

ST JOSEPH'S, STONEHOUSE & THE ANNUNCIATION, WOODCHESTER

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FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - PSALTER WEEK 4 – 20TH DECEMBER 2020

ST JOSEPH'S

THE ANNUNCIATION

Sun	9.00am	<i>Intention: People of parish</i>	11.00am	<i>Intention: People of parish</i>
Mon	11.00am	Requiem Mass for Vi Burrage		NO MASS
Tue		NO MASS		NO MASS
Wed		NO MASS		NO MASS
Thurs	7.00pm	Christmas Eve Mass	4.00pm	Christmas Eve Mass
Fri	9.00am	Christmas Day Mass	11.00am	Christmas Day Mass
Sat		NO MASS		NO MASS

LECTIONARY

Sun	2Sm 7: 1-5, 8-12, 14, 16	Psalm 88: 2-5, 27, 29	Rom 16: 25-27	Luke 1: 26-38
Mon	Sg 2: 8-14	Psalm 32: 2-3, 11-12, 20-21		Luke 1: 39-45
Tues	1Sm 1: 24-28	1Sm 2: 1, 4-8		Luk 46-56
Wed	Mal 3: 1-4, 23-24	Psalm 24: 4-5, 8-9, 10, 14		Luke 1: 57-66
Thurs	Is 62: 1-5	Psalm 88: 2-5, 27, 29	Acts 13: 16-17, 22-25	Matthew 1: 1-25
Fri	Is 52: 7-10	Psalm 97: 1-6	Heb 1: 1-6	John 1: 1-18
Sat	Acts 6: 8-10, 7: 54-59	Psalm 30: 3-6, 8, 16-17		Matthew 10: 17-22

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

Lilian Sullivan, Phyllis Caws, William Jones, Carmela Nash, Marion O'Dowd, Sydney Roch, Greg Rumsey, Josef Garbacz, Teresa Carter

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

Winifride Mathais, Brother James McHarg OP, Victor May, Bernard Mills, Thomas Anderson, Marjorie Shannon, Patrick Healey, Tamar Tiley, Leonard Matthias, Mary McColl, Eduardus Greene, Francis Ashcroft, Margaret Daniel

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

Bath: Our Lady and St Alphege

CORONAVIRUS UPDATE: THIS WEEK WE HAVE SUNDAY MASSES, CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES AND CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES. SUNDAY OBLIGATION IS REMOVED AT PRESENT.

IN GENERAL

OLD MEETS NEW

A kind of fusion can be seen to take place within the Old Testament and the New in the scriptures before us this Sunday: there is much about 'house' (with its many possible meanings) and about 'place.' The house, as a place (made of cedar) where David settles, becomes 'House' as a place where the Spirit of God settles within the dynasty of David. The Old extends into the New at the entry of the angel Gabriel into Mary's house. Now the Incarnate God will come to settle within her very self. Her very being becoming the new 'House' for a new King (and a very new kind of King, too). And so, history is propelled into the time of the Messiah where wonders will appear in the heavens, but not solely in the heavens, but on earth - even within the 'houses' (made of flesh) of ordinary people who have longed to see the Messiah's coming - our 'Houses', too, you and I!

- Father Bill

CONFESSION BEFORE CHRISTMAS

Fr Bill will be at the presbytery at St Joseph's and available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation from 5pm-7pm on Tuesday, 10am-5pm on Wednesday and 10am-12pm on Thursday (Christmas Eve). Unlike in the past, where people could come and wait in a queue, this time I ask you, please, to phone first so that a time is reserved for you (you don't need to say who you are). When you come, please come to the Church, and wear a face-mask. While a face-mask offers little in the way of anonymity I am afraid this is the best I can offer, given the need, each time, to cleanse not only souls, but the points of contact, too.

COULDN'T GET YOU ON THE PHONE, FATHER!

Yes, this has been one of those times, I am afraid. The phone lines have been down due to a fault and this has affected the internet too. We are 'back in business,' again now. Sorry if this has caused you inconvenience.

