# **SACRED HEART OF JESUS - NEWSLETTER**

Parish Priest – Fr Graziano de Palma

Contact Details: Presbytery Phone – 01795 472619 – Office Phone – 01795 555708

Office Hours: Mon, Weds & Fri 9am -1pm sittingbourne@rcaos.org.uk

**The church is now opened for congregational Mass. Please book for all Masses including Christmas Masses online or ring the office. Details above.**

Sunday 13th December **THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**Gaudete Sunday**

9.30am Holy Mass – Mo Lewis RIP

11am Holy Mass - People of the Parish

Monday 14th December No Mass

Tuesday 15th December 6.00pm Holy Mass - Ann O’Shea RIP

Wednesday 16th December 6.00pm Holy Mass – Pamela Pullen RIP

Thursday 17th December 10am Holy Mass – Kenneth Fisher RIP

Friday 18th December 10am Holy Mass – Wellbeing of Lily

Saturday 19th December 4.30pm Confessions

5pm Holy Mass – Daniel Powell RIP

Sunday 20th December **FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

9.30am Holy Mass – People of the Parish

11am Holy Mass – Edwyn de Souza RIP

**PARISH NEWS**

**CHURCH RE-OPENING**

I am delighted to have been able to reopen the church, but please remember to book the Mass by Phone or email as before. Whilst it is a Blessing that we can join together in worship, please consider your health first and join us on Facebook or Angel Camera if you feel safer. God Bless you all.

**CHRISTMAS RAFFLE**

Please collect your tickets from the church or email the office and make arrangements for them to be collected or delivered. We have had an excellent response so far and there are only a few left. Make sure to return your stubs before Friday 18th!! Thank you for your generosity. The draw will take place on Friday 18th December and winners notified shortly thereafter.

**FOOD BANK** *“From parishioners, for parishioners”*

If you are aware of someone in need or you are in need yourself please contact Fr Graziano in confidence.

We have had a fantastic response from parishioners, we now need to reach those in need.

**MASS INTENTIONS**

If you would like a Mass said for the repose of the soul of a loved one or the wellbeing of family or friends, please contact the Parish Office.

**CAR PARK**

Thanks to the generosity of Parishioners the Car Park is well advanced with the surface done and the wooden gates nearing completion. The next project is the iron gate at the front of the entrance to stop the new surface being damaged and providing security to the Church and car park. Your continuous financial support to complete this project would be much appreciated.

**Christmas Masses**

The Catholic Bishops have asked for parishioners to be reminded that the mystery of Christmas can be celebrated at any of the Octave Day Masses, with the same sense and joy of solemnity. Liturgically, each of the days from 25th December until the 1st of January is ‘Christmas Day. So for example, the prayers of the Mass and the Liturgy of the Hours during the Christmas Octave refer throughout to the Nativity of the Lord Jesus; and despite having days within the Octave which are feasts, The Roman Missal also states that each of these days is still a “day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord”

This said, extra Masses will be held (subject to availability of Stewards). Please refer to the provisional times below.

**Provisional Christmas Mass times The Octave of Christmas**

Christmas Eve 24th 5pm Children and family Mass (Live streamed)

Christmas Eve 24th 8pm Vigil Mass

Christmas Eve 24th 10pm Vigil Mass (Live streamed)

Christmas Day 25th 9.30am Nativity of the Lord (Live streamed)

Christmas Day 25th 11am Nativity of the Lord

Christmas Day 25th 12 noon Nativity of the Lord

Boxing Day 26th 10am St Stephen’s Day (Live streamed)

Sunday 27th 9.30am The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Sunday 27th 11.am The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Monday 28th 10.am The Holy Innocents

Tuesday 29th 6.pm Saint of Thomas of Canterbury

Wednesday 30th 10.am Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity

Thursday 31st 7.30pm Adoration – In thanksgiving at the end of the year

Thursday 31st 8pm Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity

 New Year’s Eve

**Third Sunday of Advent– Year B**

**Entrance Antiphon.**

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.

**In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**C.** The Lord be with you

**All. And with your Spirit**

**All: I confess to almighty God**

**And you my brothers and sisters,**

**That I have greatly sinned,**

**In my thoughts and in my words,**

**In what I have done and in what I have failed to do,**

**through my fault, through my fault,**

**through my most grievous fault;**

**therefore, I ask blessed Mary ever-virgin,**

**all the Angels and Saints,**

**and you my brothers and sisters,**

**to pray for me to the Lord our God.**

**C:** Lord, have mercy. **All:** **Lord, have mercy.**

**C:** Christ have mercy**. All:** **Christ have mercy.**

**C:** Lord, have mercy. **All:** **Lord, have mercy.**

**C:** Let us pray

**First Reading Isaiah 61:1-2,10-11**

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me,

for the Lord has anointed me.

