

PARISH OF THE SACRED HEART  
AND ST.MARGARET MARY, EAST DEREHAM, NORFOLK

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**DECEMBER 16<sup>th</sup> 2012 : THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**Sunday Masses**

Saturday 6.0pm Int. +Tony, George, and  
Agnes Harmer  
Sunday 9.0am Int. +Francis Lynch  
11.0am Int. For the People

**Weekday Masses**

Monday ADVENT FERIA  
10.0am Int. +Edgar Barnes  
Tuesday ADVENT FERIA  
10.0am Int. +Victims of the Katavryta Massac.  
Wednesday ADVENT FERIA  
**9.0am** Int. +Adam Finlay  
Thursday ADVENT FERIA  
No services today  
Friday ADVENT FERIA  
**11.0am** Int. +Alec & Jim Macdonald  
Saturday FERIA  
10.30am Int. +Ben Grist, Priest  
6.0pm Int. For the People

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Saturday Noon and 5.30pm, or by appointment.

**Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

Tuesday 10.30am; Benediction at 11.0am.

The Rosary Friday 11.30am

**The Divine Office**

The Office is said a quarter of an hour before the Mass on Weekdays. This week we use Psalter Week 3

The Mass today The readings can be found on

p.88 of the Parish Mass Book, and on p.70 of The Sunday Missal.

<b>At the 6.0pm Mass</b> <i>Sanctus &amp; Benedictus</i> Hymns	<b>Eucharistic Prayer 1</b> Parish Mass Book p.25 ( <i>Angelus</i> ) 102, 105
<b>At the 9.0am Mass</b> <i>Sanctus &amp; Benedictus</i> Hymns	<b>Eucharistic Prayer 2</b> Parish Mass Book p.25 94, 102, 772
<b>At the 11.0am Mass</b> <i>Kyries</i> <i>Sanctus &amp; Benedictus</i> Hymns	<b>Eucharistic Prayer 3</b> 497 Parish Mass Book p.25 94, 116, ( <i>Angelus</i> ) 880

The Psalm Response for all of the Masses is printed at the bottom of the page.

*This Sunday the quarter-hour Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament before Mass will precede the 11.0am Mass. Next Sunday, it will take place before the 6.0pm Mass.*

**THIS WEEK**

**Monday** 7.0pm Queen of Peace Prayer Group, at the Presbytery. All welcome. ( Please note the earlier time, due to the fact that members are going out for a meal afterwards.)

**Tuesday** 7.30pm The Confirmation Group meets at the Presbytery, to make Christmas Boxes.

**Wednesday** 10.45am Fr.John takes part in the St.Thomas More School Carol Service at St.John's Cathedral.

**Thursday** 11.0am Fr.John assists at a Mass of Healing at St.George's, Norwich.

**Friday** 9.15am End of Term Mass at the St.Thomas More School ; please note that the Mass here will be at 11.0am today.

**Saturday** Saturday Club, 10.30am-Noon. Satur-

day Club will be half-an-hour longer today, because of a rehearsal for the Tableaux.

**NEXT SUNDAY**  
**THE PARISH CHRISTMAS LUNCH**  
**at the Yaxham Village Hall**  
**from 12.30pm**

**BUY YOUR TICKETS TODAY**  
**Adults £6, Children £3 (inc. present)**  
**A complimentary ticket for each dish you bring to share. (Please note down what you are bringing on the noticeboard ; hot dishes should arrive hot, and only need warming.)**  
**If you are purchasing a childrens' ticket, please put down the childs' name & age on the other notice.**

**Cold and hot drinks provided,**  
**but please bring your own alcoholic drinks**

**The Lunch will be followed by the**  
**BETHLEHEM TABLEAUX**  
**and a**  
**VISIT BY FATHER CHRISTMAS**

## **PARISH NOTICEBOARD**

**Anniversaries** Evelyn Flanagan (2000), Pat Chapman (2005), Gabriel Shelley (2011), Margaret Doherty (2002), Patricia Huizar (2005), Kit Blackburn (1993), and Terence Blakiston (2007). May they rest in Peace.

**Money Matters** Last Sunday £504.26 was given at the Offertory. This Sunday, there will be a retiring collection for the Dependant Priest's Fund. When the St. Edmunds Fund boxes were emptied recently, they were found to contain £245.00.

## **ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST AND ADVENT**

Each Advent, there are two Sundays when St. John the Baptist features in the Gospel – on the second and third Sundays. Compared with the one Sunday when we contemplate Our Lady ; on the fourth Sunday, we hear in successive years of her Betrothal, Annunciation, and Visitation. This suggests that St. John has a very special relevance

to this holy season.

Well of course John was the last of the prophets, who, for many centuries had foretold the coming of the Messiah. The last, and also the greatest of the prophets : it was his privilege to announce that the longed-for Christ had at last come to God's people. And then also the birth of John points towards the birth of Jesus, in that mysterious, wonderful, circumstances surrounded it. Not, indeed, the virginal conception of the Mother, nor the choirs of angels which hailed the birth of the Christ. But nevertheless, John was born to a mother past the age of childbearing, and his birth, like that of Jesus, was foretold by an angel.

John the last of the prophets, and John conceived himself in extraordinary, even if in not miraculous, circumstances. But most of all John Baptist is so special to this season of preparation for the Christ because of his distinctive message. John bade his hearers to prepare themselves, and we must prepare ourselves, too. He told them to prepare themselves by penitence, and this is just what we need to do. The church tells us how to do this : it is by using the Sacrament of Confession. How sad –and how futile – if our houses and our larders are prepared for Christmas, but not our souls!

“I don't know what to do”, some say. “I've nothing to Confess”, say others. To the latter, “Are you a Saint then?” “Far from it!” “Then what is it that makes you not a Saint? – that is what you need to confess and have forgiven. When we prepare for Confession, there are two main questions to ask ourselves. 1. What have I done, said, or thought, which doesn't fit in with loving God? And 2. What have I done, said, and thought, which doesn't fit in with loving other people? These are the things which we need to confess. ‘Repent, make yourself ready’, says St. John the Baptist in this time of Advent. Let us listen to his wisdom, and act upon it.

## **CONFESSIONS BEFORE CHRISTMAS**

Friday, December 21st - 11.40am & 2.30pm  
Saturday, December 22nd - Noon, 2.30pm, &  
5.30pm  
Monday, Christmas Eve - 10.30am, Noon,  
2.30pm, 4.30pm