NHS TEST AND TRACE - HOW YOU WILL BE CONTACTED

By using the test and trace, if there it is known that person who has tested positive for COVID-19 has been in the Church, then you will be contacted by email, text or phone. Text messages will come from the NHS. Calls will come from 0300 0135000. If you have been in contact with a person who has COVID-19, then please stay at home for 14 days. If you're told you've been in contact with a person who has COVID-19 - it can take up to 14 days for symptoms to appear.

- Do not leave your home for any reason - or if you need food or medicine, order it online or phone, or ask friends and family to drop it off at home.
- Do not have visitors in your home, including friends and family - except for essential care.
- Try to avoid contact with anyone you live with as much as possible.
- People you live with do not need to self-isolate if you do not have symptoms.
- If you live with someone at higher risk from COVID-19, try to arrange them to stay with friends or family for 14 days.

If you get symptoms of COVID-19 (a high temperature, a new, continuous cough or a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste) use the NHS 111 online COVID-19 service to find out what to do and get a test - call 111 if you cannot get help online.

Item for the Bulletin? You can send items for the bulletin (by the Wednesday) to stonehouse.stjoseph@clifftondiocese.com or post them through the presbytery letterbox. For The Annunciation, email: woodchester.theannunciation@clifftondiocese.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.stjoseph@clifftondiocese.com. Any health and safety matters for Stonehouse, please email HS.stonehouse.stjoseph@clifftondiocese.com

Anyone you live with must self-isolate until you've been tested and received your result. If you test negative, keep self-isolating for 14 days from when you were last in contact with the person who has COVID-19 - as you could get symptoms after being tested. Anyone you live with can stop self-isolating if they do not have symptoms. If you test positive, you must self-isolate for at least 7 days from when your symptoms started - even if it means you're self-isolating for longer than 14 days. Anyone you live with must self-isolate for 14 days from when your symptoms started. Log your test result on the track and trace app. If you do not get symptoms of COVID-19, you can stop self-isolating after 14 days. You do not need to have a test. Thank you all for your co-operation and helping to keep each other safe during these difficult times.

- Laurie Brazington

ITEMS FOR THE BULLETIN

If you have any thing you want to be in for next week's bulletin, please send to stonehouse.stjoseph@clifftondiocese.com by midday on Monday 21st December.

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

This is an important annual event at St Peter's. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, they are unable to perform at their normal venue in Stroud. However, they are proud to offer their "Virtual Carols by Candlelight", which premiered on YouTube on 16th December - you can view this here:

<https://youtu.be/1KD2oIZx5zc>

ST JOSEPH'S

CHURCH HALL

We have managed to open up an additional 15 seats in the Church hall in readiness for the Christmas Masses. Mass will be live streamed from the choir box into the hall. Recording is for the hall only and is not being recorded for any social media platforms. If anyone has any health and safety questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at HS.stonehouse.stjoseph@clifftondiocese.com. I will be more than happy to help and support in any way I can. Thank you all for all of your help and support during these difficult times. May peace be to with you all this Christmas.

- Laurie Brazington

CAFOD 100 CLUB 2020 PRIZE DRAWS

Prior to the COVID-19 outbreak, I had already drawn the winning numbers for January and February. Therefore there were outstanding draws for 10 months worth of prizes (March to December). Although most people had paid for the whole year, some had paid up to March and some up to June. To reduce the number of cheques to be written and subsequent interactions when distributing, it was agreed with Father Bill that I would carry out a draw as follows:

Draw for March:

£5 (48) Mary McGinty
£10 (62) Rosemary Canning
£20 (53) Jennifer Pilkington

Draw covering April to June:

£15 (40) Gwen Atkinson
£30 (19) Margaret McNally
£60 (71) Mary Evans

Draw covering July to December:

£30 (50) Mary McGinty
£60 (33) Janet Strong
£120 (31) Eric Isaac

The CAFOD 100 club will have raised £375 for CAFOD in 2020. Many thanks for your support.

- Pete Williams