

# St John the Evangelist

Fr James Callaghan OSB

## 4th Sunday of Advent

22 December 2019 (Year A)

**Parish Administrator:** Kathryn Lynam; **Assistants:** Emma Harrison and William Scrope

Please note there will be reduced hours over the Christmas period, and it is worth ringing before visiting.

Under normal circumstances the Church itself should be open 9:00am -3:00pm on a weekday.

Telephone 01347 821295 (In an emergency, Fr James' number at the Abbey is 01439 766016)

**Safeguarding Representatives:** Mary-Clare Laidlaw and Mark de Groot

easingwoldpriory@ampleforth.org.uk; Facebook and <https://stjohntheevangelisteasingwold.co.uk>

### Mass Times this Week

Saturday 21	Feria
11:45am	Rosary in Church
12 Noon	Reconciliation (Confession)
5:45pm	Vigil Mass: <i>John Simpson RIP</i>
Sunday 22	4th Sunday of Advent
10:00am	Mass: <i>Clare Grant RIP</i>
10:50am	Coffee after Mass – all welcome
6:30pm	Joint Churches Carol Service, Easingwold Parish Church
Monday 23	Feria
Tuesday 24	Feria
11 – 11:45am	Reconciliation (Confession)
4:30pm	Crib Service for children
<b>8:00pm</b>	First Mass of Christmas
Wednesday 25	The Nativity of the Lord, Solemnity
<b>10:00am</b>	Day Mass of Christmas
Thursday 26	St Stephen, First Martyr, Feast
<b>10:00am</b>	Mass: <i>Venerable Mary Ward</i>
Friday 27	St John, Apostle, Evangelist, Feast
9:30am	Mass: <i>Eileen Gibson RIP</i>
Saturday 28	The Holy Innocents, Martyrs, Feast
11:45am	Rosary in Church
12 Noon	Reconciliation (Confession)
5:45pm	Vigil Mass: <i>Parish</i>
Sunday 29	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph, Feast
10:00am	Mass: <i>Veronica Andrews RIP</i>
10:50am	Coffee after Mass – all welcome

### Christmas Jolly

A huge Thank You to everyone who came along to our party on Thursday, and especially to all those who worked so hard to make it the great success it was. We all very much appreciated the food and drink provided by so many, and the raffle prizes caused great excitement – *thank you* to you all again!

### Advent and Christmas

- Joint Carol Service at the Parish Church on Sunday at 6:30pm
- Christmas Cards and Children's Books are available from the Piety Stall

### Thought for the Week

*The simple shepherds heard the voice of an angel and found their lamb; the wise men saw the light of a star and found their wisdom.*

Fulton J. Sheen

## CHRISTMAS GREETINGS TO YOU ALL

Dear Everyone,

This is now my second Christmas with you all in the parish of St John the Evangelist, and I just wanted to write a short message to wish you all a very happy and blessed Christmas and a truly happy and peaceful New Year.

It is such a privilege for me to be able to work among you all, and I cannot thank you enough for the kindness and support you have shown me over the past year. I thank God every day that I am here with you all, and of course you are all in my daily prayers.

We have something *special* in our parish: a kindness, a togetherness and a welcoming spirit; my Jesuit education taught me that whatever we do is to be done *ad maiorem Dei gloriam* - to the greater glory of God - and at times the sense of that happening here is palpable. We must pray that we may be able to carry on this great and noble task: we live in a darkened world which needs a true witness to the good news of the Gospel; we cannot rest on our laurels: we are needed more than ever.

So may I thank all of you who have done so much for our parish: if I tried to list those who work so hard for us, I would be sure to leave someone out accidentally and would feel awfully guilty, so on behalf of the whole parish: *thank you*.

And now, at this holy time, I wish you all a wonderful Christmas. Let us never forget those in the parish who are alone, or ill, or who are facing any kind of hardship. Indeed, let us look out for them and celebrate heartily with them; we must never forget that the Mighty God was once a vulnerable baby in a manger.

