



# NEWSLETTER

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### WE REMEMBER ALL THOSE WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY:

James McManus

### WE REMEMBER ALL THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS

**TIME:** Margaret Kerrigan, Denis Griffin, McCulloch Eugenie, Michael Brett, Catherine O'Grady, Marietta Lee, Peter Robinson, David Blagdon, Pam Hurman, Sid Berry, Bill O'Donnell, Florence Borremans, Johannah Down, Isabelita Lay, Josephine Palmer, Evelyn Burcham, Joan Court, Dennis Collins, Antonietta Brundritt, Cliff Morris, Emma Lawless, Donald Mackey, Thomas Murphy, Diana Colledge, Eric Parsons.

### AND THOSE WHO ARE SICK & HOUSEBOUND:

Mary Toomey, Brian Toomey, Elizabeth Smart, Brian Smart, Julia Tucker, Catherine Twomey, Sister Theresa Smythe, Sue Atkins, Madeleine Page, Alma Hamilton, Jill Tansley, Anna Hradil, Penny Watson, Michael O'Connell, Paul Thorpe, Maureen Hughes, Anna Bingham, Mary Hutchings, Margarita Gibson, Anne King, Graham King, Hazel Grimoldby, Mavis Parsons, Marie Mackay, Richard Fairfax, Roger Dore, Florencia Duga, Sandra Jones, Christopher Browne, Eveleen O'Farrell, Jane Tolfree, Carmel Allan, Sean Carroll, Martin Connolly, Joseph Hughes, Imogen Jenkins, Paul Jones, Riza Carol Khan, Esther Page, Lochlan Quinlan, Sr Raymond SSJA, Michael Sigsworth, Vera Terry, Mary Wallace.

### MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Sat	20 <sup>th</sup>	5:30pm	St John Fisher	Fourth Sunday of Advent	The Devine Family
Sun	21 <sup>st</sup>	8:00am	St George	Fourth Sunday of Advent	80 <sup>th</sup> Birthday Thanksgiving
Sun	21 <sup>st</sup>	9:15am	St George	Fourth Sunday of Advent	The Jones Family
Sun	21 <sup>st</sup>	11:00am	St Teresa	Fourth Sunday of Advent	Peter Devlin RIP
Mon	22 <sup>nd</sup>	9:30am	St George	Weekday of Advent II	Fr James Byrne RIP
<b>Tues</b>	<b>23<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>6:00am</b>	<b>St George</b>	<b>Simbang Gabi Mass</b>	<b>Jonathan Marshall</b>
Tues	23 <sup>rd</sup>	9:30am	St George	Weekday of Advent II	Christine Ring-Birthday
Tues	23 <sup>rd</sup>	1:15pm	Musgrove Chapel	Weekday of Advent II	People of the Parishes
Wed	24 <sup>th</sup>	9:30am	St George	Weekday of Advent II	Donald Mackey RIP
<b>Wed</b>	<b>24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>4:00pm</b>	<b>St Teresa</b>	<b>Christmas Family Mass</b>	<b>People of the Parishes</b>
<b>Wed</b>	<b>24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>6:00pm</b>	<b>St George</b>	<b>Christmas Family Mass</b>	<b>People of the Parishes</b>
<b>Wed</b>	<b>24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9:15pm</b>	<b>St George</b>	<b>Vigil to Midnight Mass</b>	<b>People of the Parishes</b>
<b>Wed</b>	<b>24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10:00pm</b>	<b>St George</b>	<b>Christmas Eve (Midnight) Mass</b>	<b>People of the Parishes</b>
<b>Wed</b>	<b>24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10:00pm</b>	<b>St John Fisher</b>	<b>Christmas Eve (Midnight) Mass</b>	<b>People of the Parishes</b>
<b>Wed</b>	<b>24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>8:00am</b>	<b>St George</b>	<b>Solemnity of the Nativity</b>	<b>People of the Parishes</b>
<b>Thurs</b>	<b>25<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9:15am</b>	<b>St George</b>	<b>Solemnity of the Nativity</b>	<b>People of the Parishes</b>
<b>Thurs</b>	<b>25<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>11:00am</b>	<b>St Teresa</b>	<b>Solemnity of the Nativity</b>	<b>People of the Parishes</b>
Fri	26 <sup>th</sup>	10:00am	St Teresa	Feast of St Stephen	Michela & Francesco Petraschi RIP
Sat	27 <sup>th</sup>	9:30am	St George	Feast of St Stephen	James Littlejohns RIP
Sat	27 <sup>th</sup>	5:30pm	St John Fisher	Feast of the Holy Family	The Helm/Knott Family
Sun	28 <sup>th</sup>	8:00am	St George	Feast of the Holy Family	Carlos Walsh RIP
Sun	28 <sup>th</sup>	9:15am	St George	Feast of the Holy Family	Larry Kent RIP
Sun	28 <sup>th</sup>	11:00am	St Teresa	Feast of the Holy Family	John Lowe RIP

