

*“The People who live in darkness
Have seen a great light” Isaiah 9.2*

Dear Parishioners,

Pope Benedict’s visit to the British Isles has been heralded as the light in a dark year. The economic gloom which has hung over these islands like the volcanic ash which clogged the air ways was temporarily dispelled by the dignity and pageantry of the great event. It was as if the lights of the church on dim were turned up again and it was all right to be Catholic.

The erudite old man who lisps his way through sermons touches the hearts of young and old, reminding his hearers of their Christian roots; their noble and distinguished Catholic heritage and the global cultural impact through the English language. And this was heard around the world.

We would like to extend a warm invitation to anyone who has wandered away from the Catholic Faith to come home for Christmas by receiving the sacrament of reconciliation Wednesday, December 15 at 7pm and joining us for our liturgy of the birth of our Savior.

The one in whose name he taught was the name of our infant born in poverty, in a remote outpost of another great global culture, The Roman Empire, which dominated the world as English culture does today.

The spark which was lit by the extra ordinary life and teaching of the one born in the stable in Bethlehem has shed its light in successive ages in some of the darkest areas of human experience. Followers of Christ have been to the force in the work of alleviating the plight of the poor, in care of the abandoned, in championing the oppressed and in promoting education and social justice in every generation for 2000 years

The Christian currency then, as now, was love, expressed in care, respect, selflessness and generosity. On this blessed Christmas we celebrate and rejoice in the lives and witness of Christians of every age, most especially all those in our parish, who like Benedict, give themselves to work of Christian charity and care and proclaim the good news by their lives. And may I express a special thank you to each parishioner who generously, supported our parish financially this year. May God bless you.

Encouraged by the witness of this octogenarian, and most recently by the events in Chile, let us remind ourselves that the wonders of God are not all past. They are constantly being renewed. We rejoice in the birth of Christ, the embodiment of God’s love.
Merry Christmas

Sincerely Yours in Christ,
Rev. Nicholas Clavin, Pastor

