

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

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - PSALTER WEEK 3 - 13th DECEMBER 2020

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 61: 1-2, 10-11	Luke 1: 46-50, 53-54	1Thes 5: 16-24	John 1: 6-8, 19-28
Mon	Nm 24: 2-7, 15-17	Psalm 24: 4-9		Matthew 21: 23-27
Tues	Zep 3: 1-2, 9-13	Psalm 33: 2-7, 16-19, 23		Matthew 21: 28-32
Wed	Is 45: 6-8, 18, 21-26	Psalm 84: 9-14		Luke 7: 19-23
Thurs	Gn 49: 2, 8-10	Psalm 71: 1-4, 7-8, 17		Matthew 1: 1-17
Fri	Jer 23: 5-8	Psalm 71: 1-2, 12-13, 18-19		Matthew 1: 18-24
Sat	Jgs 13: 2-7, 24-25	Psalm 70: 3-6, 16-17		Luke 1: 5-25

PRAYERS FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL AT ST JOSEPH'S

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

Vi Burrage, Antoni Strzalowski, Beryl O'Dowd, Anthony Savage, George Buhagiar

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, Chris Jay, Penny Gear, Lisa Parker

AND FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED ABOUT THIS TIME

Margaret Kaye, Joseph Anderson, Eileen Stern, Teresa Cullis, Mary Gibbons

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR DECEMBER

That our personal relationship with Jesus Christ may be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.

DIOCESAN PRAYER LINK

Amesbury: Christ the King

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

THE ONE WHO IS COMING

When we read the writing of Isaiah in today's first reading we might ask: "about whom is the prophet speaking – himself or someone else?" We know that the Incarnation of Jesus will answer that question. There is great joy embedded in the words, and indeed this is Gaudete – Rejoice Sunday! Isaiah tells that "The Spirit of the Lord has been given to me" and it is the Spirit that is the prime-mover in authentic prophesy. John the Baptist talks of the One who is Coming and then goes on to say that he is present, but unknown: a Word that infuses the sacred texts, hidden but about to be revealed in the hidden circumstances of a stable in Bethlehem – The Word Incarnate, the Son of The Father.

- Father Bill

CHRISTMAS EVE MIDNIGHT MASS

The BBC will be broadcasting midnight Mass from Clifton Cathedral this year. Bishop Declan Lang will preside and the Mass will be introduced by Canon Bosco MacDonald, Cathedral Dean, who will also preach.

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.org 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

Many thanks to all those who have purchased Christmas cards in aid of CAFOD this year.

CHRISTMAS CLEAN

As usual, we are asking for volunteers to join us for our annual Christmas clean, when we polish the brasses, de-wax the candle holders and generally give the church a good clean and polish, ready for Christmas. If you have time to spare please join us anytime between 10a.m. and midday on Thursday December 17th. Coffee and mince pies will be your reward!

- Angela

CHRISTMAS TREE

For our Christmas tree this year, we would like families to bring decorations, whether bought or homemade. Please add a tag to your decoration with your family's name on it, or anyone you would like to remember this Christmas!

CHRISTMAS EVE MASS

We hope that this will be a family occasion. For the offertory procession, we would like the children to be involved and carry (electric) tealights up to the alter and place them around the crib.

ADMISSION POLICY FOR 2022-23 CONSULTATION

In accordance with 'School Admissions Code' guidance, as a school we must consult on our admission arrangements when changes to our admissions policy are proposed. As St Dominic's Catholic

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

Primary has sadly closed, the Diocese have asked us to amend our determined Admissions Policy for 2021-22, to include the Catholic parish of The Annunciation, Woodchester. You can read a copy of the proposed revised policy by going to: https://www.rosaryschool.org.uk/docs/Policies/ROSARY_SCHOOL_Proposed_Admissions_Policy_2022-23_Diocesan_agreed.pdf. A copy of the parish boundaries for the Catholic parish of The Annunciation is available at: https://www.rosaryschool.org.uk/docs/Policies/Parish_of_The_Annunciation_Woodchester.pdf. The consultation period will run from Friday 4th December to Friday 15th January 2021. During this time, you are invited to express your views and any concerns about the admission arrangements at the Rosary Catholic Primary School. All responses to the consultation should be made in writing and submitted before 12:00 noon on Friday 15th January 2021 to the Clerk to the Governing Body of the Rosary Catholic Primary School, by emailing the Clerk to the Governing body, Mrs Anne Robinson, using clerk@rosary.gloucs.sch.uk. Responses should outline your personal details, including your name, address and relationship to the school, e.g. a parent, prospective parent or member of one of the parishes served by the school. At the end of the consultation period, the governing body will meet to consider responses and submit a final policy to Gloucestershire County Council Local Authority.

ST JOSEPH'S

VI BURRAGE

Our dear Vi died last Sunday, 6th December. We will miss her so much. Her Requiem Mass is at St Joseph's on Monday, 21st December at 11am. May she reap her rewards for such dedication to our parish over so many years. May she rest in peace. Our condolences go out to her family.

STEWARDS UPDATE

Our stewards are Andrew, Mike, Tim and Pete and we have a rota in place to ensure that there are two of us available at each Sunday mass. The rules are still the same:

- Sadly, the toilets remain out of use.
- Face masks need to be worn at all times inside the building, unless you have a medical exemption.
- Please don't talk to anyone sitting around you.
- 1.5 metre social distancing is in place.
- Hands will be sanitised on entering and leaving the church.
- Contact details need to be logged (unless you use the app).
- A non-contact temperature check is taken.

Please leave the building quickly after mass. You may chat with friends outside (maintaining the rule of 6 and 2 metre distancing). Please follow the guidance of the stewards at Communion and when approaching Father Bill for Communion extend out your arms as far as possible. Our first mass after the lockdown saw 30 parishioners attend. We will soon have the hall set up to allow us to provide more seating should we get to the point where the Church is full. It hasn't happened yet, but we hope this may happen for the Christmas masses. The problem is we just don't know how many of you will turn up so that is partly why we have asked you to email or phone in if you intend coming to one of the Christmas masses so that we can have an idea of numbers. It's not a booking system so PLEASE do come even if you haven't phoned in. Thank you for helping us keep our church COVID free, we have done very well so far, so let's keep up the good work.

- Andrew