# **SACRED HEART OF JESUS NEWSLETTER**

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Saturday **FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR C**

18th December 4.30pm Confession

5pm Gerard O’Leary R.I.P.

Sunday 19th December 9.30am People of the Parish.

10.30am TEA & COFFEE in O’Sullivan Centre

Parish Christmas Draw

11am Edwyn de Souza (20th Anniversary R.I.P.)

Monday 20th December **NO MASS**

Tuesday 21st December  6pmGretta Finn R.I.P

Followed by Adoration

Wednesday 22nd December 10am The O’Brien Family

Thursday 23rd December 10am Wellbeing of Maura Kavanagh

Friday 24th December 5pm Family Mass - Children of the Parish

9pm Carols

10pm Vigil Mass – People of the Parish

Saturday **CHRISTMAS DAY THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD**

25th December 10am Angelo de Palma R.I.P.

Sunday **BOXING DAY** **THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH**

26th December 9.30am Valerie Jennings R.I.P.

11am People of the Parish.

**PARISH NEWS**

**CHRISTMAS EVE 5PM FAMILY MASS**

For our Family Mass on Christmas Eve (5pm) it would be really nice to have some of our Parish children to participate in the Mass. My idea is that I will tell the Christmas Nativity story and the children will build up the nativity scene at the front of the Church dressed in the character costume appropriate to the figurine being placed. So if your child/children would like to come appropriately dressed I am looking for:- An Angel, Mary, Joseph, Innkeeper, donkey, Baby Jesus, Shepherds and Wise men. There are also bidding prayers for the children to read, please contact Sue McGoldrick on [sittingbourne@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:sittingbourne@rcaos.org.uk) if your child would like to help.

**DECEMBER FOOD & TOILETRIES COLLECTION FOR THE NEEDY**

Continuing into December, we would ask you to bring in any non-perishable food and toiletries that you can spare, for those in our Parish who are in need. Christmas can be a very distressing time for our families and the elderly. Similarly, if you know of any families or elderly person that would benefit, please let Fr Graziano know. This will of course, be confidential to the individual. Thank you again for your continued support. **SUNDAY OBLIGATION – HONOURING SUNDAY A message from the Catholic Bishops of England & Wales:**

“We now encourage all Catholics to look again at the patterns which they have formed in recent months with regard to going to Mass on Sundays. This would include consideration and reflection about what we might do on Sundays, such as sports or shopping, or other leisure and social activities. This review, and the decisions which arise from it, fall to every Catholic and we trust this will be done with honesty, motivated by a real love for the Lord whom we encounter in the Mass.

At this time, we recognise that for some people there may be certain factors which hinder attendance at Sunday Mass. The pandemic is clearly not over. The risk of infection is still present. For some, there is legitimate fear in gathering together. As your bishops, we recognise that these prevailing circumstances suggest that not everyone is yet in the position to fulfil the absolute duty to attend freely Sunday Mass”.

**CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES**

**Christmas Weekend**

**Christmas Eve**

Friday 24th December No Morning Mass

5pm Family Christmas Mass

9pm Carols

10pm Vigil Mass

**Christmas Day – The Nativity of The Lord**

Saturday 25th December 10am Christmas Day Mass

**Boxing Day - The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph**

Sunday 26th December 9.30am Sunday Mass

11am Sunday Mass



**COVID-19 MEASURES – PLEASE NOTE THAT MOST MEASURES REMAIN IN PLACE**

* Wearing of face coverings is now again required, unless you are unable to for medical reasons.
* Using the “ONE WAY SYSTEM” entering the main front door and leaving by the side door of the church
* Congregational singing is now allowed.
* Sign of the peace is omitted
* Children are not allowed to wander around the church for their own protection and other people’s safety
* Votive candles are available
* Following the Social Distancing rule of 1 metre or more, we can now accomodate 86 people. (The seating areas have green signage).
* We have reintroduced bidding prayers
* The Offertory Procession will be reintroduced when music is available, with those involved sanitising their hands immediately before they touch the sacred vessel or other gifts
* The Holy Communion will continue to be under one kind and the Minister will continue to wear a face covering and it is permitted to announce “the Body of Christ” for each communicant. Communion is recommended to be distributed in the hands, but if people wish to receive on the tongue, then they should wait until the end of the communion line and receive then. Communion on the tongue exposes the ministers’ hands to their aerosol and inccreases the possibility of viral infections. He will have to sanitize his hands again immediately after.

# **Fourth Sunday of Advent – Year C**

### Entrance Antiphon.

Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down

the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

**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 Micah 5:1-4**

The Lord says this:

But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah,

the least of the clans of Judah,

out of you will be born for me

the one who is to rule over Israel;

his origin goes back to the distant past,

to the days of old.

The Lord is therefore going to abandon them

till the time when she who is to give birth gives birth.

Then the remnant of his brothers will come back

to the sons of Israel.

He will stand and feed his flock

with the power of the Lord,

with the majesty of the name of his God.

They will live secure, for from then on he will extend his power

to the ends of the land.

He himself will be peace.

The word of the Lord.

**Psalm: 79(80):2-3,15-16,18-19. R. v.4**

***R: God of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us***

***and we shall be saved.***

O shepherd of Israel, hear us,

shine forth from your cherubim throne.

O Lord, rouse up your might,

O Lord, come to our help. ***R#***

God of hosts, turn again, we implore,

look down from heaven and see.

Visit this vine and protect it,

the vine your right hand has planted. ***R#***

May your hand be on the man you have chosen,

the man you have given your strength.

And we shall never forsake you again;

give us life that we may call upon your name. ***R#***

**Second Reading Hebrews 10:5-10**

This is what Christ said, on coming into the world:

You who wanted no sacrifice or oblation,

prepared a body for me.

You took no pleasure in holocausts or sacrifices for sin;

then I said,

just as I was commanded in the scroll of the book,

‘God, here I am! I am coming to obey your will.’

Notice that he says first: You did not want what the Law lays down as the things to be offered, that is: the sacrifices, the oblations, the holocausts and the sacrifices for sin, and you took no pleasure in them; and then he says: Here I am! I am coming to obey your will. He is abolishing the first sort to replace it with the second. And this will was for us to be made holy by the offering of his body made once and for all by Jesus Christ. The word of the Lord.

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

I am the handmaid of the Lord:

let what you have said be done to me.

**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 Luke 1:39-45**

Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah’s house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, ‘Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.’

**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.**

**Communion Antiphon:**

Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son; **Is. 7:14**

and his name will be called Emmanuel.

**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.**