

ST JOSEPH'S STONEHOUSE & THE ANNUNCIATION, WOODCHESTER

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For Hall Bookings at St Joseph's please contact Angela Brazington: ☎ 01453 827898 or: angelabrazington@outlook.com

SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD – PROPER OF SEASON – 25TH DECEMBER 2022

DAY	TIME	PARISH	INTENTION
Sunday	9.00am	St Joseph's	People of the parish
	11.00am	The Annunciation	People of the parish
Monday		No Mass	
Tuesday		No Mass	
Wednesday		No Mass	
Thursday	6.00pm	The Immaculate Conception	Special Intention
Friday	9.30am	The Annunciation	Special Intention
Saturday	6.30pm	The Immaculate Conception	Special Intention

LECTIONARY

Day	Isaiah	Psalms	Hebrews	Gospels
Sun	Is 52: 7-10	Psalms 97: 1-6	Heb 1: 1-6	John 1: 1-18
Mon	Acts 6: 8-10, 7: 54-59	Psalms 30: 3-6, 8, 16-17		Matthew 10: 17-22
Tues	1Jn 1: 1-4	Psalms 96: 1-6, 11-12		John 20: 2-8
Wed	1Jn 1: 5- 2: 2	Psalms 123: 2-8		Matthew 2: 13-18
Thurs	Col 1: 24-29	Psalms 22: 1-6		Luke 22: 24-30
Fri	Ecclus 3: 2-6, 12-14	Psalms 127: 1-5	Col 3: 12-21	Matthew 2: 13-15, 19-23
Sat	1Jn 2: 18-21	Psalms 95: 1-2, 11-13		John 1: 1-18

PRAYERS FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL AT ST JOSEPH'S



Mike Gibbons and Olga, Julie Wood, Elizabeth Carr, Mary Evans, Aine Anderson, Mary Scully, Maggie, Janet Strong, Ellen Osman, Sylvia Haskell, Danielle Haskell, Tony Ryan, Danielle, Sadie Conlon

AND FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED ABOUT THIS TIME

Josef Garbacz, Teresa Carter, William Lipp, Arthur Stevens, Dorothy Bell, Molly Best, Carmen Abela, Michael Griffin, Michael O'Dowd, Santina Long, Raymond Sparkes, Arthur Richardson, Joshua Guy

PRAYERS FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL AT THE ANNUNCIATION

Fr. Richard Finn O.P. and family, Rebekah Hollingshead, Brendon Conboy, Barry Norris, Cynthia Stevens, Peggy Chapman, Barry Taylor, John Presland, Georgina Mazzone, Trese Hulbert, Elizabeth Lillinton, Chris Jay, Steve Chandler, Anne Chandler

AND FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED ABOUT THIS TIME

Mary McColl, Eduardus Greene, Francis Ashcroft, Dorothy Donkin, Sr. Francis Clare Brazier-Creagh, Gerald Shepherd, Margaret Swoboda, Margaret Talbot, Sr. Mary Clare Harte, Isabella Knee, Winifred Burroughs, Iva Tandy, Sr. Helena Teresa Brett, William Hargreaves, Pat Saunders

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR DECEMBER

That volunteer non-profit organisations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation.

DIOCESAN PRAYER LINK

Swindon: St Mary





CHRISTMAS OFFERING

The collections taken at the Christmas Masses at Saint Joseph's and the Annunciation will be given to Father Bill.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Father Gary is happy to celebrate the sacrament on request or by appointment.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Our First Holy Communion Programme for 2023 will begin in January. It will be a combined programme for our three parishes. The first parents meeting will be in the Parish Hall of the Immaculate Conception, Stroud on Wednesday 18th January (7:00pm - 8:30pm) and the first children's session will be on Saturday 21st January in Stroud from 2:00pm until 4:30pm. Names of children in year 3 or above who would like to participate should be given to the parish office or to Deacon Bogdan. Full programmes and application forms will be available shortly. For more information please speak with Deacon Bogdan or Father Gary.