He has sent me to bring good news to the poor,

to bind up hearts that are broken;

to proclaim liberty to captives,

freedom to those in prison;

to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord.

‘I exult for joy in the Lord,

my soul rejoices in my God,

for he has clothed me in the garments of salvation,

he has wrapped me in the cloak of integrity,

like a bridegroom wearing his wreath,

like a bride adorned in her jewels.

‘For as the earth makes fresh things grow,

as a garden makes seeds spring up,

so will the Lord make both integrity and praise

spring up in the sight of the nations.’

The word of the Lord.

**Responsorial Psalm: Luke 1:46-50,53-54 R. Is.61:10**

**Response: My soul rejoices in my God.**

My soul glorifies the Lord,

my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.

He looks on his servant in her nothingness;

henceforth all ages will call me blessed. **R#**

The Almighty works marvels for me.

Holy his name!

His mercy is from age to age,

on those who fear him. **R#**

He fills the starving with good things,

sends the rich away empty.

He protects Israel, his servant,

remembering his mercy. **R#**

**Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24**

Be happy at all times; pray constantly; and for all things give thanks to God, because this is what God expects you to do in Christ Jesus.

Never try to suppress the Spirit or treat the gift of prophecy with contempt; think before you do anything – hold on to what is good and avoid every form of evil.

May the God of peace make you perfect and holy; and may you all be kept safe and blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has called you and he will not fail you.

The word of the Lord

A**lleluia, alleluia**

The Spirit of the Lord has been given to me.

He has sent me to give good news to the poor.

**Alleluia!**

**Priest:** The Lord be with you

**All: And with your Spirit.**

**Priest:** A reading from the Holy Gospel according to ….

**All: Glory to you, O Lord.**

**Gospel John 1:6-8,19-28**

A man came, sent by God.

His name was John.

He came as a witness,

as a witness to speak for the light,

so that everyone might believe through him.

He was not the light,

only a witness to speak for the light.

This is how John appeared as a witness. When the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, ‘Who are you?’ he not only declared, but he declared quite openly, ‘I am not the Christ.’ ‘Well then,’ they asked ‘are you Elijah?’ ‘I am not’ he said. ‘Are you the Prophet?’ He answered, ‘No.’ So they said to him, ‘Who are you? We must take back an answer to those who sent us. What have you to say about yourself?’ So John said, ‘I am, as Isaiah prophesied:

a voice that cries in the wilderness:

Make a straight way for the Lord.’

Now these men had been sent by the Pharisees, and they put this further question to him, ‘Why are you baptising if you are not the Christ, and not Elijah, and not the prophet?’ John replied, ‘I baptise with water; but there stands among you – unknown to you – the one who is coming after me; and I am not fit to undo his sandal-strap.’ This happened at Bethany, on the far side of the Jordan, where John was baptising.

**Priest:** The Gospel of the Lord

**All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, (all bow) and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary and became man .For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**Liturgy of the Eucharist:**

C: Pray, brethren….

**All: May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands**

**for the praise and glory of his name**

**for our good and the good of all his holy Church.**

**C**: The Lord be with you **All:** **and with your Spirit**

**C**: Lift up your hearts. **All: We lift them up to the Lord.**

**C:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **All: it is right and just.**

**All: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of hosts**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Lord’s Prayer: Our** **Father**…

**C:** ……. And the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

**All:** **For the kingdom the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.**

**All: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.**

**C:** Behold the Lamb of God…….

**All: Lord, I am not worthy**

**that you should enter under my roof,**

**but only say the word**

**and my soul shall be healed.**

***(Before the Celebrant receives Communion, he will elevate the Host and* then elevate the *Chalice. Holy Communion then follows the Concluding Rites.)***

**C: THE BODY OF CHRIST. All: AMEN C: THE BLOOD OF CHRIST. All: AMEN**

**Communion Antiphon.**

The Lord will bestow his bounty,

and our earth shall yield its increase.

**C: Let us Pray……….**

**C:** The Lord be with you

**All: And with your Spirit.**

C:May Almighty God bless you,

The Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

**All: Amen**

**Priest:** Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life.

**All: Thanks be to God.**