

ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH

Murcott Road East, Whitnash CV31 2JJ
 Tel: 01926 772712
 www.stjosephswhitnash.co.uk

Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. Andrew Franklin
 stjosephs47@outlook.com

St. Joseph's Primary School
 Headteacher Mrs. Julia Wallace Tel. No. 01926 427552

The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light! Why? Because today a saviour has been born for us, he is Christ the Lord. This week we once again give thanks to almighty God for all the blessings that he has bestowed on us as we celebrate the birth of our saviour Jesus Christ, the word made flesh who dwells amongst us. Many people have said to me that this is my first ever Christmas as a Parish Priest. This is very true and I realise how blessed and fortunate to I am to be PP here at St Josephs and to work alongside Fr John and Fr Noel at St Peters and Our Lady's. Being here is something I truly thank God for. Being grateful is a very important part of our Christian lives and it is important at times to be thankful to God for what we have in our lives and not to hanker to much for the things we don't have. This Christmas lets be grateful for the gifts God has given to us. These gifts come in many shapes and sizes! The gift of family, friends & parish. The great gift of being a Christian in the world today is a gift that we should always treasure. So, I wish you a very Happy and Holy Christmas. After Mass on St Stephens Day, myself and Monty will be heading to North Wales to spend a few days with my family. Masses here will be as usual and I am very grateful to Fr Ramunas for kindly agreeing to celebrate the weekday Masses for us. May God continue to bless us, Fr Andy.

24TH DECEMBER 2017
 Fourth Sunday of Advent
 Christmas Eve



PARISH NEWS ITEMS

CHRISTMAS:

Mass Times at St. Joseph's:

Sunday 24th:
 5.30pm Mass will be the Children's Christmas Mass.
 8.30pm Carols and Readings
 9.00pm First Mass of Christmas (mulled wine and mince pies afterwards in the hall!)
 Monday 25th:
 10.00am The Family Mass of Christmas.

Would Readers please note that the readings at all Christmas Masses are taken from the Midnight Mass.

Presents under the tree:
 There was a wonderful display of gifts under the trees in church. Thanks to everyone who contributed - they were safely delivered during the week. Thank you for your kindness to those who have so little.

Christmas Offering: The Diocesan schedule reminds us that it is customary for the Christmas Day collections to be an offering to the clergy. This will apply from the Sunday evening **Children's Christmas** Mass onwards. This is one of only two occasions in the year when the offertory is dedicated to our priests.

Monica Prayers: This gentle time is a specific opportunity for those present to pray for their loved ones who have abandoned their faith. The group will meet in church on Fridays at 6.00pm for about half an hour's time in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. It will be held fortnightly at St. Peter's, with the middle Fridays

alternating between St. Joseph's and Our Lady's. This week will be at St. Peter's.

Thank you: On Sunday evening we had a presentation and a celebration marking Sr. Angela's 12 years of working and living in the parish. Thanks to all who were present, those who provided the lovely food and especially the children and staff of the school who entertained us so well. It was a wonderful parish event.

Office Hours: The office is closed between Christmas and New Year, but please leave a message and Hazel will respond in the New Year. Thank you!

Our Lady's 7 Day Candle

Intentions: Would you like to burn Our Lady's 7 Day Candle in memory of a loved one, for someone's intentions, in thanksgiving, or for any other reason? Then please complete an envelope located by Our Lady's statue in the church. The suggested donation is £5.

200 Club: The next collection will be on 7th January 2018.

A Quick Journey Through the Bible: Meeting on alternate Wednesdays at 28 Cubbington Road, Lillington, CV32 7AB between 1.10—2.45pm For more information please contact Caroline on Caroline@readyforbaby.co.uk/01926257123.

VACANCY: Caretaker/cleaner is required for our Parish Centre. This will require approximately 5 hours per week and the hours will be variable. If any parishioner is interested, please speak to Fr. Andy or Hazel as soon as possible.

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

Edna Hales, Sue Cleary, Shelagh Price, Jenny Bamber, Maureen Cowell, Suzanna King, Michael Gallagher, Enda McSharry, Eileen Hiorns, Patricia Robinson, Brendan Patterson, Mario Fasi, Lena La Spisa, Anne Bergonzi

The Lawns Mary Behan, Rosa Venetico, John L'Estrange, Kathleen Hammond,
 Winifred Galvin
 Clarence House Mary Craig, Marie Kelly, Sally Lamont
 Clarendon Manor Angele Handford, Christina Kelly
 Castle Brook Marjorie Smedley
 Galanos House

NEXT WEEK 31 .12. 17	Reader	Eucharistic Ministers
8.00am	Carol Bowler	Pauline Mills, Jan Ireson, Jill Sheard
5.30pm	Veronica Jessamine	Julia Fan, Paddy Close, Tony Harris