THEATRE OUTING

Ros has booked twenty tickets to see 'Relatively Speaking' by Alan Ayckbourn, a comedy at the Everyman Theatre in Cheltenham. Seats are in the circle on Tuesday, 24th January 2023. Payment of £19 is required by the beginning of January. Please see Ros for more details.

FOUNDATION DIRECTOR REQUIRED

A third new Catholic Educational Multi Academy Trust, The Little Way Catholic Educational Trust – consisting of Catholic Primary Schools in Gloucestershire, is due to open on 1 September 2023 and so the Bishop is seeking to appoint Foundation Directors to its Trust Board. If you have enthusiasm and commitment, can take a strategic view and wish to support and sustain Catholic education, then you can make a valuable contribution to the governing board. It also provides the opportunity to use your life/work skills and experience, to provide the best possible education for the children in our schools. For a The Little Way Directors Application Pack visit <https://schools.cliftondiocese.com/governance> & click on the 'Recruitment' tab or contact Bill McEntee, Governance Officer via Bill.mcentee@cliftondiocese.com or on 07710094976 for further details.

FEAST OF SAINT STEPHEN, THE FIRST MARTYR – 26TH DECEMBER

Deacon and the first martyr, he died about 25AD. All we know of his life is in the Acts of the Apostles. He was one of the seven deacons, probably a Hellenistic Jew, appointed by the apostles to look after the distribution of alms to the faithful and to help in the ministry of preaching. In the end, he attacked his hearers for resisting the Spirit and for killing the Christ as their fathers had killed the prophets. They then stoned him for blasphemy apparently without a formal trial, during which he saw a vision of Christ at God's right hand.

FEAST OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS, MARTYRS – 28TH DECEMBER

Herod 'ordered the massacre of all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity two years old and under' in order to kill Jesus. The horror of the massacre and the devastation of the mothers and fathers led Matthew to quote Jeremiah: 'A voice was heard in Ramah...sobbing and loud lamentation...Rachel weeping for her children...' The Holy Innocents are few in comparison to the genocide and abortion of our day, but even if there had been only one, we recognized the greatest treasure God puts on Earth – a human person, destined for eternity and graced by Jesus' death and resurrection.

FEAST OF SAINT THOMAS BECKETT, BISHOP, MARTYR AND PATRON OF PASTORAL CLERGY IN ENGLAND AND WALES – 29TH DECEMBER

1118-70. Thomas was born in London and became archdeacon of Canterbury and Chancellor of Henry II. He was a close friend of the King. Henry obtained Thomas' election as Archbishop of Canterbury hoping the same relationship would continue. As Archbishop, Thomas adopted an austere way of life and resigned the chancellorship. There emerged conflict with the King over Church-State exile in France. On his return to England, his reconciliation with the king proved superficial. In a rage the King asked who would rid him of this turbulent priest and four barons slaughtered Thomas in Canterbury Cathedral.

— ST JOSEPH'S —

MISSIO RED BOXES

In future, if returning a Red Box for collection, either give it directly to Brendan or Sue, or take it to the Sacristy for safe keeping. Do not leave it unattended in the Porch. – Brendan

— THE ANNUNCIATION —

WARM HUB AT NAILSWORTH LIBRARY

Thank you to the few people who have volunteered to help out at the Warm Hub. You will be contacted when needed. Thanks also for donations of biscuits and cash which has already been used to buy more coffee and UHT milk for the Hub. The Hub has been used by more people as the weather was so cold recently, and the Library staff are very grateful for our input. More information from Angela Middleditch.

CHURCH CLEANING

Thanks to the volunteers who have helped make our church look clean, polished and festive this week. One of our regular church cleaners (Jane Bethell) has broken her arm so is there anyone who could offer to take her place during the first week of each month? Details from Angela on 01453 832911

NAILSWORTH CHURCHES TOGETHER

We will be hosting the Christian Unity service at Woodchester on Saturday January 21st at 2:30pm. This will be followed by refreshments. – Maggie

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