

An Advent Prayer

Still at last, dear lord, I come to you,
weary from the busyness of a thousand things
Which clamour for attention,
But longing to feel your touch afresh
This Christmastime.

Kindle in me a love for you
Which finds time for you,
Which responds to you,
Which yearns for your return.
Cause my heart to leap for joy
As I anticipate that great fact of the future—
Your re-entry to earth

Pour into me
The certainty that believes
That all life is to be lived under the shadow
Of that miraculous return,
The courage to live life your way
And the resilience to hold on to that hope
When times are hard or my body is tired.

Bring me to Christmas Day
Not irritated with the commercialization
Which it is surrounded

But rather, rejoicing in the message of the angels:

To me
Today
Is born
My saviour.

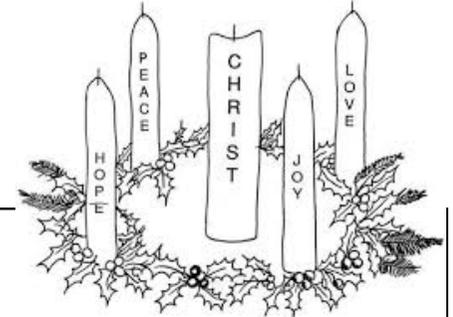
Joyce Huggett

St Aelred's Harrogate

Parish Bulletin

3rd Sunday of Advent

Psalter week 3 Mass Book Page 87



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Mass Times for Christmas:

Christmas Eve	6.30 pm (Vigil)
	10.00pm (Midnight Mass)
Christmas Day	10.00am

Sat 16/12	6.30pm	Mass Private Intention
Sun 17/12	10am	Mass Terry Gilhooly
Mon 18/12	9am	Mass Holy Souls
Tues 19/12	9am	Mass Maureen and James Stamper
Weds 20/12	9am	Mass Anne Schienderfer
Thurs 21/12	9am	Mass Holy Souls
Fri 22/12	9am	Mass Holy Souls
Sat 23/12	10am	Mass Private Intention
	6.30pm	Mass (Vigil Mass of Sunday)

Please note there will be no 10am Mass on Sunday 24th December

Your prayers are asked for the sick: Bridget Nelson, Ella J, Anne Jensen, Linda Steele and Marjorie Norris

Recently deceased: George Giarchi, Thomas P Quinn. **Anniversary:** Terry Gilhooly & James Stamper

Sacrament of Reconciliation Saturday 10.30am-11am.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Weekdays 8am—10pm.

	Eucharistic Minister	Reader	Prayers
SAT	Graham Barker, Janet Snelling, Manu Rony, Pat Hudson	Alison Ashworth, Michael McCann	David Rutherford
SUN	Margaret Boland, Tim Bird, John Cornforth, David Thomas	John Hansard, Fran Varley	Joyce Topham

Nativity- For all children who are taking part in this years nativity, please can they meet in the Church Hall at 10am next Saturday, 23rd December.

Christmas Cards—Issued by the local Churches with the times of all the services for local Churches. We would be grateful if you could please help deliver these cards in the relevant areas, please collect them from the back of Church.

St Aelred's Mens Spirituality Group Meetings will be held starting at 7am in the Parish room on 19th December. This is a very good way to prepare for the real meaning of Christmas. Each meeting will take no more than 45 minutes to enable the workers to get to work. Contact Deacon David if you want any further information.

The Church shop now has in stock **Church diaries for 2018**. We also still have

Christmas cards, Advent calendars and some other Christmas items.

APF Box If you have a **red Mission APF box** and you have not had it emptied for some time, please leave it in the library area at the back of church, any weekend in December. If you would like it to be collected from your house, please call Michael Gilhooly on 01423 548872.

The CAFOD Family Chocolate Bingo Night Friday 5th January 6-7.30pm in the Church hall. Families can buy bingo cards when they arrive on the night. Chocolate prizes to be won for a line or a full house! Bingo books will be £3 each and the event is free to enter. Juice and a snack will be provided and parents are expected to stay with their children for the evening. We kindly ask that you donate any chocolate prizes and leave in the plastic container at the back of Church marked 'Chocolate

Bingo'. Even if you are not able to take part on the night itself we would really appreciate your donations. To give us an idea of numbers, please write your name on the form on the notice board at the back of Church if you would like to join in on the fun!

Carol Singing at Leeds

Bradford Airport— This year because of the collapse of Monarch Airlines the "Secret Santa" flight for severely disabled children didn't take place. So we were not asked to do our usual Carol Singing at the airport thanks to all of you who offered perhaps next year.

Diocese of Leeds Directory

2018—Have arrived and are now on sale in the shop, priced £3.00.

Friends of Holy Land- Crib

Collection The box at our Crib is for donations to the work of Friends of the Holy Land, our Ecumenical charity supporting the beleaguered Christians of Bethlehem and beyond - "The Living Stones" to stay living, working and worshipping in the land of

Shoe Box Appeal—Thank you for your wonderful generosity with donations of £228 and the

beautifully wrapped and carefully filled Christmas food parcels. After all was safely gathered in there were over 250! They have arrived safely in Romania to the joy of our colleagues who have emailed their thanks and prayers for you all. It's in good time for them all to be delivered to those most in need. God bless you all for sending God's love and light into some very sad and poor little homes. Blessings to you all for Christmas, Kathy

Community Carol Service The Starbeck Community Carol Service will be held on Sunday 17th December at 6pm at Starbeck Methodist Church. You are all most welcome.

Last week's collection:

Loose: £189.97, Gift Aid: £372.62, Planned: £26.00 Total: £588.59
Peru Missions: £189.50, Christmas Fayre: £760.00

Birthdays:

Ella Roxby
Elisabetta Piano
Finn Thurstan
Avelon Binoy

