



KENT ESTUARY CATHOLIC CHURCHES

*Our Lady of Lourdes, Arnside
St Charles & St Cuthbert, Grange
Christ the King, Milnthorpe*

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Kent Estuary Catholic Churches. Website:
<https://www.kentestuarycatholicchurches.co.uk>*

THIRD SUNDAY of ADVENT (Year B) Gaudete Sunday

This Sunday's Scripture

Gaudete Sunday means rejoicing Sunday. We exult for joy that our saviour is near to us. The Gospel reminds us that Jesus is present for us today. We are all called to be witnesses with John the Baptist to the Good News of Jesus' presence here and now.

Advent Preparations: We are going to set the scene for Christmas. We build the crib throughout Advent. The crib represents our hearts, and we are going to put Jesus at the centre of it. The weather is cold, so the local shepherds come to the crib for shelter. They represent the ordinary people, like us, who are all invited by a generous God to come close to Him. Let us come to the manger and try to make the Mass of Christmas the centre of our festivities, however inconvenient it may be.

Christmas Eve next Sunday 24th December: The Masses are as shown on the back page. We celebrate the 4th Sunday of Advent in the morning, and then the Christmas Vigil in the evening of Sunday 24th.

KECC News

Please pray for those of our parishes who are sick: Geoff Critchley, Michael Carter, Pam Gee, Stella Naylon, Brian Mills, Eileen Parker, John Browne, Jenny Hodkinson, Kathleen Lavin, David James, Angela Taylor, Philip Barry, Cathy Mayes, Alan Wild, Doreen Wadland, Pat Duckett, Monica Farnworth, Frank Jordan, Geoff Guy, Ira Fishman, George Inchmore, Alex Davies, Mary Wainwright.

Also please pray for those whose anniversaries occur about this time.

GRANGE News:

Afternoon Mass proposal: the PPC decided that we were not in a position to add to our commitments at present by providing an afternoon weekday Mass.

Contemplative Prayer Group: Please note, there will be no contemplative prayer group meetings 21st and 28th December and 4th January. The next meeting will be on Thursday 11th January 2024 in the Presbytery sitting room.

Morning Prayer in church 10am Thursdays and Fridays followed by Rosary on Thursdays and by Adoration (Exposition) on Fridays.

Give Life this Christmas: The SVP are again appealing for funds for their baby feeding stations in South Sudan. Cash or cheque to Liz Lewis. Gift Aided donations MUST be by cheque, payable to "SVP Twinning - South Sudan" and accompanied by a G.A. certificate. For more details contact Liz Lewis on 34017.

Online donations: <https://fundraising.svp.org.uk/SouthSudan>

COLLECTION FOR CHRISTMAS FLOWERS - ST. CHARLES

There will be a collection this SUNDAY 17th DECEMBER for Christmas flowers to beautifully decorate our church for the great feast of Christmas.

CHRISTMAS CARDS and other seasonal items are now available in the porch.

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS IN ST. CHARLES: (POINSETTIA

PLANTS): Anyone wishing to donate a poinsettia plant in memory of a loved one, please bring to church on Thursday 21st or Friday 22nd December and leave in St. Joseph's chapel. There will be a remembrance list at the back of church for names of loved ones to be written.

MILNTHORPE News:

Eucharistic Adoration before Sunday Mass 9.20 - 10.20am – first Sunday of every month. "**Watch an hour with me..**" (Mark 14:37) - or part of one ?

House Group in Yealand. Meets every 1st/3rd week of the month, Tuesday or Thursday. Also a purely social gathering every 3 months. Contact Sioban (07803 967617) or Deirdre (07468 535830) if interested.

Christ the King: "Carols by candlelight" Tues 19th December at 7pm. - a service of carols and readings, followed by mulled wine and mince pies. Bring a friend!

CAFOD World Gifts: The true spirit of Christmas Giving. See www.cafod.org.uk/worldgifts or pick up a catalogue at the back of church.

Christ The King church can be open for private prayer at any time. Please ask Fr Philip or any member of the PPC for the door lock codes. (PPC members and contact details on noticeboard in entrance hall at CTK).

Christ The King: A selection of Christmas Cards and other items are now available from the Piety Stall at the back of the church in Milnthorpe.

MILNTHORPE AREA FOOD BANK - would like to say a big 'thank you' for your generous donations of both food and money throughout the year. We have helped many local people who are struggling with the cost of living.

ARNSIDE News:

Our Lady of Lourdes Arnside open for private prayer daily. 10am until 3pm.

