

**St Francis de Sales Church
and Parish Office**
**Warren Lodge, Warren Road, Wash
Common, Newbury RG14 6NH**

**Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Priory
Road, Hungerford, RG17 0AF**

Parish Priest: Revd Zbigniew Budyn
Parish Administrator: Judith Aylmer
The Parish Office is open on Tuesday,
Thursday and Friday from 10am to 4pm.
Telephone: 01635 40332
Email: washcommon@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Web Site: www.stfrancisdesales.org.uk
Registered Charity Number 246871

Mass Times and Intentions St F - St Francis; OLOL - Our Lady of Lourdes
This Sunday: Welcome to our Mass, especially if you are a visitor or newcomer!

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Year A - Psalter Week 2

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Place</i>	<i>Feast of the Day</i>	<i>Mass Intention</i>
Sat 07 Dec	10 am	St F	Sacrament of Reconciliation	
	6 pm	St F	Second Sunday of Advent	Private Intention
Sun 08 Dec	9 am	OLOL		Mary & Karol Kwiatkumski R.I.P.
	11 am	St F		For the Parish
Tues 10 Dec	12 noon	St F	NO MASS	
Wed 11 Dec	9.30 am	OLOL	Adoration & Reconciliation	
	10 am	OLOL	Of the Second Week of Advent	
Thurs 12 Dec	9.30 am	St F	Our Lady of Guadalupe	Valeria Kruszynewicz R.I.P.
Half an hour	10 am	St F	Adoration & Reconciliation	
Fri 13 Dec	7.30 pm	St F	St Lucy	Lala & Jerzy Wereszczynscy R.I.P.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Year A - Psalter Week 3

Sat 14 Dec	10 am	St F	Sacrament of Reconciliation	
	6 pm	St F	Third Sunday of Advent	
Sun 15 Dec	9 am	OLOL		For the Parish
	11 am	St F		Private Intention

REFLECTION ON THE GOSPEL FOR SUNDAY

John is announcing the advent of God's long awaited empire of justice and right relationship. He offers a baptism of repentance. In other words, John's baptism presupposes a commitment to a renewed way of life. His ministry is hugely effective. It attracts "people of Jerusalem, all Judea and all the region along the Jordan River." The arrival of two groups of religious authorities prompts a fierce response: "you brood of vipers". John has no patience with those who use their privileged positions to seek their own advantage. He challenges them with the striking image of the "more powerful One" who will sort out those who refuse to turn their lives around (the chaff) from those who listen to the call (the wheat). The latter are "gathered in" while the former are burned "in a fire that never goes out". John presents his own role as preparatory to that of Jesus, the Spirit-filled, powerful and enduring agent of God's refining and purifying work in the world. We know our own ongoing need for a 'baptism' with the Holy Spirit and fire. We prepare the way by constantly turning our lives around in the direction of God's empire.

Sr Veronica Lawson RSM (institute.mercy.org.au)

DIARY

**7/8 Dec - St F - ANNUAL COLLECTION FOR
SVP - Gift Aid possible in porch**
13 Dec - 6pm - St F - Youth Group
13 Dec - 7.30pm - St F - Mass for Advent
**15 Dec - 12 noon to 2pm - St F - J&P
CHRISTMAS FAIR - All welcome**
20 Dec - 7.30pm - St F - Mass for Advent
**23 Dec - 7.30pm - St JOSEPH - Penitential
Service**

ST FRANCIS HYMNS FOR SUNDAY

**Ent: Jerusalem, my people (Before no 1 in
hymnbook) Psalm: In his days justice will
flourish and peace till the moon fails**
Off: 218 Sanctus: 553 (L)
Mem Acc: 554a (L) Agnus Dei: 589 (L)
Comm: 431 Recess: 216

NEWS & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Evening Mass for Advent On Fridays 13 Dec and 20 Dec there will be a Mass at 7.30pm for Advent with a procession in honour of Our Lady.

Justice & Peace Group Christmas Fair - 15 Dec at 12 noon till 2 pm - Cakes, toy and gift and chocolate tombola, bottle stall, games, soup and refreshments - donations gratefully received in the box in the porch, especially chocolate items. Would you like to help? Contact Lucy on 35462.

SustainHUBle Eco Shopping Pop-Up Event - Wednesday 11th December 12pm - 2pm - St Francis de Sales Parish Hall. New to Wash Common - A collective of local sustainable businesses bringing you a greener way to shop. More details on poster in church porch and hall.

