



Port Elizabeth Oratory

Parish of St Bernadette

Sunday 8 December 2019: Second Sunday of Advent (A)

Advent Oratory

Our Advent Oratory is taking place again this year on Thursday evenings leading up to Christmas (12th & 19th December). As our annual celebration of Our Lord's holy Nativity approaches, the Advent Oratory is a special opportunity to focus upon the spiritual meaning of our Christmas preparations and to reflect prayerfully upon the mystery of the Incarnation.

Programme: Confessions, 17:00-17:25; Blessing with relic of St Philip, 17:20. Oratory, 17:30-18:15, a talk in church on an Advent theme (by one of the Oratorians) followed by a period of silent prayer and then some Oratorian prayers and chants (finishing by 18:15).

As a result of the Advent Oratory there will be no 17:30 Mass on the Thursdays of Advent; instead, there will be an early morning Mass at 06:30.

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, 9th December

The Solemnity of **Our Blessed Lady's Immaculate Conception** falls this year on Monday 9th December, transferred from its normal day of 8th September, which this year falls this Sunday. (In the Extraordinary Form of the Mass however, which keeps to a slightly different calendar, the Immaculate Conception is observed on the Sunday itself this year, a rare occurrence). In this wonderful feast we honour Our Lady as free from all sin from the first moment of her earthly existence. *The 5.30pm Mass on Monday will be sung.*

The spiritual patronage and presence of the Blessed Virgin in fact is commemorated a number of times in this the second week of Advent. Tuesday 10th is the first time that we celebrate the new memorial of **Our Lady of Loreto**, which commemoration Pope Francis has recently announced is to be observed in the Universal Church. The feast commemorates Mary in her intimate connection to the shrine of Loreto in Italy, which, it is believed, contains the physical house of the Blessed Virgin, transferred there according to Tradition in a mysterious way at a date set in the Middle Ages. The shrine has been a site of devotion for numerous Popes and Saints – our own St Francis de Sales and Blessed Anthony Grassi were especially devoted to Our Lady of Loreto. The Litany of Loreto, moreover, is one of the best-known devotions to the Blessed Mother. Mary is also commemorated on a further day this week, Thursday (12th), now under the title of **Our Lady of Guadalupe**. This memorial is based upon the visions of Mary by Saint Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin in Mexico in 1531. The principal Marian shrine of the Americas, Our Lady of Guadalupe is specially invoked for the protection of the unborn. Our Lady of Guadalupe is in fact one of the most popular titles under which Mary is honoured in the Universal Church.



This "Marian week" of Advent is an opportunity to reflect of the gift of Holy Mary, the Immaculate Virgin, through whom we receive Jesus her Son in the mystery of Christmas, and who is spiritually present to the Church at each moment of her history, as she has not ceased to manifest by the apparitions and messages which have lasted down to our own day. In our Church dedicated to a modern visionary, St Bernadette, we rejoice this week especially with all those who commemorate Mary's constant loving care of all her children.

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

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| 24 December | 18:00 Vigil: Gregorian Chant with Carols 23:00 Midnight Mass - Carols begin at 22:30 |
| 25 December | 07:00 Hymns 08:30 Choir 10:00 Extraordinary Form Latin with Chant |
| Confession: | |
| 24 December | 16:00 - 17:45, 22:00 - 23:45 and 20 minutes before each Christmas Mass |
| New Years Service | 31 December 23:30 - 00:15 |



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| <p>Mass Times</p> <p>Saturday 18:00 (Vigil) Gregorian Chant</p> <p>Sunday</p> <p>07:00 Said</p> <p>08:30 Choir</p> <p>10:00 Extraordinary Form (Latin, with Chant)</p> <p>11:00 Walmer Township</p> <p>18:00 Youth</p> <p>Mon - Fri: 08:30 & 17:30 Sat: 08:30</p> <p>Rosary: Mon - Sat after 8:30am Mass</p> <p>Divine Mercy: Monday after Rosary</p> | <p>Confessions</p> <p>20 mins before <i>all</i> Sun. morning Masses; Sunday evenings from 17:30; Saturdays from 17:00; Fridays 16:30 - 17:20. At other times on request</p> <p>Solemn Vespers Sunday 17:00</p> <p>Blessing with the relic of St Philip Thursdays 09:00 & 17:20</p> <p>Exposition Friday 16:30; Saturday 17:00</p> <p>Benediction Saturday 17:40 Sunday 17:30</p> | <p>Sunday Readings:</p> <p>Daily Missal 48</p> <p>Sunday Missal 25</p> <p>Collins - Old 82</p> <p>Collins - New 114</p> <p>Roman Missal 90</p> <p>Psalm response:</p> <p>In his days shall justice flourish, and great peace forever.</p> <p>Extraordinary Form:</p> <p>Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary</p> |
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Announcements

