

ST JOSEPH'S, STONEHOUSE & THE ANNUNCIATION, WOODCHESTER

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For Hall Bookings at St Joseph's please contact Mike Gibbons: ☎ 01453 824332 or: mjg53@btinternet.com

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - PSALTER WEEK 2

ST JOSEPH'S			THE ANNUNCIATION	
Sun	9.00am	Mass: <i>People of parish</i>	11.00am	Mass: <i>People of parish</i>
Mon	NO MASSES		NO MASSES	
Tue				
Wed				
Thurs				
Fri				
Sat				

LECTIONARY

Sun	Is 40: 1-5, 9-11	Psalm 84: 9-14	2Pt 3: 8-14	Mark 1: 1-8
Mon	Is 35: 1-10	Psalm 84: 9-14		Luke 5: 17-26
Tues	Gn 3: 9-15, 20	Psalm 97: 1-4	Eph 1: 3-6, 11-12	Luke 1: 26-28
Wed	Is 40: 25-31	Psalm 102: 1-4, 8-10		Matthew 11: 28-30
Thurs	Is 41: 13-20	Psalm 144: 1. 9-13		Matthew 11: 11-15
Fri	Is 48: 17-19	Psalm 1: 1-6		Matthew 11: 16-19
Sat	Ecclus 48: 1-4, 9-11	Psalm 79: 2-3, 15-19		Matthew 17: 10-13

PRAYERS FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL AT ST JOSEPH'S

Vi. Burrage, Mike Gibbons and Olga, Julie Wood, Elizabeth Carr, Mary Evans, Rosemary Mabud,
Aine Anderson, Mary Scully, Maggie

AND FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED ABOUT THIS TIME

Maria Murray, Mary Gibbons, Elsie Malinowski, Bob Tungate, Mary Stock, Theodore Sajczuk, Michael
O'Sullivan, Anthoni Malfiggiani

PRAYERS FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL AT THE ANNUNCIATION

Fr. Richard Finn O.P. and family, Rebekah Hollingshead, Brendon Conboy, Della Cox, Barry Norris,
Cynthia Stevens, Peggy Chapman, Barry Taylor, John Presland, Tony Thompson, Georgina Mazzone, Frances
Little, Christopher Notley, Trese Hulbert, Elizabeth Lillinton, Tina Hathaway, Chris Jay, Penny Gear, Lisa Parker

AND FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED ABOUT THIS TIME

Mary Philip Ryan, Patrick Heaney, Tadeusz Zurek, Edward Wilks, Leolyn Wilkins

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR NOVEMBER

That the progress of robotics and artificial intelligence may always serve humankind.

DIOCESAN PRAYER LINK

All Hospital & Prison Chaplaincies in the diocese

CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

CURRENTLY WE ARE ONLY HAVING SUNDAY MASS: 9AM MASS AT ST JOSEPH AND 11AM AT WOODCHESTER. SUNDAY OBLIGATION IS STILL REMOVED AT PRESENT.

IN GENERAL

SPEAK TO THE HEART

Who would not be swept along by the words of this 1st reading from Isaiah – ‘The Book of Consolation?’. There is majesty and unquestionable authority in the prophetic message which is destined for the heart (the place of reason for the Hebrew). However, it is not so much a spoken word but an expression of divine action in the deeds that are written about! At the Visitation, the far-reaching of such a silent word will cause the child in Elizabeth’s womb to leap with joy. Who would not want to allow this sort of words to carry them along – to find a place in their hearts, too? A place for The Incarnation of The Word.

- Father Bill

GOSPEL REFLECTION

There is no doubt about the difficult times we are living in and Christmas may well seem very different for us this year. With the potential loss of the usual parties and outings, people are beginning to think and speak about ‘getting back to the real meaning of Christmas’. Perhaps, the pandemic is moving us to think about what really matters. There are times when we can get carried away with lights and parties and flashes of this and that but the real meaning of Christmas, is so much more. It is learning how to love, learning how to care, learning how to be brothers and sisters to each other. Advent is an invitation to change our lives, to perhaps refocus our direction, something we do not necessarily find easy. John the Baptist implores us to prepare a way for the Lord, to straighten ourselves out! How do we do this? By being honest with ourselves, truthful about who we are and honest about how we live in the world. With so many physical restrictions currently placed upon us – this Advent is a real opportunity to start anew, to make the changes needed so that the Lord can walk down those straight paths and into our hearts, where he longs to dwell.

