



Whitnash and Bishops Tachbrook

## St. Joseph's Parish

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Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. Robert Devaney



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## Newsletter

**27th December 2015**

**Feast of the Holy Family**

It is well worth emphasising this Sunday we are celebrating the Feast of the Holy Family. This is because our notion of what family really means can be coloured by a myriad of misconceptions. Depending upon our cultural, social, ethnic or religious origins we can, unfortunately, impose a structure and 'norm' upon an institution which can cause untold misery upon its members. The Holy Family mirrors the Holy Trinity in its community 'dance' of love. It represents familial love in its purest form since each member gives themselves wholly to the others unconditionally. In our fallen world we know that our own families are flawed and that some can use the good gifts God has given us in destructive ways—treating property or possessions as a way of making the family into a kind of idol. Relationships suffer, maybe, unless members conform to the demands of family pride or racial purity. Families can become obsessed with themselves and not open to outsiders. Pope Francis has spoken of the way

greed can destroy a family: "This is a day-to-day problem.....Brother against brother, and father against son." But the feast we are celebrating today is a celebration not of happy or unhappy families (most of our families, if we're honest, are a mixture of both) but of a holy family. For Christians, family life is holy only when it embodies the values for which Jesus Christ lived and died. When we have these values we can happily celebrate at a Christmas dinner—and then put them into practice when our moods change and the party is over.



Services	This Week	Events
<p>6.30pm <i>Vigil Mass: Mary McGarvy and the McGarvey family</i></p> <p>10.00am <i>Mass: Ian Wilshire RIP</i></p> <p>5.00pm <i>Mass: James, Mary and Betty Gilvarry</i></p>	<p><b>Sunday</b> 27th December <b>The Holy Family</b> <i>Psalter Week 1</i></p> 	<p>10.05am Children's Liturgy <i>(Sundays outside school holidays)</i> Coffee and Tea after 10.00am Mass Choir Group</p>  <p><i>No Youth Group</i></p>
<p><b>10.00am</b> <i>Mass: Olive and Leonard Geoghegan</i></p> <p><i>No evening Novena to Our Lady</i></p>	<p><b>Monday</b> 28th December The Holy Innocents Feast</p>	<p><i>No Dancing until 4th Jan</i></p>
<p>9.10am <i>Rosary</i></p> <p>9.30am <i>Mass: M and family</i></p>	<p><b>Tuesday</b> 29th December St. Thomas Becket Feast</p>	<p><i>No Tuesday Club until 5th Jan</i></p>
<p><i>No Service</i></p>	<p><b>Wednesday</b> 30th December Sixth Day in the Octave of Christmas</p>	<p><i>No Art until 6th Jan</i></p>
<p>7.00pm <i>Mass: Hubert and Kathleen Vincent RIP</i></p>	<p><b>Thursday</b> 31st December Seventh Day in the Octave of Christmas</p>	<p><i>No Music until 14th Jan</i></p> <p><i>No Weight Watchers until 7th Jan</i></p>
<p> <b>11.00am</b> <i>Mass: Fr. John Laybourn</i></p> <p><i>No evening Novena to the Sacred Heart</i></p>	<p><b>Friday</b> 1st January <b>Mary the Mother of God</b> Solemnity</p> <p><i>First Friday</i></p>	<p><i>No Karate until 8th Jan</i></p>
<p>9.15am Morning Prayer</p> <p>9.30am <i>Mass: Michael Worsley RIP</i></p> <p>6.30pm <i>Vigil Mass: Mary Reidy</i></p>	<p><b>Saturday</b> 2nd January St. Basil the Great and St. Gregory Nazianzen Memoria</p>	<p>8.30am Slimming World</p> <p>10.30am Slimming World</p>
<p>10.00am <i>Mass: People of the Parish</i></p> <p>5.00pm <i>Mass: Roisin and Tom Blair and Peter A. Watts</i></p>	<p><b>Sunday</b> 3rd January <b>Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord</b> <i>Psalter Week 2</i></p>	<p>10.05am Children's Liturgy <i>(Sundays outside school holidays)</i></p>
<p>Collections £421.69</p> <p>Banker's Orders (weekly average) £112</p> <p>Maintenance Collection £233.82</p> <p><i>Many thanks for your donations</i></p>	<p><b>Last Week</b> <b>20th December</b></p>	<p>Attendance: 208</p> 

# Announcements

## OUR SICK

David Harwar, Roy Stanford, Enda McSharry, Eileen Hiorns, Patricia Robinson, Brian McCann, Rory and Peggy O'Rourke, Edna Hales, Sue Cleary, Shelagh Price, Jenny Bamber, Sue Day, Michael Gallagher, Miceal Murphy, Maureen Cowell, Hollie Sauvage.

