Parish of St Anne and St Joseph

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First Sunday of Advent — 29th November 2026

MASSES

Monday 30th November
St Andrew, Apostle
9:00am Holy Mass at St Anne's
Anthony Foley (A)

Tuesday 1st December
10:00am Requiem Mass at St Anne's
Kathleen McGuiness

Wednesday 2nd December
9:00am Holy Mass at St Anne's
Graham Scholfield (LD)

Thursday 3rd December
St Francis Xavier, Priest
6:30pm Holy Mass at St Anne's
Irene Jackson (LD)

Friday 4th December
8.45 Exposition & Confessions
9:30am Holy Mass at St Joseph's
Anne Bradshaw (SI)

Saturday 5th December
11:00am Exposition and Confessions
12:00 Noon Holy Mass at St Anne's
Josephine Gilmartin (LD)
5:30pm Vigil Mass at St Anne's
Eleanor Margaret Haworth (A)

Sunday 6th December
9:00am Sunday Mass at St Joseph's
11:00 Sunday Mass at St Anne's

Hymn Numbers
274, 706, 635, 438

READERS' ROTA

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In St Anne's
Saturday 5th December 5:30pm
Anne Anderson & Margaret Gaskell
Sunday 6th December 11:00am
Andrew Szlaz

In St Joseph's
Sunday 6th December 9:00am
Carmel Fenning

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Sick: Helen Hyndman, Joan Gallagher, Margaret Coyne, Stephanie Reid, Davy Lightbody, Sheila Young, Martin Moxham, Sheila Winterbottom, Theo Ralph, Peter Crossley, Fr J P Coulon, Maureen Grady, Adrian Melling, Sr Mary Colette, Tommy McMullan, Janet Flood, Shirley Higginson, Annette McGuinness, Michael Cronin, Benjamin Franklin, Assunta Christiano; Martin Flood; Brid Fitzgibbon; Marlene Jones; Mary Brady.
Anniversaries: Michael Anderson; Doreen Hornby
Other: Deceased Members of the Foley Family; Deceased Members of the Murphy family

Confessions in St Anne's

Saturdays: 11:00am - 11:45am
4:45pm - 5:15pm

At St Joseph's

Fridays: 8:45am – 9:20am

NO CASH? NO PROBLEM!



You can make donations to the parish using our new card machine in St Anne's located near the collection baskets. There is also an option to Gift Aid your donation. Or, you can make donations to the parish by scanning this QR Code on your mobile and it will direct you to a website where you can donate money to the parish.

ST ANNE'S LADIES



Details of our next meeting will follow shortly.

ST JOSEPH'S LADIES



St Joseph's ladies meet every Wednesday, apart from the 1st Wednesday of the month, in the church hall at 1:00pm for chat, games, quizzes, tea/coffee, cake, occasional meals out and good company.

IN IT TO WIN IT!!! WEEK 3

Saturday Night's winning number was**: 3 – Eileen Persecino**

Wednesday Night's winning number was: **9 – Julie Wilkinson**



It is time once again to collect church lottery money. Please either post your lottery money through the presbytery door or, leave in the collection basket at the back of church. Please ensure that you place your money in an envelope with your name written on

CHRISTMAS FAIR

Our Christmas Fair will take place this Sunday, 29th November, after 10:00am Mass at St Joseph's.

Raffle tickets are available in both churches and can be bought on the day of the fair. Please do continue to take some tickets to sell to family and friends. Your support is very much appreciated.

Calling on Bakers of the Parish!

There is still time for our bakers of the parish to bake or donate cakes/ biscuits for the cake stall at our Christmas fair. If you able to bake or donate, please bring them along this Sunday.

PLEASE NOTE

One Mass this Sunday, 29th November, at 10:00am. This will be at St Joseph's Church. There will be no 11:00am Mass at St Anne's.

SVP

Our next meeting will be Sunday, 6th December, at 12:00noon, in St Anne's Presbytery.

The SVP will be holding their Christmas collection on the weekend of the 5th/6th December. Please do give generously to help support the amazing work the SVP do for the housebound and those who need support in our parish.

REQUIEM MASS

We offer our condolences to the family of Kathleen Bernadette McGuiness who has recently died. Kathleen's Requiem Mass will take place in St Anne's church on Tuesday, 1st December at 10:00am. Please pray for Kathleen and her family at this sad time.

ST JOSEPH'S PIETY

There are now Christmas Cards on sale as well as Advent Calendars, Catholic Diaries and Church Art Calendars for 2027, at the back of St Joseph's Church.

POLISH MASS

Fr Robert Pytel, the Chaplain to our Polish community, will be celebrating Mass on Sunday, 6th December, at 1:00pm. Please pass on the message to anyone you know who might be interested.

EMAIL

If anyone would like to receive the parish newsletter by email, can you email Siobhan and she will add you to the distribution list.

What is Advent?

Beginning the Church's liturgical year, Advent (from, "ad-venire" in Latin or "to come to") is the season encompassing the four Sundays (and weekdays) leading up to the celebration of Christmas.

The Advent season is a time of preparation that directs our hearts and minds to Christ's second coming at the end of time and to the anniversary of Our Lord's birth on Christmas. From the earliest days of the Church, people have been fascinated by Jesus' promise to come back. But the scripture readings during Advent tell us not to waste our time with predictions. Advent is not about speculation. Our Advent readings call us to be alert and ready, not weighted down and distracted by the cares of this. Advent also includes an element of penance in the sense of preparing, quieting, and disciplining our hearts for the full joy of Christmas.

As we prepare for Christmas, some differences to the Mass that should be observed during the season. The Gloria is not sung on Sundays

The final days of Advent, from December 17th to December 24th, we focus on our preparation for the

celebrations of the Nativity of our Lord at Christmas. In particular, the "O" Antiphons are sung during this period and have been by the Church since at least the eighth century. They are a magnificent theology that uses ancient biblical imagery drawn from the messianic hopes of the Old Testament to proclaim the coming of Christ as the fulfilment not only of Old Testament hopes, but of present ones as well.

Saint of the Week

St. Francis Xavier, one of the first Jesuits who went on to evangelize vast portions of Asia.

Francis Xavier was Basque and in Paris, as a young man would discover his destiny with the help of his long-time friend Peter Faber, and an older student named Ignatius Loyola – who came to Paris in 1528 to finish a degree, and brought together a group of men looking to glorify God with their lives.

Gradually, Ignatius convinced the young man to give up his own plans and open his mind to God's will. In 1534, Francis Xavier, Peter Faber, and four other men joined Ignatius in making a vow of poverty, chastity, and dedication to the spread of the Gospel through personal obedience to the Pope.

Francis became a priest in 1537. Three years later, Pope Paul III confirmed Ignatius and his companions as a religious order, the Jesuits. During that year, the king of Portugal asked the Pope to send missionaries to his newly-acquired territories in India.

Francis first spent time in Portugal caring for the sick and giving instruction in the faith. After time in Goa, he extended his efforts to Malaysia, before moving on to Japan in 1549. Becoming fluent in Japanese, Francis instructed the first generation of Japanese Catholic converts. Many said that they were willing to suffer martyrdom, rather than renounce the faith brought by the far-flung Jesuit.

St. Francis Xavier became ill and died on Dec. 3, 1552, while seeking a way to enter the closely-guarded kingdom of China. In 1622, both St. Francis Xavier and St. Ignatius Loyola were canonized on the same day.