CAFOD WORLD GIFTS

World Gifts, CAFOD’s range of virtual gifts, make a real difference to families living in poverty across the world. While we have the coronavirus pandemic and lockdown here, we can still be good neighbours to our sisters and brothers overseas by giving World Gifts as Christmas presents to family and friends. The Keep Clean Kit gift for £6 and the Vegetable Garden gift for £10 are just two gifts that will help vulnerable families affected by the pandemic to protect and feed themselves. Let’s spread joy and hope around the world this Christmas. Visit cafod.org.uk/worldgifts.

CELEBRATE ADVENT WITH CAFOD

After a year of uncertainty, we all need the hope, peace and true comfort and joy that the Advent season can offer. CAFOD has a range of resources and virtual events to help us come together online to pray, reflect and celebrate as we prepare for the coming of our Lord. Visit cafod.org.uk/parishes to learn more We can stretch out our hands to people living in poverty and refugees by donating to CAFOD’s Advent Appeal at cafod.org.uk/advent.

BISHOP DECLAN’S PASTORAL LETTER

To read or listen to Bishop Declan’s Pastoral Letter, please go to either: <https://cliftondiocese.com/bishop> or <https://vimeo.com/483625647>

Item for the Bulletin? You can send items for the bulletin (by the Wednesday) to stonehouse.stjoseph@cliftondiocese.com or post them through the presbytery letterbox. For The Annunciation, email: woodchester.theannunciation@cliftondiocese.com or post in the church letterbox (by front gate) or leave a message on 01453 822121. Any financial matters for Stonehouse, please email admin.stonehouse.stjoseph@cliftondiocese.com. Any health and safety matters for Stonehouse, please email HS.stonehouse.stjoseph@cliftondiocese.com

YOUR GIVING

Don’t forget you can make good use of the Paypal donate button we have just added to both parish websites. We are very grateful for your continuing financial support during these difficult times, through your standing orders and that which you put into the collection box on a Sunday. Thank you.

- Andrew Gibbons

LGBT+ MASS

With the end of lockdown approaching and the opportunity to gather again for communal worship, we are pleased to announce that the monthly celebration of the Eucharist for the LGBT+ community, family, friends and allies will recommence on Sunday 20th December at 3pm. Watch the livestream at: <https://vimeo.com/event/282657>

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Currently it is planned that four Christmas Masses will take place this year: Christmas Eve 4pm – Woodchester, 7pm – Stonehouse Christmas Day 9am – Stonehouse, 11am Woodchester So we can have a rough ideas of numbers expected, please could you email either stonehouse.stjoseph@cliftondiocese.com or Woodchester.theannunciation@cliftondiocese.com or call the office on 01453 822121 depending on which Church you plan to attend. We will obviously have to adhere to the government guidance at the time.

THE ANNUNCIATION

CAFOD CARDS

Please note there are Christmas cards at the back of Church for you to purchase!

ST JOSEPH’S CATHOLIC SCHOOL, NYMPFIELD

Governors at St Joseph’s Catholic Primary School, Nympsfield have agreed to a request from the Diocese to add the Parish of the Annunciation to the designated parishes we serve, to ensure that Catholic children within your parish do not have a lesser chance of being allocated a place at a Catholic school in the future. With current COVID restrictions we are not be able to offer an ‘Open Day’ this year, but we are pleased to invite you to visit our school through a virtual tour which is available on our website: http://www.st-josephsnympsfield.com/website/our_virtual_open_day/51944. Telephone enquiries are also welcome: 01453 860311

ROAD CLOSURE

Please be aware that in order to repair the boundary wall adjacent to the lane it has been necessary to close the lane leading to the church from the main road. Access to the church and graveyard can be made from the top of St Mary’s Hill via either Convent lane or Cow lane. The works we are hoping will be complete before Christmas.

ST JOSEPH’S

MISSIO RED BOXES

Many thanks to everyone who have returned your Red Boxes. All the donations have been banked and your Red Boxes are ready for you to collect from the Porch. For anyone who still has a Red Box to return before the end of the year, please can you bring it into the Porch asap so that it can be collected. Also, all Parishioners are welcome to pick up a Mission Today 2021 Calendar from the Porch. Many thanks.

- Brendan