

Introduction: On the third Sunday of Advent we light the pink candle on the Advent wreath. On this “Gaudete” Sunday we focus on expectancy and celebration, “gaudete” being a Latin word commanding us to rejoice. We celebrate together in the hope we have because, despite the evils in the world, Christ is with us.

First Reading Isaiah 35:1-6. 10

Desolate, dry places will be transformed into paradise. Creation’s praise joins human praise, recognising God’s marvellous works. We daily need to renew our faltering faith.

Second Reading James 5:7-10

James emphasises patience, explaining that we must wait patiently just as a farmer waits for seeds to grow.

Gospel Matthew 11:2-11 - Jesus wants to assure both John and his disciples that he is the Messiah. He also reminds them that his power is displayed in humble acts of service rather than spectacular displays of political power.

Please pray for Jean Aspden, lately dead and for all whose anniversaries occur at this time:

DECEMBER

11 Elizabeth Kelly

12 Emma Constance Roche, George Gardner, Kenneth Sanders

13 Winifred Forrest **15** John Keefe

16 James Leo Lowery, Pauline Daly

Round Stained Glass Windows Appeal

Window Restoration Fund Total Raised to date **£4305.50**

Mass Intentions All Mass offerings and intentions are most welcome. If you require a Mass on a particular day, please let Canon Adrian know or place the intention, offering and details in an envelope on the collection plate at the back of church.

SVP Christmas Cards, are available at the back of church, each pack is priced. **Please put payment for the cards into the SVP Wall Box.**

**Parishes of
St Andrew & Blessed George Haydock, Cottam,
and St Mary, Lea Town**

**Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday)
11th December 2022**

Parish Priest: Canon Adrian J. Towers VF

114 Hoyles Lane, Cottam, PR4 0NB

Tel: (01772) 726166 E-mail: parishpriest@standrewscottam.org.uk

Deacon: Rev. John W Cliffe

Tel: 01257 264445 johnccliffe@standrewscottam.org.uk

Baptisms and Marriages by Arrangement.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation Saturday (4.30pm to 5pm) or on request. Please call in to the Presbytery or speak to Canon Adrian before or after Mass.

The Diocesan Safeguarding Coordinator

Tel: 01772 728433. Website: www.catholicsafeguarding.org.uk

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See how the farmer
awaits the precious
yield of the soil.

James 5:7

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art by Julie Lonneman



SATURDAY 10 December

5.30pm Vigil Mass) Christians of the Holy Land

This Mass will be live streamed from Parish website

SUNDAY 11 December - Mass Books Year A – p88

Gaudete Sunday

9.00am (Lea Town) People of the Parish

10.30am Doris Graham RIP Anniversary (7668)

3.00pm Afternoon Devotions

6.00pm Jean Aspden RIP (7674)

MONDAY 12 December

Our Lady of Guadalupe (Opt. Memorial)

9.15am Deceased Members of the Lakeland Family (7678)

TUESDAY 13 December – St. Lucy (Memorial) - NO MASS

WEDNESDAY 14 December

St. John of the Cross (Memorial)

9.15am Watt Family (7681)

THURSDAY 15 December

11.00am (Cottam) Requiem – Jean Aspden

FRIDAY 16 December

9.15am Gerard Waddingham RIP (7675)

SATURDAY 17 December

9.15am Holy Souls

5.30pm (Vigil Mass) Jenny & Terry O'Farrell – Anniversary
(7677)

Confessions Each Saturday from 4.30pm to 5.00pm.

Children's Liturgy at St Andrew's at the 10.30 am Mass. Please encourage parents to bring their children to this Mass as we prepare for Christmas.

Tea/Coffee & Light refreshments in the Haydock Room after 10.30am Mass. Please come along.

Welcome Lottie Jo Mary Hitchens, who will be baptised at St Mary's, today.

Congratulations to Philip Nagy and Jennifer Mather who were married at St Andrew's on Saturday.

St Mary's Christmas Raffle will take place **TODAY**

Sunday 11 December after the 9 am Mass in the Annex, All welcome.

St Mary's December Coffee Morning TODAY Sunday 11 December to coincide with the Christmas Raffle.

Christmas Wreath Making – NOTE This event is fully booked. If you have already booked please pick up an instruction sheet from the back of church.

Christmas Masses

Christmas Eve (Saturday 24 December)

5.30pm (Cottam) Children's First Mass of Christmas

8.30pm (Cottam) Mass during the Night

Christmas Day (Sunday 25 December)

(Lea Town) 9.00am, (Cottam) 10.30am.

(PLEASE NOTE NO 6PM MASS ON CHRISTMAS DAY(SUNDAY))

Sacramental Preparation 2023 We are looking forward to starting our preparation classes again next year. All classes will take place at 3.20pm in St Mary's annex.

First Reconciliation classes: 21 February and 28 February

The children's First Reconciliation St Mary's church 3.20pm 7 March.

First Holy Communion classes: 21 March, 4 April and 18 April

First Holy Communion Mass: St Mary's, 9am Mass Sunday 23 April.

You are welcome to contact me via Canon Towers if you have any queries. We look forward to the privilege of guiding the children in their preparations. Jackie Fitzpatrick, Angela Pye and Jo Beesley

NOTE: ST MARY & ST ANDREW'S SCHOOL CHILDREN WILL BE FOLLOWING SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION CLASSES AT SCHOOL