**Coventry Hospital** Angele Handford  
**Heathcote** Elizabeth Gaston  
**Kenilworth Grange** Margaret Handy  
**The Lawns** Bridget Hunt John L'Estrange  
Ellen Quinn, Kathleen  
Hammond

**Clarence House** Winifred Galvin  
**Eversleigh N. H.** Mollie Benson  
**Clarendon Manor** Marie Kelly, Mary Craig  
**Stratford** Monty Jenkinson  
**RLS Nursing Home** Robbie Burns  
**Craighaven** Rory O'Rourke  
**Galanos House** Phil Lane

## ANNIVERSARIES

May Crowley, Herbert Nagel, John Mucphy, George Patrick Harris, Glennis Burton, Bob Rego, Patrick Moran, John McMahon

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord*

## BAPTISM

**Jessica Naomi Bevan**  
14th February, 2016 at 12 Noon

**Baptism Preparation:** In the first instance an application form should be collected from and returned to the parish priest at the presbytery. Once a date has been agreed the parents will be invited to a Preparation Meeting usually held on the last Monday of the month at 7.45pm in the Holy Family Room. Please note that the child's Catholic parent/s should take first responsibility for bringing them up in the faith.

**Next Baptism Preparation Meeting: Monday 25th January at 7.45pm in the Holy Family Room.**

## RECENTLY DECEASED

**Bernie Burns**, long time and very active parishioner of St. Joseph's, latterly living in the Royal Leamington Spa Nursing Home, died on Wednesday 16th December. Our sympathies and prayers go out to her husband Robbie and the family.

## Church Maintenance Fund

**[Keep checking this box and keep up to date]**

Work that we plan to make headway with in the near to medium term include redecoration of the external part of the church, repairs to the parish centre roof and replacement of the upper facias of the church clerestory window area. Our monthly collection is aimed at sustaining the maintenance fund. I hope you will understand the need for this, considering the ongoing demand for upkeep of the fabric and keeping our facilities in serviceable condition. Very many thanks for your understanding in this regard.

Fr. Bob

## Youth Group Future

The group leaders have regretfully decided that the youth group in its current format cannot be sustained. So, rather than have nothing for young parishioners, we would like to propose something a little less formal. Through deeper contact with the Diocesan Youth Service we would like to take groups to Soli House for a fun retreat, or maybe Alton Castle to join with other groups, or interesting activities further afield. If you would like to be involved now or in the future, please let Amy Cawood know or email [youthgroup.st.josephs@gmail.com](mailto:youthgroup.st.josephs@gmail.com). Young people in Yr. 5 and upwards are most welcome. We have all really enjoyed working with so many wonderful young people and their families over the last 6 years, and wish everyone of you joy and success for the future.

*Amy, Helen, Michelle, Salv and Kim*

St. Joseph's Youth Group Leaders

## Diocesan Directories 2016

There are some 2016 Directories still available from the Narthex price £3.50.

## Lectio Divina

Following Advent, we are returning to the usual pattern of meeting on the third Friday of each month at 10.00am in the Holy Family Room. January's session will be on the 15th, and all will be very welcome.

## Next Week—3rd January 2016

### Eucharistic Ministers:

6.30pm Vigil Jill Sheard, May Murphy  
10.00am Pauline Mills, Tony Harris, Myrna Harwar  
5.00pm Shelagh Price, Sr. Angela

### Readers:

June Arran  
Sophia Brain  
Bernard Bergonzi

10th Jan	200 Club collections
15th Jan	10.00am Lectio Divina, HFR
17th Jan	Parish Council Meeting
20th Jan	Christian Unity Service (Methodist Church, Whitnash)
24th January	10.00am next Children's Mass
30/31st Jan	January Maintenance Collection

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### Ministers' and Readers' Rota

The rotas for January, February and March are ready for collection, individually named, from the white folder in the Sacristy.

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### Crib Offerings

Crib offerings this year will be donated to children in need in Whitnash. The baskets of gifts and those under the tree, have now been collected for distribution but there is *the usual box for Crib Offerings, also for this cause. [ The weekend of 9th/10th January will be the last opportunity for donations]*

Many thanks to all for your great generosity—there were so many gifts placed under the tree and beside the crib: it was a wonderful response.

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### Year of Mercy

The Church's 'Year of Mercy' began on 8th December this year and ends on 20th November 2016. There will be various resources including a small "Pilgrim Companion For the Year of Mercy" available in the Narthex. St. Peter's Leamington is our nearest Jubilee Church (there are 16 in the diocese) and further detail about how we may make use of such resource will come in due course.

YEAR OF MERCY  
2015-2016



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### 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 raise valuable funds for their important work.

## Parish Centre



### Weekly Events (during normal time)

<b>Monday:</b>	Dancing
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Tuesday Club
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Art /Choir
<b>Thursday:</b>	Music Group / Weightwatchers
<b>Friday:</b>	Karate
<b>Saturday:</b>	Slimming World
<b>Sunday:</b>	Youth Club

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### 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 who took on the additional duties required. We are grateful to the Youth Group for decorating the tree in the church and to our team who decorated 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.

May I express my deepest thanks to you all for the kind wishes and generous offerings I received over the Christmas am truly appreciative of the support and assistance I have received during this time. May the New Year bring us many blessings and may our faith sustain us through 2016.

Fr. Bob

