

Introduction Every year on the second Sunday of Advent, the Church asks us to ponder the words and deeds of St John the Baptist. John reminds us of the need to prepare for the coming of Christ with self-reflection and repentance.

First Reading Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

We hear a call to “prepare a way for the Lord”.

Second Reading 2 Peter 3:8-14

Peter suggests there will be a new creation “where righteousness will be at home”.

Gospel Mark 1:1-8

John the Baptist baptises in water, anticipating the coming of the Messiah, who will baptise with the Holy Spirit.

Please pray for Kathleen M^cEnnerney lately dead and for all whose anniversaries occur at this time:

DECEMBER

10 Edward Singleton, Jane Southworth, Francis Myerscough

11 Elizabeth Kelly

12 Emma Constance Roche, George Gardner, Kenneth Sanders

13 Winifred Forrest **15** John Keefe

16 James Leo Lowery, Pauline Daly

CAFOD Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal

Donate to CAFOD's Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal at cafod.org.uk/ipc or call 0303 303 3030

to support those affected and get funds to local trusted experts in Gaza and southern Israel who have been working alongside communities helping those most in need.

Your donation will help support aid workers providing urgent humanitarian aid including food, water and emergency shelter to those in need. Thank you for your prayers.

Parish SVP Thank you for all the donations of non-perishable food and toiletries. We will continue to support our local food bank with your kind donations.

HELPING HANDS at ST MARY'S SCHOOL Helps families that are in urgent need. At the back of St Mary's church is our Helping Hands Box for any kind donations of nonperishable food and toiletries.

WEBSITE: www.standrewscottam.org.uk

Parishes of St Andrew & Blessed George Haydock, Cottam, and St Mary, Lea Town Second Sunday of Advent 10th December 2023

Parish Priest: Canon Adrian J. Towers VF

114 Hoyles Lane, Cottam, PR4 0NB

Tel: (01772) 726166 E-mail: parishpriest@standrewscottam.org.uk

Deacon: Rev. John W Cliffe

Tel: 01257 264445 johncliffe@standrewscottam.org.uk

Baptisms and Marriages by Arrangement.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation Saturday (4.30pm to 5pm) or on request. Please call in to the Presbytery or speak to Canon Adrian before or after Mass.

Parish Safeguarding Representatives:

Tony Murphy 07557 373534 (St Andrew's)

Mike Fitzpatrick 07739 880965 (St Mary's)

Diocesan Safeguarding Coordinator www.catholicsafeguarding.org.uk

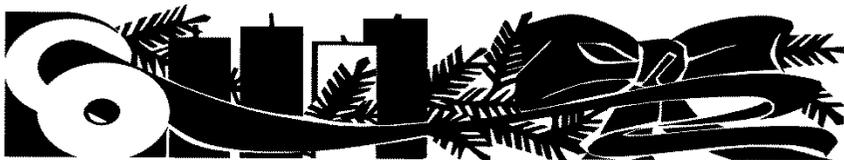
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Her service is at an end;
her guilt is expiated.

Isaiah 40:2

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SATURDAY 9 December

5.30pm (Vigil) Rep soul of Gaetano Scappaticci KC*HS (7968)

Mass will be live streamed from Parish website

SUNDAY 10 December (PMB p85)

9.00am(Lea Town) Repose of the soul of Eilish Ings –
Lately Dead (7976)

10.30am People of the Parish

3.00pm Afternoon Devotions & Benediction

6.00pm EOHSJ Lieutenancy of England & Wales
Special Collection – Diocesan Poor Missions

MONDAY 11 December – St. Damasus I (Opt. Memorial)

9.15am Holy Souls (7951)

TUESDAY 12 December - NO MASS

WEDNESDAY 13 December – St. Lucy (Memorial)

9.15am F J Alldred- Aspden (7965)

THURSDAY 14 December – St. John of the Cross (Memorial)

8.15am (Lea Town) Pauline Daly (7980)

FRIDAY 15 December

10.30am Requiem – Kathleen M^cEnnerney

SATURDAY 16 December

9.15am Christian Community in the Holy Land

5.30pm (Vigil) David Hurst (7979)

Confessions next Saturday 4.30pm to 5.00pm

Mass Intentions All Mass offerings and intentions are most welcome. If you require a Mass on a particular day, please let Canon Adrian know or place the intention, offering and details in an envelope on the collection plate at the weekend Masses. Mass intention envelopes are at the back of church.

Sr Jeslin SABS – Her mother Mary, died last week, may she rest in peace; this was just a few months after Sr Jeslin's father had died. Next year Sr Jeslin was due to take up a new appointment in Kerala, being succeeded here by Sr Little Rose SABS. With Sr Jeslin's mother's death she has now returned to Kerala early and permanently. Sr Little Rose SABS, subject to clearing UK immigration, will be arriving as the new Superior. We welcome back Sr Litty SABS, who we are delighted will still remain with us and Sr Tessin, (who will be on leave for a couple of months). We thank God for Sr Jeslin and for all she did for us during the past five years.

Advent Carol Service

St. Mary's Church, Lea Town **THIS Friday 15 December at 7.00pm**. It will consist of carols, scripture readings, poems and bidding prayers. It will be followed by hot mulled wine(alcoholic and non alcoholic) and mince pies, in the annex. Please sign the list at the back of church for catering purposes.

Christmas wreath making at St Mary's. Sunday 17 December in the annex, following the 9.00am Mass. There are still places, please sign the list at the back of the church. The wreath ring, reel wire & moss will be provided but other greenery and decorations will have to be brought by the participant.



Welcome to Jidenna Julian Anakebe
who will be baptised today.

Tea/Coffee & Light refreshments in the Haydock Room after 10.30am Mass. All welcome.

St Andrew's Mulled Wine & Mince Pies Thank you to all who came along to this enjoyable parish social evening. Thanks also to the organisers and everyone who helped with the set up and tidy up

A Blessed Messiah is Born – Monday 18th December at 7pm

You are invited to a performance of sacred music in preparation for Christmas at St Joseph's Church, Skeffington Road, Preston, PR1 5UQ. The concert is performed by Occento choir conducted by Nathan Smith, with the repertoire including pieces such as: Away in a Manger, *The Crown of Roses*, *In Dulci Jubilo* and *Gabriel's Message*. The concert is free of charge with donations welcome.