

**ST DOMINIC'S, DURSLEY**  
**&**  
**ST JOSEPH'S, NYMPSFIELD**

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**SUNDAY 5 DECEMBER 2021**  
**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR C**



**Collect**

Almighty and merciful God, may no earthly undertaking hinder those who set out in haste to meet your Son, but may our learning of heavenly wisdom gain us admittance to his company

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

**Amen**

## Gospel (Luke 3: 1 - 6)

In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's reign, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of the lands of Ituraea and Trachonitis, Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the pontificate of Annas and Caiaphas the word of God came to John son of Zechariah, in the wilderness. He went through the whole Jordan district proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the sayings of the prophet Isaiah:

A voice cries in the wilderness:  
Prepare a way for the Lord,  
make his paths straight.  
Every valley will be filled in,  
every mountain and hill be laid low,  
winding ways will be straightened  
and rough roads made smooth.  
And all mankind shall see the salvation of God.

## Reflection

This week and next, our Gospel readings invite us to consider John the Baptist and his relationship to Jesus. John the Baptist appears in the tradition of the great prophets, preaching repentance and reform to the people of Israel. To affirm this, Luke quotes at length from the prophet Isaiah. John baptizes for repentance and for forgiveness of sins, preparing the way for God's salvation.

John's preaching of the coming of the Lord is a key theme of the Advent season. As John's message prepared the way for Jesus, we too are called to prepare ourselves for Jesus' coming. We respond to John's message by repentance and reform of our lives. We are also called to be prophets of Christ, who announce by our lives the coming of the Lord, as John did.

<b>Celebration of Mass</b>			
Hand sanitisers will still be used and face coverings are strongly recommended			
Friday 3 December	7.00pm	Mass	Dursley
Saturday 4 December	5.30pm	Mass	Nympsfield
Sunday 5 December	10.30am	Mass	Dursley
Wednesday 8 December	9.00am	Mass	Dursley
Thursday 9 December	10.00am	Mass	Nympsfield
Friday 10 December	7.00pm	Mass	Dursley



Please support our raffle in aid of *Stella Maris*. We are collecting donations and assigning a number to each £1 donated (so no paper tickets!). Please bring your money to the church marking clearly that it is for the **Raffle**

**Closing date: Sunday 12 December**

To tempt you, here are some of the fantastic prizes on offer:

Christmas Hamper

Tins of Celebrations, Heroes, Roses

Box of Lindt chocolates

Eight bottles of wine

Box of wine

Bottle of whisky

Set of 6 wine glasses

Set of 4 Spode mugs

Set of tray, mugs and coasters

Cheese board

Thermos

Bird feeder

Amaryllis

RHS address book

Sets of doll's house furniture: bedroom, living room, kitchen, dining room

Powerman robot

Sets of Frozen accessories

Dinosaur books

Voucher worth up to £67.50 for a full week on plan with The One 2 One Diet, goody bag containing magazine, pen, water bottle & other goodies

Many thanks to all who have donated so generously

## **First Communion**

Application forms for First Communion in 2022 are now available for children in years 3 and 4. The closing date is 9 December, and classes are scheduled to start on 22 February

## **Stroud Foodbank**

Stroud Foodbank are currently preparing food hampers for Christmas and are in need of the following items to make the season a little brighter for people in need. Christmas cakes and puddings, tinned ham, jars of pickles, nice toiletries, hot chocolate, boxes of savoury and sweet biscuits, boxes of chocolate. Donations can be made at Tesco Cam, Dursley Coop, Little Rascals and The Pulse

## **Red Boxes**

APF Red Boxes:- Please will all box holders return their boxes for emptying on or before Sunday 12 December. All monies need to be banked before Christmas to help the APF office finalise their yearly accounts before the end of the current year. If you are unable to return your box to Church or the Presbytery then please ring me on 01453 547834 or 07503 192758 to arrange for your box to be collected. Thank you. *Mary Cryan*

## **200 Club: November winners**

Patrick Mitchell £40, Jamie Whitney £30, Pat Scriven £20

## **Friends at Christmas**

If you know somebody who will be lonely at Christmas Day and would like to be a guest or if you would like to help as a volunteer please contact Martin Gregg

Email: [gregg5ep@btinternet.com](mailto:gregg5ep@btinternet.com) Tel: 07788 421059

## **Family Catechesis**

Family catechesis is a method of supporting parents to be the first teachers for their children while at the same time offering them their own formation. A retreat day for was held in September 2021.

Keynote talks from the retreat can be found at the bottom of the web page:

[Catechists' Formation | Clifton Diocese](#)

### **Our Parish**

PLEASE PRAY for those who have died recently:

Leo Harper

#### **Diocesan Prayer Link:**

St John the Baptist, Trowbridge St Bernadette, Westbury

#### **Churches Together Prayer Rota:**

3Cs Community Church

#### **Parish Prayer Rota:**

The choirs of our parishes