

CATHOLIC LEAMINGTON SPA

**ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH**

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*Being Catholic, as one famous commentator once remarked, was like balancing on a bike whilst drinking a glass of wine. What we are supposed to infer from this I'm not quite sure, but I think it may have something to do with keeping our balance whilst at the same time enjoying the gifts life can bestow upon us. The feast day we are celebrating is an invitation for us to hold two aspects of our faith in balance. God our creator is totally other and utterly beyond our comprehension in relation to how we can understand Him. However, He has freely chosen to take a human mother and share the most fundamental realities of our humanity. Through His Son, God has joined us throughout our earthly journey; from 'womb' to 'tomb'. He has literally 'gotten inside our skin!' Maybe this is perhaps the most difficult side of our faith to believe in and give thanks for. We must realise it changes everything because one who knows all can forgive all. The Nativity is the entry point for the Father to see, feel, smell, taste and hear what it means to be a fragile, mortal creature (from the inside). Mary's yes to divine motherhood has enabled God and us to share a birth to resurrected life.*

**1st January 2017**

**Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God**

**PARISH NEWS ITEMS**

**200 Club:** the next collection will take place after both Masses on 8 January. raise valuable funds for their important work.

**Fatima Centenary special event 2017**

A celebration event will be taking place for the Warwick, Coventry and other local deaneries on **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May** in Leamington. **Please keep the date free.** More details nearer the time. Contact Peter Dimambro 01926 4 2 8 3 9 9 m d i m a m - b r o @ h o t m a i l . c o . u k

**Diocesan Directories 2017**

There are just a few 2017 Directories available from the Narthex price £2.75

**Do you need help and encouragement to read the Bible?**

If so, you are invited to take part in "The Big Picture" Bible Study Course. This consists of a 12 session step by step journey through Salvation History using a book and DVD with daily Bible study reflections and includes input from Fr. David Oakley, Rector at Oscott College. These sessions will be held in Lillington Church Hall beginning Wednesday 11th January at 10.00am For more details contact Maureen: 773744 or mchatfield51@outlook.com

**Used Stamps:** At this time when we receive more post than usual, please think of leaving your used stamps in the basket in the narthex. They are prepared by David and Myrna Harwar and sent to the Leprosy Mission to

**Christmas Thanks**

As always, many people worked very hard to decorate the church and make everywhere festive. Many thanks to those who have cleaned, arranged flowers and prepared for the liturgies both in terms of the music and what happens on the sanctuary, especially perhaps, those who work quietly in the background to ensure that everything is as it should be. Thank you to the Ministers and Readers from all three churches who took on the additional duties required here at St. Joseph's. Thanks again to all those who stayed behind after Mass and decorated the tree and to those who erected the crib. Thank you also for the donations for flowers. Not least, thanks to all who attended and supported our various liturgies. We are all very grateful for your contributions towards a blessed celebration of the Saviour's birth

**2017**

**May I wish everyone a healthy, happy and blessed 2017 and thank everyone for their kind wishes and gifts over the Christmas Season**

**Fr. Bob**



**Let us keep the sick and the housebound of our parish in our prayers**

Brian McCann, Edna Hales, Sue Cleary, Shelagh Price, Jenny Bamber, Karen Ireson, Hollie Sauvage, Maureen Cowell, Suzanna King, Michael Gallagher, Miceal Murphy, Roy Stanford, Enda McSharry, Eileen Hiorns, Patricia Robinson

**The Lawns**

Bridget Hunt, Mary Behan  
Rosa Venetico, John L'Estrange,  
Kathleen Hammond,  
Winifred Galvin

**Clarence House  
Eversleigh N. H.**

Mollie Benson  
Mary Craig, Marie Kelly, Mary Darby  
Monty Jenkinson

**Clarendon Manor  
Stratford**

Robbie Burns  
Angele Handford, Christina Kelly  
Marjorie Smedley, Frances  
Lovell

**RLS Nursing Home  
Woodside**

**Galanos House**

<b>NEXT WEEK 8.1.17</b>	<b>Readers</b>	<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>
8.00am	Sophia Brain, Ted Forde	Jill Sheard, Sr. Angela, Tony Harris
5.30pm	Salvatore Monastero	Julia Fan, Shelagh Price, Ann Sayce



