

15th December. 2013
3rd Sunday of Advent



North West Hampshire Catholic News Weekly Newsletter

Serving the parishes of Andover, Basingstoke, Hook, Tadley and Kingsclere

Priests serving the area

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Fr. Thomas Amungwa , Tel: 01256 323595 Basingstoke

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Fr. Patrick Tansey, Tel: 0118 981 4572 **Tadley & Kingsclere**

Fr. Peter Codd—Retired-Priest-in-Residence—01256 762351

Deacons serving the area

Deacon Anthony Cairns, Tel: 0118 982 1511,

Deacon Patrick O'Connell, Tel: 01256 420048, Email: deaconpatrick@hotmail.com

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Area Youth Officer

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Gaudete Sunday – “Rejoice!”

Taken from *Evangelii Gaudium*, ‘The Joy of the Gospel’, Pope Francis:

“The joy of the gospel fills the hearts and lives of all who encounter Jesus. Those who accept his offer of salvation are set free from sin, sorrow, inner emptiness and loneliness. With Christ joy is constantly born anew...I invite all Christians, everywhere, at this very moment, to a renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ, or at least an openness to letting him encounter them; I ask all of you to do this unfailingly each day. No one should think that this invitation is not meant for him or her, since “no one is excluded from the joy brought by the Lord”. The Lord does not disappoint those who take this risk; whenever we take a step towards Jesus, we come to realize that he is already there, waiting for us with open arms. Now is the time to say to Jesus: “Lord, I have let myself be deceived; in a thousand ways I have shunned your love, yet here I am once more, to renew my covenant with you. I need you. Save me once again, Lord, take me once more into your redeeming embrace”.

There are Christians whose lives seem like Lent without Easter. I realize of course that joy is not expressed the same way at all times in life, especially at moments of great difficulty. Joy adapts and changes, but it always endures, even as a flicker of light born of our personal certainty that, when everything is said and done, we are infinitely loved. I understand the grief of people who have to endure great suffering, yet slowly but surely we all have to let the joy of faith slowly revive as a quiet yet firm trust, even amid the greatest distress.

Thanks solely to this encounter – or renewed encounter – with God’s love, which blossoms into an enriching friendship, we are liberated from our narrowness and self-absorption. We become fully human when we become more than human, when we let God bring us beyond ourselves in order to attain the fullest truth of our being. Here we find the source and inspiration of all our efforts at evangelization. For if we have received the love which restores meaning to our lives, how can we fail to share that love with others?”

DIOCESAN PRAYER INTENTIONS (15-21 December)

These are arranged so that in the course of a year we pray for each parish of our Diocese and the Catholic organisations working here. This week’s intentions are: **Sun:** Association of Blind Catholics. **Mon:** “Life”. **Tues:** Parishes, communities & Schools in the Avon Stour Pastoral Area. **Wed:** Bishop’s Secretarial Staff. **Thurs:** Co-workers of Mother Teresa. **Fri:** Sister of Christ in the Diocese. **Sat:** Parishes, Communities & Schools in the Southampton East Pastoral Area..

WELCOME TO ST. BEDE’S CHURCH

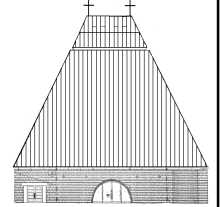
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ONE PARISH, TWO CHURCHES

St. Bede's Church, Popley Way, Basingstoke, RG24 9DX
Holy Ghost Church, Sherborne Rd. Basingstoke. RG21 5TX
Fr. Christopher Rutledge: Parish Priest

Parish Secretary: Liz Murphy
Tel. No. 01256 465214



stbedes@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk—facebook.com/stbedesbasingstoke

Parish Mass Timetable

Sun: 15th December Third Sunday of Advent
See Parish Mass Book, p88 Psalter week (3)
9.00 am SB People of the Parish
11.00 am SB Breda Corr RIP
6.30 pm SB John Reid RIP

Mon: Third week of Advent
9.30 am HG Maura Hanafee RIP

Tues: *Liturgy of the Day*
9.30 am SB Mary Whiting RIP (Popovic)

Wed: *Liturgy of the Day*
9.30 am HG Kevin Martin RIP (Martin)

Thurs: *Liturgy of the Day*
9.30 am SB Int. Rosemary Flitcroft (Flitcroft)
1.00 pm HG Requiem Teresa Cody RIP

Fri: *Liturgy of the Day*
9.30 am SB End of term School Mass
Daniel Foran RIP

Sat: *Liturgy of the Day*
9.30 am SB Keith Brennan RIP (Adams)

Sun: 22nd December Fourth Sunday in Advent
9.00 am SB Emmanuel Rana RIP (Rossellern)
11.00 am SB Dave Webb RIP (Butler)
6.30 pm SB People of the Parish

Morning Prayer: 9.15 am before each weekday Mass

Rosary: recited after the weekday Mass.

