## **PARISH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS Goring Way**

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## **Second Sunday of Advent**

7<sup>th</sup> Saturday 6.00 pm Michael O'Driscoll RIP Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> 8.15 am Amelia Bambridge RIP 10.30 am Dennis Bevans RIP Monday **9**th 9.30 am The Parish 12 noon **REQUIEM FOR SARAH CLARKE RIP** 10<sup>rth</sup> Intention of Rosabella Murphy Tuesday 9.30 am 7.30 pm **Choir Practice** 11<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 9.30 am Bernard Bandy RIP 12<sup>th</sup> **REQUIEM FOR MARY MUSTO (VERA)** Thursday 2.30 PM 7.00 pm Kathleen, James & William O'Toole RIP **Choir Practice** 7.30 pm Friday 13<sup>th</sup> 9.30 am Intention of Mary Murphy 14<sup>th</sup> Saturday 6.00 pm Mary & Harry Markham RIP 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday 8.15 am The Parish 10.30 am Nancy Egan RIP Polish Mass 6.00 pm



SATURDAY: Holy Hour: 10.00 - 11.00am. Reconciliation: 10.15-10.45 am & 5.15 - 5:45 pm

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 11:1-10; Romans 15:4-9; Matthew 3:1-12

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Isaiah 35: 1-6, 10; James 5: 7-10; Matthew 11:2-11

COLLECTIONS: Church: £544 Stations of the Cross: £8,000 Thank you for your generosity.

Monday is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of Our Lady

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Mary Murphy, Anne Steere, Anthony Canneaux, Lawrence Brownlee, Mike Yeulett, Margaret Birch, Lita Yong, Patrick Ryan, Brenda Peazold, Mary Wessel, Gina Palermo, Elizabeth Hoskins, Joan Cutmore, Christine Watson, Gordon Milne, Alfred Deacon, Ester Park, Marie Garselis, Roni Horstead, Ronnie Tyler, Jenny Begley, Bill Hogg, Breda Schlimgen, Michaela Finn, Winifred Lyons, Yvette Allen, Kerry McStravick, Lydia Van Melsen

- <u>2. THOSE WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY</u> and those whose anniversaries occur about now: Nancy Leonard, Harry King, Cesare de 'Nero, Ida Crowley, Evelyn Foster, Daphne Day, Desmond Monoghan, Mary Doran, Louis Hofmann, Raymond Dew, Frederick Franklin, Doris Dowling, Lilian Mutton
- 3. WEEK OF GUIDED PRAYER, Sunday 12th to Friday 17th January 2020. This experience offers you the chance to meet each day for 30 minutes with an experienced Prayer Guide, one-to-one. The role of the Prayer Guide is to help you to listen to the voice of the Holy Spirit in your heart. It is the Holy Spirit who guides us in prayer. A daily informal and confidential meeting, at a time to suit you, will be agreed with the Prayer Guide. In a way, you have this beautiful opportunity of a week of retreat in the midst of your ordinary, everyday life. Places will go quickly. Please take a leaflet and application form from the church entrance and return as soon as possible (details are listed there). The leaflet also provides clear information about the week. This is for you! It is at the initiative of Bishop Richard
- <u>4. 'STAR OF WONDER'</u> celebrates the journey of the Christmas Star to Bethlehem in a Service of carols and readings to be followed by refreshments in the Barn on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December at 3.00 pm. All are welcome.

## 5. CHRISTMAS DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December - 7.00 pm - Curry & Carols Night

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December - 3.00 pm - 'Star of Wonder' Christmas Carols, Mulled Wine & Mince Pies

Thursday 19th December - 7.30 pm - Advent Reconciliation Service

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> December 10.30 am - Carol Singing at the the Mulberry Shops - 6.00 pm - First Mass of Christmas especially for children

- 9.00 pm - Mass preceded by Carols from 8.30 pm

Wednesday 25th December - 8.15 am and 10.30 am Mass

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2020 - 10.30 am - Golden Jubilee Mass with Bishop Richard (*There will be no 8.15 am Mass*)

<u>6. ENGLISH MARTYRS YOUTH MUSIC GROUP</u> are seeking new singers to join them. It is a great way to become a part of the mass and we enjoy singing together. We sing every 6-8 weeks at the 10.30am Mass. Our next Mass is Sunday 19th January. If you are interested please contact Harriet on 07789743573 or Dee on 07576268765.