God bless you all, and please pray for me,

Fr James

### **Rotas for 2020 have been circulated**

Please note that some of the 10:00am ones have been reissued due to an error on the original batch. Some parishioners are called on every other week. If you attend Mass regularly and are not on a rota, do please think about how you could contribute. More volunteers means duties come round less often. Please see Fr James.

### **Food Banks**

- Middlesbrough: Next delivery – 6 January 2020

*Thank you for the wonderful response to the Christmas Appeal but...Please keep on shopping for the MFB and perhaps save unwanted goodies for the January delivery. For more information or if you'd like to help, please ring us on 01653 628755. God bless. Eve and David Cragg James*

- Easingwold

*Please be aware that although our donations go to Middlesbrough, there is a Food Bank in Easingwold who use our outbuildings to store their supplies. If you or someone you know has need of their services, please contact them in confidence on 0772 44 44 750*

### **Changes to the Offertory Collection**

There can often be a very long gap at the Sunday Masses after the bidding prayers while the collection is being taken, so to shorten it, I thought we might try the following on an *ad experimentum* basis:

Would the Ushers please bring forward the bread and wine straight after the bidding prayers. They would then collect the collection plates from a stool on the sanctuary and take the collection while the Offertory is in progress (either with or without singing).

Please bring up the collection then in the usual way and give the plates to the server. Once this is done, the priest will say the *Orate Fratres* (ie the "Pray Brothers and Sisters...") and Mass continues.

Thank you so much for giving this a try,

Fr James

### **On-Line Fundraising – see Kathryn**

- Easyfundraising have paid us £31.85 for this quarter, which is a percentage of what you have raised with your online shopping. Thank you to all who do this! Note that you can still choose Amazon via Easyfundraising, as long as you start at the Easyfundraising site.

## **The Cyber Helpline**

*A new resource is available to assist North Yorkshire residents in protecting themselves against cyber enabled fraud. The Cyber Helpline provides free, expert support for victims of cyber-crime in the region. If successful it will be rolled out across the country.*

*The Cyber Helpline is a not-for-profit that has had support from the Department of Digital, Culture, Media & Sport and has reached the semi-finals of the National Cyber Security Centre Accelerator programme.*

*Using volunteer cyber security experts and a smart chatbot they provide free, expert help to any member of the public 13 years old and older. Its focus is helping individuals understand, contain, recover and learn from online security issues.*

*To see how this resource can help you visit [www.thecyberhelpline.com](http://www.thecyberhelpline.com)*

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## **Offertory Collections and Charities:**

- Thank you for your generous offertory collections last week of £465.28
- Note that the Collections at the Christmas Masses are intended for the Priest.

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## **Upcoming Events – See Posters**

### **January**

- Fri 10 10:10 SVP Meeting in the Priory
- Sun 12 10:30 Methodist Annual Covenant Service
- 18-25 January: Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

### **For Sale in the Porch**

- Middlesbrough Year Books 2020 £1, which goes in the “Papers” slot.
- Benedictine Year Books – are £3.75 – money also in the “Papers” slot.
- Eggs £1 per half-dozen (in Poor Box, to support Little Sisters of the Poor). Many thanks to Trish and Jane.

### **PLEASE PRAY FOR:**

*the Sick, Infirm and Housebound:* Sally Agar, Mattie Burke, Mary Capaldi, Kitty Carrington, Cath Cavanagh, Jenny Cook, Veronica Ellerby, Paul Gallagher, Pat Grotrian, Graham Harrand, Marta Hatfield, Eunice Huby, Vince Kelly, Darren Kennedy, Lt. Commander Matthew Kiernan, Kay Moss, and Marie Podgorski;  
*those who have Died recently:* Fr Leo Chamberlain OSB, Jack Windust, Graeme Knott and Tom Hopperton  
*and those whose Anniversaries occur about this time:* Arthur Greenfield, Marika Gore, Patricia Clare Grant and William Clement Russell