

ADVENT PEACE THOUGHTS

Road building is rough work; hard labour, muscles strained, hands calloused, back near breaking - even with lifting gear, hard-hat and protective boots.

Site clearance is dirty work, and dangerous, removing rotten structures, risking unsafe ground, uncovering long-forgotten corruption, the stink too hard to breathe, of waste and dereliction.

God, you cry out to us to clear the site, to rebuild the road because you are coming; and you will come on the road that we build.

Give your people, we pray, the will and stamina for the job.

Give us courage to tackle the clearance of debt and exploitation, which corrupt communities and nations. Give us the grit and determination to straighten out the crooked structures, which make it hard for the poor and weak to journey to freedom - and help us to shout aloud that you will be coming along the very road we build.

Heather Pencavel

TV WITH A CONSCIENCE

MONDAY 7.30pm BBC1: CRISIS IN CARE: FOLLOW THE MONEY

Tens of thousands of elderly and vulnerable people live in care homes owned by international investors. This report looks at how much of the fees paid are going to shareholder dividends or to pay off debts; and, with the Government promising more money to help with the entire care home sector crisis, should there be more transparency about where the money goes?

MONDAY 10.35pm BBC1: THE RICHARD DIMBLEBY LECTURE

Dame Sarah Gilbert, renowned professor of vaccinology at Oxford University explains how her department and Astra-Zeneca produced an effective vaccine for Coronavirus in less than a year.

THURSDAY 7.30pm ITV1: SAVING MONEY AT CHRISTMAS: THE BIG SQUEEZE

With the end of furlough, the scrapping of the Universal Credit uplift and prices rising, many will be facing hardship this Christmas. This report follows families trying to make ends meet.

FRIDAY 7.30pm C4: VACCINE WARS: THE TRUTH ABOUT PFIZER

Pfizer's Covid vaccine has saved the lives of millions of people, but questions are now mounting over the pharmaceutical company's behaviour.

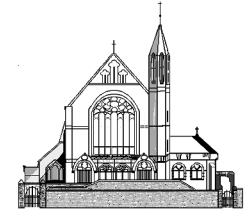
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THE PARISH OF ST MICHAEL AND SACRED HEART

Fr. James Nugent Pastoral Area
St Michael's Church, Horne St, L6 5EH
Sacred Heart Church, Low Hill, L7 8TN
Tel: 0151 263 6578

Confessions: Saturday 12noon St Michael's



4th/5th December '21 2nd Sunday of Advent Yr. C

MASS TIMES

Monday 9.00am Sacred Heart

Tuesday 9.30am St Michael

Wednesday 12noon Sacred Heart

Thursday 7.00pm St Michael

Saturday 6.30pm Sacred Heart

Sunday 10.30am St Michael's

GOSPEL THOUGHTS Luke 3:1-6

Walkers and climbers love the mountains and hills. The straight roads of the motorways are boring, drivers could fall asleep. Why does the gospel call for the mountains to be laid low and crooked roads made straight?

When things go wrong, relationships get strained and we cannot see the way out of trouble, God asks for a clear run to arrive close to you. John the Baptist is very keen to stand shoulder to shoulder with the prophet Baruch to call us all to be uncluttered and uncomplicated so we can see clearly through all the confusions. Nursing pride and gathering hurts are to be shifted and sorted so the love, seen clearly in Jesus, can reach those we are confused about.

We are called to listen with patience to any other person we meet until they feel we understand where they are coming from. Are you up for the task?



REMEMBERED

...during Mass

Joseph Fitzgibbon, Rita Murphy, Bill Dalton,
Peter Cookson, Michael Youell
and members of our own families
who have gone before us.

SYNOD 2020-2021-2022

Update: The Pastoral Plan HAS ARRIVED!

The FREE Catholic PIC gives us an overview of the
PASTORAL PLAN Pages 4-6.

The SYNOD postcard might engage us if we choose a word off the front and tell each other why you chose that idea. Can you make your choice into an action? Then, turn the card over to find the 6 action areas for the future of the Archdiocese.

With the Pic and the postcard, would you spend a minute thinking which of the action plans you would like to be part of. These suggestions might have us all on the launching pad ready to go.

A 50+ page booklet has been delivered at the Pauline bookshop in town on Church Street. There is a £2 copy there for you.

The introduction is very encouraging.

Then there is a whole section on decisions and actions which have dates for completion.

The first decisions are meant to start immediately!

Every one of us is invited to 'embed' a radical listening process in all our activities; at home, at work, among our neighbours as well as in church. We are, this way, to be something of Jesus' love for all we meet.

There are to be lots of opportunities for formation as we are all called to 'leadership'. The structures and relationships in the Archdiocese are all to be realigned so we look outwards to all around us instead of simply looking after ourselves.

LET US PRAY

**Father of love and compassion,
with trust in your great mercy,
we place our Pastoral Plan into your hands.**

ACCOMPANYING PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE

This weekend is an opportunity to send greetings cards to prisoners of conscience across the world. Information about the person you are writing to is included in the card. Please write a message, keep the information sheet and check the cost of postage before posting. Thanks. The card is free, you pay for the stamps!

LOCAL CHURCHES

After welcoming Advent together last Sunday evening we are looking for parish representatives for this next meeting. The Newsham Council of Churches gathers for an opportunity to plan further events together on:
Monday 13th December at 7.00pm at SFX.
Please phone for more information: 0151 263 6578.

Precautions

Remain careful.

For those you love and meet.

STAY CAUTIOUS!

The guidance for Places of Worship.

You can leave home to attend/visit a place of worship.

If you do, you should follow the protocol of Hands, Face and Space. There should be no clustering.

Let us all work to avoid another Lock Down.

1st HOLY COMMUNIONS

Please pray for the children and their families. Who are currently making their First Holy Communion.

This week Yr4 children will receive their invitation to join the *With You Always* Holy Communion preparation programme. Please return the registration form to school as soon as possible.

Children who want to be included in the programme MUST be baptised.

If your child is not baptised, please contact Fr. Fitz for information.

Do keep our schools and young people in your affection and prayers. Our Home, School, Parish partnership is alive and well.