- 7. TRAIDCRAFT will be on sale after all Masses next weekend
- 8. HAVE YOU VISITED THE REPOSITORY RECENTLY? We have a wide array of Christmas Cards, Candles, Diaries etc
- <u>9. USED POSTAGE STAMPS FOR THE MISSIONS</u>: As the Christmas Cards start arriving please remember to rescue all those beautiful stamps, leaving about half an inch of envelope around the edges, (no more than this please as it makes them expensive to forward to the Missionary Society) and put them in the box in the Porch
- **10. THE ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE** will be held here on Thursday, 19th December at 7.30pm. There will be a choice of confessors as there will be at the other Reconciliation Services in the Deanery. These are listed in both porches
- **11. MARY'S MEALS:** We are now in particular need of Crayons, Colouring Pencils, Toothpaste, Tooth Brushes, Soap and Flannels. Many thanks to all who so generously contribute to these backpacks
- **12. TURNING TIDES (WCHP)** are appealing for: Coffee, Sugar, Biscuits, Squash, Cooking Oil Cranberry Sauce and Mustard. Toilet Cleaning Products, Cutlery, Mugs, Tea Towels. Many thanks for your continued and generous help

Father Liam says: Kilimanjaro is the highest mountain in Africa and the world's highest free-standing mountain, reaching 5,000 metres above a plain of 1,000 metres. The Swahili name Kilimanjaro means 'shining mountain', which is a reference to its white cap. But it has lost its glaciers, and the snows of Mount Kilimanjaro are projected to disappear completely by 2020. The causes of the disappearance of the ice cap include local deforestation but the single most significant cause is made-made global warming. The snows have survived since the last Ice Age and for the millions of Tanzanians who can see them on the horizon, their loss will be traumatic on many levels. Their water supply will be threatened and the National Park on the mountain slopes will not be able to sustain the many species that live there. The Chagga people, currently numbering 130,000 souls, have lived here for thousands of years. And their survival is threatened. Three hydro-electric projects on the mountain's rivers provide 20% of Tanzania's electricity. The loss of food supplies and the rich bio-diversity will be incalculable.

The warming of Kilimanjaro is indicative of the general drying of the African continent. The effects of global warming in the Northern Hemisphere have been far less life threatening than in the South. Climate in parts of the Southern Hemisphere is becoming so unpredictable that drought, flood or fire increasingly threatens the poorest and most populous regions of the planet. Ocean warming is melting the base of the glaciers close to the sea and a conservative estimate of 40 – 70 cms of sea-level rise would be enough to inundate small island nations. Places such as the Maldives, Mauritius and the Seychelles are endangered. Many people have already left Kiribati and Tuvala under government resettlement plans., the majority moving to New Zealand. Their government requests for compensation from the industrialised nations have met with no response. So many of the most severely affected victims of climate change have contributed very little to the cause of the catastrophe while those who have contributed the most to climate change by their extravagant way of life, escape for the present at any rate, the worst of the consequences and do very little to relieve the plight of those who suffer from their excess.

The last fifty years of industrial consumerism has enabled the minority of the world's peoples to reach levels of luxury that are often scandalous and obscene. In this culture, which is driven by advertising and fashion we increasingly regard it as normal that we should continually buy new clothes and expensive cars and undertake long plane journeys to enjoy exotic holidays. We need to learn to live simply in order that others may simply live. This is the message that Jesus teaches us constantly in the Gospels. It lies at the heart of the prayer he taught us. He challenges us to make difficult decisions. He tells us that he expects us to be the salt of the earth. Salt heals, salt preserves. The earth needs to be healed. Christ reminds us that we must play our part in healing it. It needs to be preserved for those around us and for those who follow after. We cannot leave the work of preservation and conservation to others. Each of us are called to be stewards of God's wonderful creation. And we must encourage others to take up the challenge. He tells us that he expects us to be light to the world. We are called on to dispel darkness and discouragement and join with others in fashioning a better future. Light helps us and others to follow a safe path. He expects us to recognise everyone on earth as our brother or sister, as Christ's own brother or sister. How we treat those around us in God's family is how Christ sees us as treating him.

Some suggestions that I came across that might trigger more practical ideas: 1) Make sure you don't buy too much food for the home, leading to waste. 2) Buy an item for poorer families and place in the box provided by your local supermarket or in the West Porch 3) Buying Fairtrade guarantees workers' rights and a fair price to the producers. 4) Plan a holiday that complies with eco-tourism standards. Visit <a href="www.responsibletravel.com">www.responsibletravel.com</a> 5) When making a cup of tea or coffee, boil only the amount of water you need. 6) Replace 'normal light bulbs with energy-saving ones 7) Switch off appliances rather than leaving them on standby. 8) When you open your fridge or freezer door, make sure you do not leave it open longer than necessary. 9) If you have a dishwasher, try resting it more often. 10) Check how much insulation there is in your loft. Call your local energy advice centre to find out about grants and installers. 11) Flat tyres cause higher fuel consumption and further damages the environment. 12) The same is true as regards driving at high speeds. 13) Do not leave the tap running when washing your teeth 14) Flush the toilet only if you need to. 30% of the average families' water use is flushed away. 15) Washing the car with a hosepipe will waste up to 50 buckets of water. 16) Arrange to feed birds with a mix of grain, peanuts and sunflower seeds.