Ryan Mulvihill and Shelby Hastie will be married on Saturday 14 December 2019



SVDP: December Wishlist

01 Dec - Tinned Fish (400g tin)
08 Dec - Sugar Beans (500g)
15 Dec - Brown Sugar (1kg)
22 Dec - Peanut Butter (400g)
29 Dec - Samp (2,5kg bag)

Make easy purchases or donations straight to the parish bank account using our digital snapcode.

Snap Scan



PARISH OF ST BERNADETTE 75th ANNIVERSARY



Thirty eight tiles of the puzzle are now up on the Anniversary Pledge Board. Please continue to support our fundraiser. Pledge forms are available on the table in the church foyer and in the parish office.

The General Audience of Pope Francis is available in the foyer. Please collect a copy.

Parish Notices

Catechism: Please note there are no more Catechism classes for the year.

The Sewing Group raffle was won by Nadine Westenberg.

Parish Office: The parish office will be closed from Tuesday 17 December 2019 and reopen on Monday 6 January 2020.

Mass Intentions: Please give your Mass Intentions (up to and including 12 January 2020) to the parish office before noon on Thursday 12 December.

Living Faith: The latest issue for January to March is available from the repository and the parish office. The price is now R30 per copy. Liturgical calendars for 2020 (R20 each) and devotional books "God's Word 2020" (R90 each) are on sale in the Repository.

Advent Appeal: All second collections for December will be in aid of Bishop Zungu's Advent Appeal.

Advent calendars are being sold from the Repository, at R30 each, on behalf of the Catechism classes.

News from the Diocese

The St Padre Pio Prayer Group are meeting at 7.30pm in the Chapel at Nazareth House on Monday, 9 December. Friends are most welcome to attend.

Congratulations to Sr Bartholomew Cunningham MSA

on the wonderful occasion of her 100th birthday. May every moment of this special day will be filled with joy and happiness for her and all the Assumption Sisters.

Condolences to the family and friends of Fr Owen Wilcock, who died in a car accident on Tuesday 3 December. The accident also claimed the life of St John Vianney staff member, Fr Sibusiso Zulu from the Eshowe Diocese. Two other SJV staff members, Fr John Selemela and Fr Ricardo Smuts are currently in hospital in Polokwane. Condolences and prayers go out to the Diocese of Eshowe and all the family members and friends of Fr Sibusiso Zulu. The Requiem Mass for Fr Owen will be held on Wednesday 11 December 2019 at 11:00 at Eucharistic Heart Parish, 9 Brabant Street, Cambridge, East London.

Carols by Candlelight



20 December, in the Oratory Garden, 6pm - 8pm. Please bring own candles and a picnic dinner to enjoy while we sing.



Last Sunday the Oratory hosted the annual Parish braai in the Oratory garden. With near-perfect weather, it was a wonderful day enjoyed by all.

Liturgical Week

2nd Sunday of Advent

Immaculate Conception of Our Lady

Our Lady of Loretto

Feria / St Damasus I

Feria / Our Lady of Guadalupe

St Lucy

St John of the Cross

3rd Sunday of Advent

Mass Intentions

Sat. Vigil

Sunday

18:00 Ruth Illenberger RIP (Illenberger family)

7:00 Pro Populo; 8:30 Ints of Simbonile Venske (Venske family);

10:00 Neville & Geraldine Grimbeek RIP (Boezio Family); 18:00 Donor's Ints

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Sunday

8:30 Anna Giuseppina Zanna RIP (Anniversary) (Gouws family); 17:30 Donor's Ints

8:30 Ints of Loretta Free; 17:30 Donor's Ints

8:30 Ints of Matthew Gouws (His family); 17:30 Donor's Ints

6:30 For a special intention; 8:30 Donor's Ints

8:30 Joe & Sidonie Robertson RIP (Sheila Sullivan); 17:30 Donor's Ints

8:30 Ints of Megan Mowatt (Her family); 18:00 Hugh Michael Assheton-Smith RIP (His family)

7:00 Donor's Ints; 8:30 Ints of the Oratory Fathers;

10:00 For a special intention (Boezio family); 18:00 Pro Populo