To ask for Mass to be offered for a particular intention

Requiem for Teresa Cody RIP in Holy Ghost Church on Thursday 19th December at 1 pm
May she rest in Peace.



Giving Tree:

Thank you to those who organised it and to all parishioners who contributed so many beautifully wrapped Christmas Gifts. There will be many children very happy on Christmas mornings—**thanks to you the parishioners**

Collection

Details of last weeks collection amounted to £2,013,93p
Second collection last weekend for the Christmas Flowers amounted to £175.08p. Grateful thanks.

Christmas 2013

Christmas Eve:

Vigil Mass: St. Bede's

Carols at 6pm Mass at 6.30pm
Polska Pasterka, Kosciol rzymn.-kat
Wigilia, 24 Grundnia (Wtorek)
Godz.21.00

Midnight Mass: St. Bede's

Carols at 11.30 pm Mass at Midnight

Christmas Day: St. Bede's

Mass at 10.00 am

Boxing Day: St. Bede's

Mass at 10.00 am

New Year's Eve: Holy Ghost

Mass at 8 pm (light refreshments afterwards in the hall)

New Year's Day: St. Bede's

Mass at 12 noon

Basingstoke Advent Reconciliation Service in St. Joseph's Church TODAY at 3 pm.

Filipino disaster appeal

Cake sale last weekend raised £214.16p. The Filipino Community wish to thank the parish for all their support during this tragic time.

Carol Service

On Monday
23rd December at 7.00
In North West Hampshire Hospital. With the Tadley Concert Brass Band. All are welcome to attend.



Parish Diary: 15th December 2013

Sun: Music: 9 am Choir : 11 am Cantorg : 6.30 pm Priest led:
Children's Liturgy at 9 am Mass
Refreshments with Mince Pies after the 11 am Mass
Reconciliation Service in St. Joseph's Church at 3 pm

Mon: St. Vincent de Paul SB @ 7.30 pm

Tues: Fr. Chris—day off
NO Toddler group—resumes 7th Jan 2014

Wed: Journey in Faith SB @ 7.30 pm
Church cleaning **TODAY** 11 am—12 noon

Thur: Marnel School Carol Service SB at 10.30 am
Requiem for Teresa Cody RIP in HG at 1 pm
St. Bede's School Carol Service SB at 6 pm

Fri: St. Bede's School joining us for the 9.30 am Mass SB

Sat: Lord's Flock 3—8.30 pm

Adoration of the Bl. Sacrament

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place after the 9.30 am Mass on Friday

Facebook

You can now find the parish on facebook. 'Like' us at facebook.com/stbedesbasingstoke or read the latest posts on our website.

Loop system

at St Bede's Church & Holy Ghost Church —to use it please switch your hearing aid to 'T'coil.'



Gaudete Sunday

The third Sunday in Advent is sometimes called 'Gaudete Sunday'. This is because the opening antiphon in the Roman Missal for this Sunday begins with the words 'Gaudete in Domino semper' meaning 'Rejoice in the Lord always'. On this day the rose candle on the wreath is lit signifying we are into the second half of Advent. And in some churches on this day the priest wears rose (or pink) vestments. This year we have a new rose coloured vestment thanks to a kind parishioner.

The Basingstoke foodbank have written to thank us and their other contributors for the regular food donations that they have received since the foodbank was set up in Sept 2012.

In the 15 months that they have been operating in Basingstoke, over 2000 families have received donations and currently the foodbank is distributing 2 tonnes every month.

The foodstore was swelled by more than 3 tonnes following a very successful appeal held at Tesco recently. Consequently St Bedes will not be holding any monthly appeals for a little while as the foodstore cannot hold any more food! However, if you are interested in making financial donations, please visit the

Thank you to all parishioners who are preparing the Church/Liturgy for Christmas.. If you are able to come and help clean the Church this coming Wednesday 18th at 11 am until 12 noon that would be much appreciated.

