

Message to the Catholic Community from the Catholic Education Service. Last year the Government promised to lift the 50% cap on faith admissions for new religious schools. This policy had proved to be an effective ban on any new Catholic schools as our Bishops ruled that opening a Catholic school that tuned away Catholics for being Catholic was against Canon Law. The 50% cap was a policy that specifically targeted Catholics as Catholic schools are popular with parents of all faiths and none. Last September the Government acknowledged the cap was unfair to the Catholic community and pledged to scrap it. The Conservatives even included a commitment to remove it in their manifesto. Unfortunately, the feedback we are getting is that the Secretary of State for Education is thinking about U-turning on this and breaking the Government's promise to Catholics. The Catholic community now needs to make its collective voice heard and tell the Secretary of State that this level of discrimination against Catholic schools, parents and children will not be tolerated. As such we are urging Catholics to write to the Secretary of State and their MP expressing their concern that this promise to our community could be broken. These letters can be easily sent by following this link, <http://catholicnews.org.uk/education-cap> inserting your details and clicking 'send'.

Pope Francis December Intentions: The Elderly.

That the elderly, sustained by families and Christian communities, may apply their wisdom and experience to spreading the faith and forming the new generations.



Prayer for the Advent Wreath

Lord, our God, we praise You for Your Son, Jesus Christ, for He is Emmanuel, the Hope of all people. He is the Wisdom that teaches and guides us. He is the Saviour of us all.

O Lord, let your blessing come upon us as we light the first (purple) candle of this wreath. May the wreath and its light be a sign of Christ's promise of salvation. May He come quickly and not delay. We ask this in His holy name. Amen.



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**Clergy:
Fr. Gabriel Ofor
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First Sunday of Advent

3rd – 10th December 2017

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| Sunday 3.12 | 10am 11.30am | Fr Mariano Tarrosa RIP Pat O'Rourke RIP | Is 63:16-17, 64:1.3-8 1 Cor 1:3-9 Mk 13:33-37 |
| Monday 4.12 | | | |
| Tue 5.12 | 10am | Cathy McCreach's intention | Is 11:1-10 Lk 10:21-24 |
| Wed 6.12 | 6.30pm | Christine Hipwell RIP - Anniversary | Is 25:6-10 Mt 15:29-37 |
| Thu 7.12 | 10am | Veronich Mukani & Grace Wanjiku | Is 26:1-6 Mt 7:21.24-27 |
| Friday 8.12 | 10am | Veronich Mukani & Grace Wanjiku | Gen 3:9-15.20 Eph 1:3-6.11-12 Lk 1:26-38 |
| Sat 9.12 | 10am | Pat O'Connor - Speedy recovery | Is 30:19-21.23-26 Mt 9:35-10:1.6-8 |
| Sunday 10.12 | 10am 11.30am | Pat O'Rourke RIP Constanca Pereira Carvalho RIP | Is 40:1-5.9-11 2 Pt 3:8-14 Mk 1:1-8 |

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 1 hour each day before weekly Mass
Sacrament of Reconciliation after Mass on Saturday, or whenever required.**

Feasts of the week: Thursday, St. Ambrose, bishop and doctor.
Friday, The Immaculate Conception of the BVM.

Please note: Children Liturgy is available at both Masses on Sunday.



Please remember in your prayers all the sick and housebound people of the parish.

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| | Sunday. If you can help, please speak to Maila Taylor. |
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