St Peter's Catholic Church

London Road, Gloucester GL1 3EX
Tel: 01452 523603
Email: info@stpetersgloucester.org.uk
Parish website: www.stpetersgloucester.org.uk
Diocesan website: www.cliftondiocese.com
Diocese of Clifton Registered Charity No. 233977

Parish Priest:	Monsignor Liam Slattery VG *liam@stpetersgloucester.org.uk*
In Residence:	Fr Gerry Walsh
Deacons:	Rev Colm Robinson, Rev Tim Meadows
Parish Secretary:	Mrs Thérèse English *secretary@stpetersgloucester.org.uk*
Parish Office:	Tuesday - Friday 9.30am-1.30pm

Sunday Mass Times

6.00pm (Sat), 9.00am, 10.30am, 2.15pm (Polish), 5.30pm

Reconciliation/Confessions

Saturday: 10.30am-11.30am & 5.15pm – 5.45pm

Schools

St Peter's Catholic Primary School.
Tel: 01452 524792. Web: www.st-peters-pri.gloucs.sch.uk
St Peter's Catholic High School & Sixth Form Centre.
Tel: 01452 520594. Web: www.st-petershigh.gloucs.sch.uk

1st December 2013- 1st Sunday of Advent

Mass Text

Responsorial Psalm:	I rejoiced when I heard them say: 'Let us go to God's house.'
Gospel Acclamation:	Alleluia, alleluia! Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help. Alleluia!

Preface: 1 of Advent **Eucharistic Prayer:** 3

Next Sunday – 2nd Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 11:1-10. Romans 15:4-9. Matthew 3:1-12.

THE SEASON OF ADVENT 2013: The liturgical year begins with the Advent Season, which starts four Sundays before December 25th and ends at the Christmas Vigil Mass. As the Roman Missal reminds us: *'Advent has a twofold character: as a season to prepare for Christmas when Christ's first coming to us is remembered; as a season when that remembrance directs the mind and heart to await Christ's Second Coming at the end of time. Advent is thus a period for devout and joyful expectation'*. During the season of Advent we remember the long years of waiting by the people of Israel for the Messiah, the message of hope in the prophets, and how Mary and Joseph were faithful to God's plan. The Catechism of the Catholic Church stresses this two-fold meaning of this "coming": *"When the Church celebrates the liturgy of Advent each year, she makes present this ancient expectancy of the Messiah, for by sharing in the long preparation for the Saviour's first coming, the faithful renew their ardent desire for His Second Coming"* (No. 524).

A TIME OF REFLECTION FOR ADVENT: On Thursday 19th December at 7.30pm. More details to follow.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES: Christmas Eve: 6.00pm and 12midnight. Christmas Day: 9.00am and **10.45am**, 2.15pm (Polish). Crib Service for younger children at 3.30pm on Christmas Eve.

PARISH CAROL SERVICE: The Parish Carol Service will take place in church on Sunday December 22nd at 4.00pm. Do join us as we gather to sing carols as part of our preparation for Christmas.

CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH: If you, or someone you know, is going to be on their own on Christmas Day please see Mgr Liam. A group of parishioners is willing to get together to cook a Christmas Lunch on Christmas Day for people who would otherwise be on their own. There is no need to be alone. Come and enjoy it with us.

CHRISTMAS HAMPER RAFFLE: Each weekend during Advent, the Friends of St Peter's will be selling raffle tickets. There are three prizes, one large seasonal food hamper, one smaller hamper and a £20 meat voucher. Tickets are £1 per strip. In aid of the Lady Chapel restoration.

ADVENT PENETENTIAL SERVICE: On Monday December 16th at 7.00pm in church during which a number of priests from the deanery will be available to hear confessions. Details of other penitential services in the Gloucester Deanery as follows: Thursday December 12th 6.30pm St Augustine's Matson, Tuesday December 17th 7pm Our Lady of Lourdes Newent, Wednesday December 18th 7pm St Margaret Mary Coleford, Thursday December 19th 7pm Our Lady of Perpetual Succour Churchdown, Friday December 20th 7pm St Patrick's Brockworth.

LAST WEEKEND: Mass Count –833 Offertory - £1374.46
Youth Sunday £421.50

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT: Wednesday 11.30am and Friday at 8.30am

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK: 6.00pm (Sat) *Ints of Di Heal)).* Sunday 9.00am *(People of the Parish).* 10.30am *(Ellery and Marie Earl (Silver Wedding Anniversary))*. 5.30pm (*Tony Walsh RIP)*. Monday 9.30am (*Pat Szarek RIP). Tuesday* 10.30am (*Funeral Mass for Constance (Connie) Worron).* Wednesday 12.00pm *(Ints of Shayna Brindley).* Thursday 9.30am *(Ints of Gerry Dowling).* Friday 9.30am *(Lawrence Stanton RIP).* Saturday 10.00am (*Vocations to Priesthood, Diaconate and Consecrated Life).* 6.00pm (*Ints of Phil O'Connor).*

PRAYERS FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL: Andrea Brushneen, Alison Blake, Hilda Lawrence, Sarah Anderson, Idaline Daley, Ona Pukas, Marie Cunningham, Colin Rocheberry, Jessie Hall, Cheryl Loy, Norah King, George Donovan, Marlene Stafford, Jim Byrne, David McClurg.