### CONTACT US

Parish Priest: Fr David Savoury VF [david.savoury@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:david.savoury@cliftondiocese.com)

Assistant Priest: Fr Noriel Salvador [Noriel.salvador@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:Noriel.salvador@cliftondiocese.com)

Permanent Deacon: Rev Trevor Jones [trevor.jones@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:trevor.jones@cliftondiocese.com) 01823 270935

**PARISH WEBSITE:** <https://tauntonvalecatholics.com> Parish Administrator: Diz Horne [taunton.stgeorge@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:taunton.stgeorge@cliftondiocese.com)

Parish Office: 01823 272700 Mon 9-1, Tues-Thurs 9-2, Fri 9-4

### SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVE:

John Twomey [psr.taunton.stgeorge@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:psr.taunton.stgeorge@cliftondiocese.com) **DIOCESAN SAFEGUARDING:** [safeguarding@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:safeguarding@cliftondiocese.com) 0117 954 0993

*The readings of the last Sunday of Advent always turn to Mary, as she waits for her child to be born. The prophecy in this first reading was given in 736 BC, when King Ahaz of Judah was about to be forced into an alliance, in a vain attempt to oppose the crushing military power of Babylon. Isaiah goes to him and warns him that the alliance would be fatal: he had better trust in the LORD.*

*Isaiah promises a sign, which Ahaz refuses. He does not want to be convinced! What is this sign?*

*The original Hebrew reads, 'A girl is with child and will bear a son', indicating that within a few months the threat will vanish and Jerusalem will be convinced that God is on their side – hence the boy will be called Emmanuel, in relieved gratitude.*

*But the Greek translation of the Hebrew, made some 200 years before the birth of Jesus, translates 'The virgin is with child', which the evangelist Matthew sees as a prophecy of the birth of Jesus from the virgin Mary. The symbolic name Emmanuel then becomes a promise of the presence of God in the world at our side.*

*So this last Sunday of Advent let's claim this gift, this good news in our own time. We know that the prophecy of Isaiah is being fulfilled and the fruits of this we experience in and through our baptism. This week let's celebrate the gift of baptism, the life of Christ in us. Maybe try and memorise our own baptism day, so that each year we can thank God for his eternal presence in us. Let's also make a renewal to love Mary, the Mother of God. Let's take her into our homes and make her our mother too.*

**Brother Nohil D' Souza**

## **NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ST JOHN FISHER:** wine and mince pies will be available after this Saturday's Mass (the 20<sup>th</sup>). Please join us!

**ST TERESA:** Our Jessie tree is up-please take a tag, they're all different amounts. There is list on the tree of what the Foodbank need. This Sunday 21 December after Mass we will be putting up the crib and would love help from children. There will be mulled wine & mince pies with a list of who is bringing them at the back of church.

**ST GEORGE JESSE TREE:** St Georges Junior Choir have kindly put up the Jesse Tree. Please can you put your presents under the Jesse Tree by **this** Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December so that we can deliver them to Open Door in time for Christmas. Thank you for your ongoing support.

### **CHRISTMAS SERVICE OF CAROLS AND READINGS BY**

**CANDLELIGHT:** 3.30pm **this** Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December, in St George's Church. This service will be followed by mulled wine and mine pies in the Parish Centre.

**SIMBANG GABI MASSES:** will be celebrated daily at St George's Church until the 24<sup>th</sup> December at 6am (only those with Mass Intentions shown in the weekly timetable).