Christian Aid Coffee Morning on Thurs 19th Dec at St Nicholas, Newbury from 10 am to 12 noon. Offers of cakes, tombola and bric-a-brac to Sonya on 07393294466. There will be a box in the porch after the J&P Christmas Fair.

Pope's Intention for December

That every country determine to take the necessary measures to make the future of the very young, especially those who suffer, a priority.

Complaints are being received about people not being able to park at St Francis as too much space is being left between cars. **PLEASE PARK TIDILY** as we are running out of room. Could you walk or car share? Is there a volunteer to open up the overflow car park for Park House School any Sunday or just for any of the Masses at Christmas? Contact the Parish Office.

NEW YEARS DAY - Feast of Mary Mother of God - 12.00 noon Mass of Healing with the Sacrament of the Sick at St. Francis de Sales. Fr. Zbiginiew will be assisted by Canon Peter Turbitt. ALL are welcome. Mass will be followed by light refreshments in the hall.

Last Sunday at Mass, Ellen spoke about the PTFA's appeal at St Joseph's Primary School and thanked people for their generosity in buying raffle tickets. They have set a goal to raise £25,000.00 for new ICT equipment for the school. They will be outside after church again on Sunday if anyone wants to contribute by buying some raffle tickets. There are some fantastic prizes such as £100 cash prize, restaurant vouchers and chocolate hampers! Your support means so much to us. Thank you!

We had great fun at our Advent Day of Preparation. Thank you all for joining in. **A GREAT BIG THANK YOU** to all of our magnificent helpers, especially to all of the YOUNG HELPERS who were AMAZING.

Contribute to our Website You can now request access to add content to our website. If interested, please fill in the simple form on the website to request access - <http://www.stfrancisdesales.org.uk/user/register>. Any queries, feel free to contact Andrew at andrewpolland@gmail.com



Advent sees the start of the Year of the Bible, called '**The God who Speaks**,' and will be an opportunity for all of us in the Diocese

to promote the Bible and renew the place of the Word of God at the centre of our Catholic life and faith. Part of this year is to run **Diocesan Reader Workshops**, comprising two workshops of 3 hours each, held on separate days, providing liturgical, biblical and practical formation for all diocesan readers. The workshops enable readers to gain a *recognitio*, signed by the Bishop and their Parish Priest. Currently, the nearest one for us is at St Peter and the Winchester Martyrs church, Winchester, SO23 8RY. The first workshop will be on 11th January, 10 am to 1 pm and the second will be on 25th January, 10 am to 1 pm. There are more details on the diocesan e-news - see below to subscribe. **For more details, contact Chris Peacock on readers@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk**

If you would like to be included in the Parish Sick List, please contact the Parish Office. Please pray for **Courtney Andrews, Anton Barber, Anne & Bill Bower, Olwyn Brian, Lily Brooke, Bronek (father of Anna Brooks), Christopher & Robert Brown, Tim Burke-Gaffney, Mary Craig, Lucy Curtis, Emma, Joe Emery, Maria Hall, Sam Hearn, June & Jo Howard, Clare Huckle, Bernard & Victoria Kilkenny, Evelyn Lavers, Noreen McCann, Shomila Malik, Joseph Marletta, Marie O'Sullivan, Daryl Pike, Mary Russell, Elizabeth Sage & Linda Verner** who ask for our prayers.

READERS AND WELCOMERS: Please collect your new rotas from the porch. Thank you.

If **writing cheques**, please make them payable to PRCDTR Newbury St Francis de Sales. Requested by the bank!

There seems to be a shortage of newsletters to go round. Please share your newsletter with family members and those around you for the readings during Mas.

SUBSCRIBE TO OUR NEWSLETTER Go to the website www.stfrancisdesales.org.uk and scroll down to the bottom of the front page. Tick the box for Sunday newsletter and enter your email address. Click subscribe and you are there!

Do you get the Diocesan e-news? Weekly e-newsletter containing teachings and happenings as well as news from around the diocese. Subscribe at www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/enews

Bookings for St Francis Hall and Parish Rooms Please book the hall with Maureen for all events on 01635 30108 or email Maureen.hudd@btinternet.com

ROTAS AT ST FRANCIS

WELCOMING:

Sat 14 Dec: Pat Dixon

Sun 15 Dec: Lamb family

CLEANERS:

Fri 13 Dec: Pat Johnston, Bridget Lister & Noreen Postlewaite

COUNTER:

Sun 08 Dec: Ann Woolley & Ivy Goree