*This week Our Lady's 7 Day candle burns for Karen*

**SERVICES AT ST. JOSEPH'S**

**SOLEMNITY OF MARY THE MOTHER OF GOD**

<p><b>Saturday 31 December 2016</b> <i>Psalter Wk 1</i></p> <p align="center"><b>VIGIL</b></p> <p align="center"><i>New Year's Eve</i></p>	<p>OL</p> <p>SP</p>	<p>12.30 pm</p> <p>5.00 pm</p>	<p>David &amp; June Palmer: <i>40th Wedding Anniversary</i> Harry, Maureen &amp; Anthony Willis</p>	
<p><b>Sunday 01 January 2017</b></p> <p align="center"><b>Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God</b></p> <p align="center"><i>New Year's Day</i></p>	<p>SJ</p> <p>OL</p> <p><b>SP</b></p> <p>SJ</p>	<p>8.00 am</p> <p>9.30 am</p> <p><b>11.30 am</b></p> <p>5.30 pm</p>	<p>Betty McLeary John Punch (C &amp; M) Maisie Buckley Josephine O'Neill Gabriel McCague</p>	
<p><b>Monday 02 January</b> <i>Memorial of St Basil the Great &amp; St Gregory Nazianzen, Doctors of the Church</i></p> <p align="center">◆ <i>Bank Holiday Monday *</i></p>	<p>SP</p> <p>SJ</p>	<p>10.00 am</p> <p>10.00 am</p>	<p>Rory O'Rourke For friends, relatives &amp; leaders (SA)</p>	<p><i>No Novena to Our Lady at St. Joseph's</i></p>
<p><b>Tuesday 03 January</b> <i>Christmas Feria</i></p>	<p>SJ</p> <p>SP</p>	<p>9.30 am</p> <p>12.30 pm</p>	<p>Betty McLeary R.I.P Norman Lakey Bridie McGerty</p>	<p>9.10am Rosary at St. Joseph's</p>
<p><b>Wednesday 04 January</b> <i>Christmas Feria</i></p>	<p>OL</p> <p>SP</p>	<p>12.00 pm</p> <p>12.30 pm</p>	<p>Paschal Dunbar Michael McKeon</p>	
<p><b>Thursday 05 January</b> <i>Christmas Feria</i></p>	<p>SP</p> <p>SJ</p>	<p>12.30 pm</p> <p>7.00 pm</p>	<p>Ann Hornsby Stuart Cameron Smith Simon Lynch (W &amp; T Families)</p>	
<p><b>Friday 06 January</b> <i>Christmas Feria</i> <i>First Friday</i></p>	<p>School Mass</p> <p>OL</p> <p><b>SP</b></p> <p>SJ</p>	<p>9.15 am</p> <p>12.00 pm</p> <p><b>12.30 pm</b></p> <p>7.00 pm</p>	<p>St Peter's School Mass in Church (SP) Mary Beausang Michael &amp; Josephine O'Neill Roisin &amp; Tommy Blair &amp; Peter Watts</p>	<p><i>No Morning Rosary at St. Joseph's</i> Novena to the Sacred Heart with 7.00pm Mass</p>
<p><b>Saturday 07 January</b> <i>Christmas Feria</i></p> <p align="center"><b>VIGIL</b></p>	<p>SJ</p> <p><b>SP</b></p> <p>OL</p> <p><b>SP</b></p>	<p>9.30 am</p> <p><b>10.00 am</b></p> <p>12.30 pm</p> <p><b>5.00 pm</b></p>	<p>People of the Parish Patricia Miaza</p> <p>Peter &amp; Rosemary McGovern Daniel McCann Ann O'Keeffe</p>	<p>9.15am Morning Prayer and 10.00am Exposition and Confession at St. Joseph's</p>
<p><b>Sunday 08 January</b></p> <p align="center"><b>Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord</b></p>	<p>SJ</p> <p>OL</p> <p><b>SP</b></p> <p>SJ</p>	<p>8.00 am</p> <p>9.30 am</p> <p><b>11.30 am</b></p> <p>5.30 pm</p>	<p>Betty Sheehan Mary Reidy Simon &amp; Kevin Daly People of the Parish Bernie Burns</p>	

**Crib Offering**  
This year, throughout Advent  
and Christmastide, will be for  
the Friends of the Holy Land

**Anniversaries**

Patrick Moran, John McMahon, Bernard Lanning, Don  
Mason, Peter McSweeney, Katherine Underhill, Michael  
James Dorgan, John Stephen Ruby, Peter James Johnson, Eva  
Irvine, Salvatore Viviani, Margaret Brown, Janis Berganis

*May they rest in peace*

**THE COMING WEEK IN THE PARISH**

**Mon:** *No Dancing*  
**Tues:** *No Tuesday club until 10th Jan*  
**Wed:** 9.30am Art Group  
8.30-10.00pm Hall booked  
**Thurs:** Church Cleaning: Team 1  
*No music group until 12th Jan*  
7.00pm Weight Watchers  
**Fri:** 5.30pm Karate  
**Sat:** 8.30 + 10.30am Slimming World

**LAST WEEK**  
**25th De-  
cember**

Clergy  
Offering

No Second  
Collection

Attendance  
570