Adoration: Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament at 2pm, followed by the Rosary, every Tuesday at Our Lady of Lourdes.

Prayer Meeting at Our Lady of Lourdes at 10am on Monday mornings. Spend 45 minutes in prayers of Praise, Thanksgiving and Petition to God.

Votive lights at Arnside - From December 3rd there will be opportunities to attach names of deceased family members or friends to the votive lights after the Vigil Mass and during the week. These candles will be lit on Christmas morning and throughout the Masses of Christmas. All donations will be given to Lancaster and District Homeless Action Service.

ECUMENICAL News:

(1) **Village Carols** at Methodist Church **Arnside** at 4pm on 17th December.

(2) An invitation to the URC church **Grange** on Thursday 21st December at 6pm for carol singing by lantern light, with the Bay Singers. All welcome.

(3) **To the church congregations of Arnside, Storth & Beetham...**

You're all invited to join us at Arnside Vicarage (45 Church Hill) on Wednesday 20th December. Feel free to pop in sometime between 3-5pm for a cuppa & a mince pie. Hannah, Greg, Sam & Bethan x

(4) **Christmas Trail** – A Nativity trail has been put together for people to follow around **Arnside** from 9th - 30th December. Booklets showing the route and also containing a prayer, can be obtained at Londis.

The Road Ahead: The Road Ahead group meets again 1.00pm Monday 8th January 2024. Its purpose is limited to working out how we can administer our churches ourselves with a priest who visits occasionally to celebrate Mass & the Sacraments. We are all called by God and gifted to take some role in our churches, however small.

Paul Barton our organist at CTK has released a new album with songs by Abba, Queen, Michael Jackson, Paul Simon and several film tracks. They are £10, with profits being donated to Lancaster Homeless and Milnthorpe Food Bank. There are limited CD copies but digital downloads via email are also available. See Paul after mass at CTK or call him on 07974 349955.

GRANGE: Diocesan Directories 2024 on sale at back of church - £6.00. Money should be put in the "Magazines and Periodicals" box in church porch.

LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 2024. Please join Bishop Paul Swarbrick on the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 23rd – 30th July 2024. The Youth Section will travel by coach with an evening and a day sightseeing in Paris 22nd July - 1st August 2024. For further information please check out the Diocesan Pilgrimage website:- www.lancasterlourdes.co.uk or email operationsdirector@lancasterlourdes.co.uk and for the youth, email youth@lancasterlourdes.co.uk

MASS SERVICES AND INTENTIONS

THIRD SUNDAY of ADVENT: Year B (Gaudete Sunday)

Sat Vigil	16 Dec	5.30pm	Arnside	Stephen Pyne RIP
Sun	17 Dec	9.00am	Grange	Paul Gregory (Anniversary)
Sun	17 Dec	10.30am	Milnthorpe	People of the Parish
Mon	18 Dec	10.00am	Grange	Tom & Clare Smith (Anniversary)
Tues	19 Dec	10.00am	Grange	Intentions of Christine Harlow
Wed	20 Dec	10.00am	Grange	Eucharistic Service
Thur	21 Dec	10.00am	Arnside	People of the Parish
Fri	22 Dec	10.00am	Milnthorpe	
Sat	23 Dec	10.00am	Grange	Intentions of Mr & Mrs Turner

FOURTH SUNDAY of ADVENT: Year B

Sat Vigil	23 Dec	5.30pm	Arnside	
Sun	24 Dec	9.00am	Grange	People of the Parish
Sun	24 Dec	10.30am	Milnthorpe	People of the Parish

FEAST OF CHRISTMAS

Sun	24 Dec	6.30pm	Milnthorpe	Carols
Sun	24 Dec	7.00pm	Milnthorpe	Vigil Mass of Christmas (Private Intention)
Mon	25 Dec	9.30am	Grange	Charles & Kath Barnes & Karen McClure RIP
Mon	25 Dec	11.00am	Arnside	Private Intention

All Masses and other services normally streamed from Grange and Milnthorpe.

Confessions: Tues: 9.30am – 9.50am Grange; Thurs: 9.30am – 9.50am Arnside; Fri: 9.30am – 9.50am Milnthorpe. Also by arrangement with Fr. Philip.

Clergy: Parish Priest Fr Philip Smith Tel 015395 32731

Deacon: Rev J Pryzlucki Tel 015395 58161

Email: ctkollcc@gmail.com

**Admin Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 9.30am – 12.30pm
Presbytery, St Charles & St Cuthbert's RC Church, Kents Bank Road,
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