Please pray for all the Sick in our Parish

Lord, have all those who are unable to be with us for Mass in your safekeeping. We remember: Sean Walsh, Theodora Gatchalian, John Hickey, Joan Gomes. Carmel Hyland, Larry Hynan, Gillian Sims, Anne Quinn, Andrea Thrower.
*Support them in your love.
Be near them in moments of sickness and anxiety.
And Bless all those who care for those in need.*

Confessions

Fr. Chris will usually be available to hear Confessions every Saturday after the 9.30 am Mass until 10.45 am. Also on Sunday evenings from 5.30 pm—6.15 pm in St. Bede's Church

Arranging a Baptism

Any Catholic parent living in our parish and wishing their child to be baptised should collect a form from the cloister area, please complete and return to the Parish Office. We currently celebrate this Sacrament on designated Sundays, this being the First Sunday of the Month at 3 pm Bede's Church only.

Christmas Cards please do not leave Christmas cards in the cloister area, as we have had incidences of cards being opened by members of the public, possibly looking for money.

Other local churches

Sunday Mass times

Sacred Heart, Hook

- Sat 6pm & Sun 10am

St Joseph's, Basingstoke

- Sat 6pm & Sun 9am and 11am

St Michael's, Tadley

- Sat 6pm & Sun 9.30 am

St Peter & St Paul, Kingsclere



Home Mission: Free Christmas

Outreach Resources

Advent and Christmas are wonderful times of the year for every member of the Catholic community to share the joy of his/her faith in Jesus Christ. Why not invite three people that you know to celebrate the reason for the season with you and your parish? In support of seasonal evangelisation the Bishops' Conference Department for Evangelisation and Catechesis is offering a free online resource area which features a number of different materials which are aimed at non churchgoing Catholics, of which it's thought there are about four million in England and Wales. For invitation cards, posters, video links and a dedicated outreach leaflet please see: <http://www.catholicnews.org.uk/christmas-outreach> You may also want to advertise in your newsletter for parish visitors: www.comehomeforchristmas.co.uk You might also consider organising and advertising a welcome evening for people wanting to find out more about the Catholic Faith and parish life in your Christmas communications. For additional information please contact the Bishops' Conference Home Mission Desk: mision.volunteer@cbcew.org.uk

ADVENT TALKS AND PRAYER

SACRED HEART—HOOK

Each Thursday of Advent (Four Weeks)

The opportunity to pray before the Blessed Sacrament, exposed for half an hour. This will be preceded by a 20 minute talk on **Christian Prayer** given by Fr Peter Codd and a 10 minute discussion (based on Section IV of the Catechism of the Catholic Church).. **EVERYONE MOST WELCOME**

Thursday: 5, 12 & 19 Dec in the church 2.15-3.15pm and again in the evening 7-8 pm

An Advent Thought:



The child in Elizabeth's womb "leapt for joy" at the recognition of the saviour. For what do you 'leap for joy'? Do you ever

'leap for joy' because of your faith' When@ Why? Where does Mary's greatness lie in salvation history? How about you? When the Holy spirit gives you insights, do you always believe them or act on them?

POLSKA + PASTERKA+

Polish Midnight Mass

WIGILIA, 24 GRUDNIA (WTOREK)

GODZ. 21.00 24.12.2013 (Tuesday) 9pm



Kościół rzym.-kat. Holy Ghost, Sherborne Road, RG21 5TD
Serdecznie Zapraszamy!Wesołych Świąt!!!
Okazja do Spowiedzi w Parafii w Reading. Tel. 0118 957 3647

THANK YOU and HAPPY CHRISTMAS FROM CAFOD -



Lynda and Laura from the CAFOD Portsmouth Office would like to wish a happy and blessed Christmas and New Year to all parishioners and thank them for their support and generosity throughout the past year, especially for the recent contributions towards our emergency appeal for Typhoon Haiyan (currently over £116,000 from our diocese). This exceptional support has meant our partners on the ground, Caritas Philippines and CRS, have been able to deliver aid to thousands of survivors, working through local parishes. Thank you all!

CAFOD WORLD GIFTS

If you're stuck for ideas this Christmas or want to try and give your friends, colleagues and loved ones something really meaningful, why not consider buying a CAFOD World Gift and help people fight poverty and injustice all over the world? Gifts start from as little as £4 and range from queen bees to drought-resistant crops to goats and chickens. Gifts can also be bought on a sale or return basis for your Christmas fayres. For a catalogue please visit cafod.org.uk/worldgifts or freephone 0800 14 000 14.

Before Mass: pray to God.

During Mass: listen to God.

After Mass in the cloister area: talk to everyone.