

The Haverfordwest Local Ministry Area
Advent 4: Sunday 18^h December

COLLECT

God our redeemer, who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son: grant that, as she looked for his coming as our Saviour, so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our Judge; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING (Isaiah 7:10-16)

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. Then Isaiah said: 'Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM (Psalm 80:1-7)

Hear, O / Shepherd of / Israel :
you that led / Joseph / like a / flock;

Shine forth, you that are enthroned up/on the / cherubim :
before Ephraim, / Benjamin / and Ma/nasseh.

Stir up your / mighty / strength :
and / come to / our sal/vation.

Turn us a/gain, O / God :
show the light of your countenance, / and we / shall be / saved.

O Lord / God of / hosts :
how long will you be angry / at your / people's / prayer?

You feed them with the / bread of / tears :
you give them a/bundance of / tears to / drink.

You have made us the derision / of our / neighbours :
and our / enemies / laugh us to / scorn.

Turn us again, O / God of / hosts :
show the light of your countenance, / and we / shall be / saved.

SECOND READING (Romans 1:1-7)

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ.

To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL (Matthew 1:18-25)

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.' All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: 'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel', which means, 'God is with us.' When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Heavenly Father, who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of the promised Saviour: fill us your servants with your grace, that in all things we may embrace your holy will and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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Notices

Sunday 18th December

8:00am Low Mass at St Martins, Haverfordwest

9:30am Sung Parish Mass at St Martin's, Haverfordwest

10:15am Holy Eucharist at St Ishmael's, Camrose

11:15am Sung Parish Eucharist at which the Junior Singers will participate at St Mary's, Haverfordwest

3:00pm Parish Family Service at St Marys

6:00pm Service of Nine Lessons and Carols at St Martins

Tuesday 20th December

7:00pm Tasker Milward Reunion Choir Concert at St Marys

Wednesday 21st December

10:00am Mass followed by coffee at St Martins

Friday 23rd December

11:00am Holy Eucharist followed by tea and toast at St Marys

Saturday 24th December (Christmas Eve)

3:00pm Family Crib Service at St Marys

4:00pm Crib Service at St Ishmaels, Camrose

11:30pm Midnight Mass at St Martins

11:30pm Midnight Mass at St Ishmaels, Camrose

Services on Sunday 25th December

Christmas Day

9:30am Holy Eucharist at St Mary's, Haverfordwest

10:15am Holy Eucharist at St Ishmael's, Camrose

Parish Clergy

Vicar: Fr Nick Cale, St Martin's Vicarage, Barn Street, Haverfordwest. Tel. 01437 762303.
Email: nickthevic@parishofhaverfordwest.co.uk (Day of rest: Tuesday)

Assistant Curate: Fr Alun Evans, St Thomas House, Scarrowscant Lane, Haverfordwest.
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Assistant Curate: Rev. Heather Cale, St Martin's Vicarage, Barn Street, Haverfordwest.
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Haverfordwest Local Ministry Area

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Haverfordwest Parish Website: www.parishofhaverfordwest.co.uk

Haverfordwest Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/parishofhaverfordwest

Camrose Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/CamroseParishChurch