Tuesday 1 December – Advent Weekday

- 10.00am-10.30am

Wednesday 2 December – St Osmund of Salisbury, Bishop

- Holy Mass at 12noon (St Boniface)

Thursday 3 December – St Francis Xavier, Priest

- Coffee Morning on Zoom at 11.00am
- Holy Mass at 6.30pm

Friday 4 December – Advent Weekday

- Holy Mass at 12noon

Saturday 5 December – Advent Weekday

- Holy Mass at 6.00pm (Vigil Mass)