**ST GEORGE'S CHURCH CHOIR:** please note that the practice from the 18<sup>th</sup> will now be held on **Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> December** in St George's Church. Junior Choir practice is from 7.00pm – 8.15pm and Choir practice is from 7.30pm – 9.00pm.

**CHRISTMAS PRESENT FROM THE CATENIANS: YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 16 to 25 YEARS ENGAGED IN A VOLUNTARY WORK PROJECT.** Are you one of those who are volunteering to be part of a project in the UK or overseas and looking for some financial assistance? Then the Catenians may be able to help you. For further information and an application form go to:-

<https://catenianbursaryfund.com>

Local contact: Philip Vowles 07746395639

**RETRouvaille: helps marriages.** It can bring hope and healing to relationships. Next date: 12th February 2026.

[www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk) Tel: 07887 296983

## **NOTICES**

**Diocesan Prayer Link:** Sacred Heart, Chew Magna; St Pieus X, Witherwood.

**Standing Orders: 14/12/2025**

St George: £2153.42 St Teresa: £369.92

St John Fisher: £176.08

**Offertory Collection: 14/12/2025**

St George: £1104.00 St Teresa: n/a

St John Fisher: £157.35

**ST TERESA'S MUSIC GROUP:** Help! St Teresa's music group is looking for some more musicians to play on Sunday mornings and over the Christmas period i.e. 21<sup>st</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> December. Please contact: [eileen.binding@gmail.com](mailto:eileen.binding@gmail.com).

**CHRISTMAS GIFT SHOPS:** St Teresa and St George bookshops are filled with gifts, cards and items for Christmas and the New Year.

**BOOK GROUP:** meet in St George's Rectory, first Wednesday of the month at 2pm. Reading "The Lady in the Van" by Alan Bennett for the next meeting. Contact the office for more info.

**FAIRTRADE:** St John Fisher Sat. 20<sup>th</sup> Dec, St Teresa's Sun. 21<sup>st</sup> Dec,

**SYRO-MALABAR CHRISTMAS MIDNIGHT MASS:** will be held at St Teresa on December 24<sup>th</sup> at 10pm

**POLISH COMMUNITY MIDNIGHT MASS:** will be held at St George at 11:30pm on December 24<sup>th</sup>. Polish Community Christmas Masses will be held at St George at 12pm on the 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> December.

**ADORATION AT ST GEORGE:** Cancelled for the 26<sup>th</sup> December and 2<sup>nd</sup> January

**THE PARISH OFFICE:** will close on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of December at 2pm and reopen on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January at 9am.

**CONFESSION TIMES:** At St George's: Sat 10am-10:30am;

Thurs 12 noon -12:30pm

At St Teresa's: Fri 9:30am -10am at St John Fisher: Sat 5pm-5:25pm

**ADORATION TIMES:**

At St George Tues-Sun-6:30am-7:30am;

Wed 6:30am-9:30am; Tue-Fri 5-6pm; Thurs 12 -12:25pm; Fri 5:00am – 9:00pm

Saturdays 10am-11am (Children's Holy hour); St Teresa: Mon 10am;

St John Fisher: Wed 5pm-6pm; Thurs 10-12pm

**BENEDICTION:** 7pm Fridays at St George's Catholic Church

**PARISH COMMUNITIES & FELLOWSHIPS:**

**LEGION OF MARY:** meet Thursday 6:30pm in the Catholic Centre. All welcome

**AFRICAN CATHOLIC FELLOWSHIP:** meet Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> January after 9:15am Mass in the Parish Centre.

**PINOY CLUB:** next meet Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December after **6AM SIMBANG GABI** in the Centre

**PRAYER GROUPS:**

**Charismatic Prayer Group:** every Wednesday 10am-11.30am St. George's Centre

**Led Holy Hour:** St George's on the last Wednesday of the month 7:30-8:30pm

**Mother's Prayer:** Every other Thurs 8-10pm Parish Centre.

**Prepare for Sunday praying the Mass readings together:** Dates for 2026 to be confirmed

**Pray the Rosary:** Tues 6:15pm St George's Church; 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month at 10:30am St John Fisher Church.

**HEALING PRAYER MINISTRIES:**

1<sup>st</sup> weekend each month after all Masses except 8am & after Mass on 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat at St. George.

Appointments are available by mail: [healing@tauntonvalecatholics.com](mailto:healing@tauntonvalecatholics.com)