**St. Patrick’s church, 39 Westbury St. TS17 6NW Christ the King church, Trenchard Ave. TS17 0EG**

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Christ the King Website: [www.ctkthornaby.co.uk](http://www.ctkthornaby.co.uk) St. Patrick’s Website: [www.stpatrickschurch.co.uk](http://www.stpatrickschurch.co.uk)  **4th Sunday of Advent (C)** December 19th, 2021

**SUNDAY MASS TIMES**

6.00pm {Saturday} St. Patrick’s church

9.30am Christ the King church

11.00am St. Patrick’s church

**WEEKDAY MASSES**

 **Tuesday: 10.00am Christ the King**

 **Wednesday: 10.00am St Patrick’s**

 **Thursday: 10.00am Christ the King**

 **FRIDAY: CHRISTMAS EVE: SEE BELOW**

 **SATURDAY: CHRISTMAS DAY: SEE BELOW**

**PLEASE NOTE: Face coverings / Face masks must now be worn in church for all liturgies.**

 **Also, in the parish hall for teas/coffees etc until seated.**

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION** any time on request

**MASS INTENTIONS RECEIVED**: Special Intention, Kevin Green (Anni.), Elsey and Dick families, Mass of Thanksgiving for Baby Eddy born 12 – 12 – 2021, Amanda Hudson, In Thanksgiving, Frank Hudson, In Thanksgiving to St. Theresa, Thanksgiving to St. Jude, In Thanksgiving to St. Pio, Chesser family, Spayne family,

Betty & Jimmy Cuthbert, Tommy McCartan, Leo Murray, Frank Hudson, All who have no one to pray for them.

**ANNIVERSARIES: December 19th – 25th:**

Kevin Green, James Hart (Snr.), Maud Riley, Frank Pritchard, Ellen Connor, Vincent Thwaites, Alice McReddie, Molly Maley, Donna Gourlay, Bernard McLeary, Kathleen Kane, Yvonne Clasper.

**PLEASE REMEMBER** in your prayers all our sick and housebound brothers and sisters.

**The word this week**

Micah 5:1–4a From Bethlehem shall come the ruler of Israel.

Psalm 80 ***‘God of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.’***

Hebrews 10:5–10 Behold, I come to do your will.

Luke 1:39–45 Mary visits her kinswoman, Elizabeth.

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t is only in this last week before Christmas that we begin to hear about the “Christmas story” itself. For the past weeks we have been preparing ourselves to greet the Lord, when he comes. Now we prepare to remember how he first came, by listening to the prophecies of his coming, and by hearing of the events before his birth. We meet the woman, Mary, who herself had been prepared for the coming of the Messiah. She has received the angel’s greeting, and his strange news, and has accepted her role in God’s plan. Now she hurries to her kinswoman, Elizabeth, who herself bears John the Baptist in her womb. John, just as we heard last week, alerts us to the presence of the Lord, as he leaps for joy in his mother’s womb. His joy is that God has kept his promise, and is with his people.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Please remember in your prayers **James (Jimmy) Devlin**, aged 64, from Thornaby, who died recently. His Funeral Mass will take place at Christ the King church on Thursday, December 30th, at 10.00am

**ALSO, MRS. Patricia Rowntree**, from Stockton (formerly Thornaby), aged 93, who died recently. Her Funeral Service will take place at St. Patrick’s church on Tuesday, January 4th, at 1.00pm. May they rest in peace.

**AT MASS TODAY WE PRAY** Eucharistic Prayer 2 and Preface 2 for Advent

Christ’s ultimate sacrifice was to do the will of the One who sent him. Pray, brothers and sisters, that this, our sacrifice, may be acceptable to God, our almighty Father.

**MESSAGE FROM JOAN HUDSON:** “Big Thank you to all for your sympathy cards, kind words and prayers on the recent death of Frank. Thank you to all who contributed to the collection which raised £300 to be divided between

The Lourdes Fund and The Mary Robinson Fund. God Bless you all.”

**TEA/COFFEE ETC** after Sunday morning Mass at Christ the King

**ST. PATRICK’S COLLEGE:** The College raised £140 last Sunday morning for their three charities – Cancer Research,

Alzheimer’s Research, Cafod.

**MASS TIMES FOR CHRISTMAS**

**Christmas Eve, Friday, December 24th 5.00pm at St. Patrick’s church.**

**Christmas Eve, Friday, December 24th 7.00pm at Christ the King church**

**Christmas Day, Saturday, December 25th 10.30am at St. Patrick’s church.**

**Boxing Day, Sunday, December 26th 9.30am at Christ the King church**

**Boxing Day, Sunday, December 26th 10.30am at St. Patrick’s church**

**READINGS for December 19th**

**4th Sunday of Advent (C)**

**First reading** Micah 5:1-4

The Lord says this:

But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah,

the least of the clans of Judah,

out of you will be born for me

the one who is to rule over Israel;

his origin goes back to the distant past,

to the days of old.

The Lord is therefore going to abandon them

till the time when she who is to give birth gives birth.

Then the remnant of his brothers will come back

to the sons of Israel.

He will stand and feed his flock

with the power of the Lord,

with the majesty of the name of his God.

They will live secure, for from then on he will extend his power

to the ends of the land.

He himself will be peace.

**Second reading** Hebrews 10:5-10

This is what Christ said, on coming into the world:

*You who wanted no sacrifice or oblation,*

*prepared a body for me.*

*You took no pleasure in holocausts or sacrifices for sin;*

*then I said,*

*just as I was commanded in the scroll of the book,*

*‘God, here I am! I am coming to obey your will.’*

Notice that he says first: You did not want what the Law lays down as the things to be offered, that is: the sacrifices, the oblations, the holocausts and the sacrifices for sin, and you took no pleasure in them; and then he says: Here I am! I am coming to obey your will. He is abolishing the first sort to replace it with the second. And this will was for us to be made holy by the offering of his body made once and for all by Jesus Christ.

**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the handmaid of the Lord:

let what you have said be done to me.

Alleluia!

**Gospel** Luke 1:39-45

Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah’s house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, ‘Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.’