This week Our Lady's 7 Day candle burns for Owen Bennison Love you always RIP

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Saturday 23 December <i>Psalter Week 3</i>	VIGIL	OL SP	12.30 pm 5.00 pm	Arthur & Irene Leach James Daly	Confessions: OL: 11.45am SP: 4.15pm
Sunday 24 December <i>Fourth Sunday of Advent</i>		SJ OL SP	8.00 am 9.30 am 11.30 am	John & Teresa Skinner; & Mary Darby Maisie Buckley Sarah O'Mullane; & Meg Lewis	Exposition & Holy Hour SP: 3.00-4.00pm
	Christmas Vigil	SP SJ	3.30 pm 5.30 pm	Kate Briddon Heather Long; & Ian Wilshire	
	Midnight Mass	SJ SP OL	9.00 pm 10.00 pm 12.00 am	People of the Parish People of the Parish Private Intention	
Monday 25 December Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord		SP OL SJ	8.00 am 9.30 am 10.00 am	Private Intention Private Intention Maria & Salvatore Venuto, 60th Wedding Anniversary	
		SP	11.30 am	Kaysia Fatima DaSilva Lobato	
Tuesday 26 December <i>St Stephen</i>		SP SJ	10.00 am 11.00 am	Emmet, Rose & McKeown Families Patrick Francis Murphy	
Wednesday 27 December <i>St John, Apostle</i>		SP	12.30 pm	Deceased members of Burns Family	
Thursday 28 December <i>Holy Innocents</i>		SP SJ	12.30 pm 7.00 pm	Eithne Dunne Mary McGarvey	
Friday 29 December <i>St Thomas Becket</i>		SJ SP	9.30 am 12.30 pm	Morales Family (<i>Rosary 9.10</i>) Nuptial Mass: Christopher Harbord & Anna Gayton	SJ Mass with Sacred Heart Novena Exposition: SP 11.00am
Saturday 30 December <i>Sixth Day in the Christmas Octave</i>	VIGIL	SJ SP OL SP	9.30 am 10.00 am 12.30 pm 5.00 pm	Hubert & Kathleen Vincent Nora Burns Simon & Kevin Daly; & Thomas Scanlon Maureen, Harry & Anthony Willis	SJ: Morning Prayer 9.15am Confessions: SP: 9.15am & 4.15pm; SJ: 10.00; OL: 11.45am Exposition: SP: 9.00; SJ: 10.00am
Sunday 31 December Feast of the Holy Family		SJ OL SP SJ SP	8.00 am 9.30 am 11.30 am 5.30 pm 11.30 pm	People of the Parish Margaret Fitzmaurice Gerry Quinn; & Mary & Tom Beirne Roisin & Tommy Blair; & Peter A. Watts People of the Parish	SP Service begins 10:30pm

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

On behalf of myself and Fr. Ramunus, Fr. John and Fr. Noel at St. Peter's and Our Lady's, we wish all of you a very happy and blessed Christmas and thank you for all your support and kindness throughout the year. I hope that the new year, 2018, will be one of happiness and fulfilment for each one of you.



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 Myrna Harwar and sent to the Leprosy Mission to raise valuable funds for their important work.

ANNIVERSARIES

John Murray, Heather Long, Patricia Devshi, Marianne Malyon, John Toye, Patrick Murphy, Cornelius Griffin, Fames and Elizabeth Falvey, Mary Waters, Willy Buttigieg, May Crowley, Herbert Nagel, John Murphy

26th December - Feast of St. Stephen

Patron of Altar Servers
Mass on Tuesday 26th is at 11.00am and it would be wonderful to see all our altar servers on the Sanctuary at that Mass. We do appreciate the faithful service given by our servers throughout the year. Thank you!

Crib Offering

This year, through Advent and Christmastide, our crib offerings will be for Helping Hands in Leamington and, at the request of the Archbishop, to support persecuted Christians in the holy land.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Many of you will know Patricia Burrige, **Mary Rogerson's sister**. She spent many holidays in the parish. Sadly, Pat died unexpectedly a week ago, and we offer our condolences to all the family.

Also Olga Kelly who was resident in The Lawns died on 22nd December. We offer our condolences to the family and the funeral arrangements will be published when available.

May they rest in peace and rise in glory

THE COMING WEEK IN THE PARISH

- | Sun: Mulled wine and mince pies after 9.00pm Mass, in the hall
- | Mon: No Dancing until 8th Jan
- | Tues: No Tuesday Club until 9th Jan
- | Wed: No Art Group until 3rd Jan
- | Thurs: 7.30pm Choir Practice
- | Fri: 7.00pm Weight Watchers
- | Sat: No Karate
- | Sat: 7.30, 9.30 +11.30am Slimming World

LAST WEEK
17.12.17

Offertory Collection:
£644.68
Many thanks.

2nd Collection: Parish Maintenance
£249.18

Attendance
333

