



# ST MICHAEL & ST GEORGE

The Cathedral Church of the Bishop of the Forces  
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*Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> December 2023*

## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (GAUDETE SUNDAY) – YEAR B

*1100hrs Mass Intention: Candidates for Confirmation*

Entrance Hymn: 108

Offertory Hymn: 869

Communion Hymn: 105

Recessional Hymn: 870

Kyrie: 488

Gloria: None

Sanctus: 490

Acclamation: 491

Great Amen: 494

Agnus Dei: 495

*The obligation for the faithful to attend Holy Mass on a Sunday or Holy Day of Obligation has been reinstated. Pastoral consideration for the vulnerable and those isolating is imperative and appropriate dispensations remain in place for them.*

### WELCOME EVERYONE

For our celebration today you will require a Mass Sheet, a hymn book and a copy of any Mass Settings that we are using, all of which are available from the Welcome Team.

Children over four years old are invited to go to their liturgy with the Catechetical Team following the introduction to the Mass and return at the offertory. Activity bags, containing appropriate books and other materials, hanging on the chairs at the back of church may be borrowed to keep children engaged during Mass.

Please replace them after use and before leaving the building.

After Mass refreshments are served at the back of church.

### MINISTRIES TODAY

Welcome Team: Mrs P Ward; Mrs P Rossiter

Readers: Mr P Ndungu; Mrs S Cole

Children's Liturgy Lead: Mrs P Ryan

### THIS WEEK

The Cathedral is open every working day from *1000hrs - 1600hrs*

Mon 18<sup>th</sup> Dec: *Feria of Advent, Week 3, Year II*

Tue 19<sup>th</sup> Dec: *Feria of Advent, Week 3, Year II*

Wed 20<sup>th</sup> Dec: *Feria of Advent, Week 3, Year II*

1145hrs – Midday Prayer (Psalter Week III)

1200hrs – Holy Mass

*Gill Hyman RIP*

Thu 21<sup>st</sup> Dec: *Feria of Advent, Week 3, Year II*

Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec: *Feria of Advent, Week 3, Year II*

1400hrs – Holy Rosary for peace

1430hrs – Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

1545hrs – Holy Communion outside of Mass

### NEXT SUNDAY

Welcome Team: Mrs M Casey; Mrs E Gillham

Readers: Mrs C Pritchard; Mrs N Francis-Crerar

Children's Liturgy Lead: Mrs F Qiatabua

### PRAYER INTENTIONS

Please keep the members of our Armed Forces, their families and all support staff, together with those who are currently undertaking Instruction in the Faith and all making their commitment to Christ through Confirmation, in your personal intercessions.

### SEASONAL INVITATION

The Cathedral will host The Royal Military Academy Sandhurst this afternoon at 1530hrs for their annual Carol Service. The celebration is open for all who wish to attend.

### LIVESTREAMING LITURGIES

Sunday's Mass Zoom Invitation details – ID: 829 3840 8072

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82938408072?pwd=ZWMwWHFiT3pYdm5mSHhSSzY4RXRnZz09> Passcode: 506146

### TODAY'S COMMEMORATION

Gaudete Sunday is a counterpart to Laetare Sunday (Fourth Sunday of Lent), and provides a similar break through a season which is otherwise of a penitential character. The day takes its common name from the Latin word Gaudete ('Rejoice'), the first word of the introit of today's Mass. The spirit of the liturgy all through Advent is one of expectation and preparation for the feast of Christmas, as well as for the second coming of Christ, and the penitential exercises suitable to that spirit are, on Gaudete Sunday, suspended, as it were, for a while in order to symbolize that joy and gladness in the promised Redemption. On Gaudete Sunday rose-coloured vestments may be worn instead of violet.

### PAPAL COMMUNICATION

The Holy Father's December Prayer Intention is for our brothers and sisters with disabilities. The text is on the noticeboard and the Bishopric website, with the video at: [www.thepopevideo.org](http://www.thepopevideo.org)

### SACRAMENTAL CELEBRATION

Bishop Paul will be the celebrant at Mass today and he Receive into Full Communion with the Catholic Church Allison (Columba), Malcolm (Ambrose) and Ulric (Michael), and to confer the Sacrament of Confirmation on them together with Angela (Philomena), Imogen (Anastasia), Jacob (Patrick), Michael (Edmund) and Troy (Maximillian).

### WINNING OPPORTUNITY

Tickets will be on sale (at £5 each), and prizes on view, for our Christmas Raffle after Mass from today. Proceeds from the event will go towards those charities that we regularly support and the draw will take place after Mass next Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> December.

### EPISCOPAL ELEVATION

His Holiness Pope Francis has appointed, as the Tenth Bishop of the Diocese of Plymouth, Canon Christopher Whitehead. Further information at: [www.indcatholicnews.com/news/48712](http://www.indcatholicnews.com/news/48712)

### AND FINALLY ...

... it takes nothing to join the crowd, but everything to stand alone.

*With every blessing*  
*Fr Nick*