PETER'S YOUTH: Next meet on Sunday 8th December in Coffee Bar, 6.30-8.30pm (please note later than normal finish). Dave Wheat will lead an Advent Reflection for the youth of the Deanery.

RCIA - JOURNEY IN FAITH: No meeting this week, next meeting Wednesday 11th December 7.30pm-9.00pm (refreshments from 7.15pm) in the Coffee Bar.

DIVINE MERCY HOLY HOUR: Thursday 5th December 3.00-4.00pm in the church. All are welcome.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME 2014: Meeting for parents/guardians only, who have registered their children for the programme, on Tuesday 10th December at 7.00pm in church.

PIED PIPER CHILDREN'S CHARITY CELEBRATION OF CHRISTMAS CONCERT: In St Peter's Church on Wednesday 4th December, 7.30pm – 9.00pm. Tickets are £5, (children free) and are available from Jane Bruton at the Pied Piper Office - Tel 0300 422 6119 or on the door.

REPOSITORY: Large selection of Christmas Cards, Calendars, Advent Candles, Nativity Scenes etc available now.

FILIPINO DISASTER FUND: The PFA and Y6 at St. Peter's Primary School raised £410 at a cake sale for CAFOD to go to the Filipino Disaster Fund.

PRAYER PRAISE & WORSHIP: Tuesday 3rd December, 8.00pm at The Immaculate Conception, Stroud. Guest Speaker, Kristina Cooper, editor of Good News Magazine. See noticeboard for details.

BAPTISMS: We welcome Filip Karpinski, Azaria Whatmore, Zaion Smith-Sawyers and Brooke Gammon into the family of the church.

FILIPINO MONTHLY MASS: Saturday 7th December at 3.00pm. We will have Revd Fr Mariano Tarrosa, priest-in-residence in St Dunstan's Kings Heath, Birmingham, as officiating priest.

CAROL SERVICE: With the St Leonard's Singers to take place here on Monday 9th December at 7.30pm in support of Gloucester and District Samaritans. To be followed with tea/coffee and mince pie- £1 and the Grand Raffle Draw in aid of Gloucester Samaritans.

AFRICAN CUISINE: Kenyan Style in St Peter's Social Centre Hall Friday December 6th 5.00pm – Midnight. £12.00 per person. See noticeboard.

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT: Start your Christmas by joining St. Peter's High School Choir on Thursday 12th December, 7pm at the Immaculate Conception Church, Stroud for Carols by Candlelight. Tickets £3, £1 for Senior Citizens and students under 18 are available from school reception,01452 520594. All welcome.

PARISH CHRISTMAS SOCIAL: The Friends of St. Peter's invite you to their Quiz/Dance Social on Friday Dec. 13th in the Social Centre in aid of the fund for the restoration of the Lady Chapel. Christmas-themed Quiz 7.30-8.30, then after a Ploughman's Supper, dance to the '50s/'60s music of Bob Nash & The Waisters. Entry £4 only. Prize Raffle.

RIP: Please remember in your prayers those who have died recently.

Constance (Connie) Worron. Her funeral mass takes place on Tuesday December 3rd at 10.30am.

Maureen O'Sullivan. Funeral details to follow.

ST PAUL'S YEARLY SUNDAY MISSAL 2014: Available now price-£6.50.

Finally: Christ is *the centre of the history of humanity and also the centre of the history of every individual*. To him we can bring the joys and the hopes, the sorrows and troubles which are part of our lives. When Jesus is the centre, light shines even amid the darkest times of our lives; he gives us hope. *Pope Francis from homily at Mass for end of Year of Faith*

Vocation Matters- 1st December – 1st Sunday of Advent

"So stay awake, because you do not know when your master is coming"

We're told that Red Bull "gives you wings". By the same token, the drinks 'Monster' and 'Full Throttle' will give you energy, and 'Burn' will "fuel your fire!" There are lots of caffeine products out there to keep us alert and energise us. Nothing beats the Holy Spirit though for keeping us spiritually awake. At the beginning of this Advent Season, we have the opportunity once again to take stock of our lives, make an honest appraisal of where we are in relationship with the Lord and move forward in hope. Allow the Holy Spirit to guide you and deepen your sense of purpose in serving the Lord.