

**NORTH WEST
HAMPSHIRE
PASTORAL AREA**

SERVING THE PARISHES OF
ANDOVER, BASINGSTOKE,
HOOK, TADLEY AND BURGHFIELD



HOLY GHOST PARISH

BASINGSTOKE

St. Bede's Church

Popley Way, Basingstoke,
RG24 9DX

Holy Ghost Church

Sherborne Rd. Basingstoke.
RG21 5TX

Sacred Heart Parish

Sacred Heart Church
London Road, Hook
RG27 9LA

Parish Priest:

Rev Fr. Christopher Rutledge:
Dean of North Hampshire

Assistant Priest:

Awaiting appointment

Retired Priest in Residence

Rev Fr. Peter Codd

Parish Office Hours:

Monday-Friday 9am to 2pm

01256 465214

Parish Secretary:

Mrs Liz Murphy

Site Manager:

Mrs Liz Flitcroft

Treasurer:

Mrs Jan Hughes

email:

stbedes@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Web:

www.stbedesbasingstoke.org.uk

Facebook:

[Facebook.com/stbedesbasingstoke](https://www.facebook.com/stbedesbasingstoke)

Safeguarding:

Mrs Jan Hughes 07719012955

Mrs Angela McGrory (Diocese)

0755 4427 064

023 92816396

Fourth Sunday of Advent

20th December 2015

Page 90 Year C Psalter week 4

A PUBLICATION OF PORTSMOUTH DIOCESE TRUST REGISTERED CHARITY No. 246871

Thought for the week

Parents often make a great effort to find a particular present that their child wants for Christmas. It does not seem ridiculous for the parents, if it is done out of love for their child. The gift in time may be forgotten, abandoned at the back of a cupboard, but the love shown in the gift will never be lost. If the parents cannot find the special present then the child may be disappointed, but the disappointment will not last for ever. The promise parents make to a child does not depend on providing that special present, but upon doing their best for their child by constantly loving the child. This is the great gift a child can be given, and without this all other gifts are empty signs. Good parents love their child no matter what happens to the child, no matter what the child does.

As Child of God, human beings had turned away from God's love and sought other things to replace that love. Through sending us His Son, Jesus Christ, God the Father has made present to us His love. Like Mary, we are invited to welcome this gift of God's love into our life. Each of us is invited to reflect on the things in our life that prevent us from saying yes to God's gift, those things with which we try to replace God's love. We can only do this through the gift, through the overwhelming love that floods into our life when we open our hearts to Jesus Christ. In this our hearts leap for joy; through this we too can be called Blessed.

- ◆ The most important thing about a Christmas present is the love of the giver.
- ◆ John the Baptist leaps for joy at the presence of Jesus Christ, who is the expression of God's love.
- ◆ We are invited to reflect on what prevents us from receiving the gift of Jesus Christ, and to *open our hearts to the presence of his love.*

Taken from 'The Living Word' Redemptorist Publications

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Sun 20th Dec Fourth Sunday of Advent

9.00 am	Fr C	SB	John Reilly RIP
11.00 am	Fr C	SB	People of the Parish
6.30 pm	Fr C	SB	Daniel Foran RIP

Mon 21st Dec 12 noon Fr C HG Nora & Keith Brennan Rip (Adams)

Tues 22nd Dec 9.15 am at St Joseph, South Ham

10.00 am at Sacred Heart, Hook

Wed 23rd Dec 9.30 am Fr C HG Oscar Herman Dover (Fond)

Thursday 24th December Christmas Eve

Carol Service 6.00 pm

Vigil Mass 6.30 pm People of the Parish

Carol Service 9.30 pm

Mass during the night 10.00 pm People of the Parish

Friday 25th December Christmas

Dawn Mass 8.00 am People of the Parish

Mass during the day 10.00 am People of the Parish

No Evening Mass

Saturday 26th December St. Stephen's Day

11.00 am

Mitchaswaf Godomski, &
Helina Godomska RIP (Dzida)

Sunday 27th December

9.00am Fr. C

Martin Cleary RIP (Cleary)

11.00am Fr C

People of the Parish

6.30pm Fr. JC

Dec. Mbrs Hynes and Murphy Families

CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS

Thank you to everyone who has contributed of their time and talent to preparing the Churches and helping us all in our Worship of God. Thanks too for your many cards and gifts. May Christ the Saviour whose coming we now celebrating Bless you and all your loved ones now and in the New Year ahead.



Fr. Chris.

CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

It is the custom of this Diocese that the collections taken at the Christmas Masses are given to the Priest of the Parish for their personal use. It forms a significant part of their annual income.

CRIB DONATIONS

Bishop Philip is encourage Parishes this Christmas to donate crib offerings to the Friends of the Holy Land. Every penny will help the poorest Christian families, especially in and around Bethlehem, the West Bank, Gaza and Israel, with education, employment, health and housing costs and initiatives. Friends of the Holy Land is non-political and ecumenical.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

We wish our School Children and Teachers a very happy and peaceful Christmas. Our Teachers and Staff at St. Bede's school work extremely hard throughout the year.

CAR PARK CLOSURE

As last year the grassed car park adjacent to Popley Way will not be available, this is to give the grass area an opportunity to recover, and to prevent any accidents. However, it will be open for Christmas Masses.

MASS INTENTIONS

We recently have had to change Mass dates/times which may have upset Parishioners, we can only apologise for this. When Mass Intentions have been requested they have been booked in good faith at the time.... Circumstances, for example, Funerals etc and Fr. Chris' other commitments outside the Parish which unavoidable affects our Mass schedules.

We try extremely hard to accommodate all Mass dates/times.
Parish Office

RED BOXES

Thank you to Teresa Connor who counted all the money in the red boxes, the total amount to £524.40p. Grateful Thanks to all parishioners who take red boxes every year.

ST. BEDE'S SCHOOL SUPPORTING FORMS

Fr. Chris will be available to sign the supporting supplementary forms on Wednesday 6th January 2016 Between 10.45 am—11.45 pm. This is the last chance for these forms to be signed.

COLLECTIONS

Collection for last weekend amount to £2,441.20p. Second collection last weekend for the Christmas flowers amounted to £341.90. Grateful thanks.

AND FINALLY: Thank you to our Parish Priest—Fr. Chris

PARISH DIARY:

Sun: 9am Choir : 11am Popley : 6.30 pm Priest-Led
Repository open after all Masses today
Mince pies/tea/coffee after the 11 am Mass
Today. All proceeds will go towards the Hospice

PRAYER FOR EXPECTANT MOTHERS

Grant me a motherly heart that is pure, steadfast and generous.
I hand over to you my own concerns; any anxious fears that may come, my own wishes for the little person that I still have no knowledge of.
Grant that it may be born healthy in body, keep far from it every peril to its soul. Amen.

POINSETTIA

If you would like to donate a Poinsettia in memory of a 'Loved One' to the Parish to help decorate our Churches, please bring them to St. Bede's Church on Sunday 20th. They will be used to decorate the Altar at Holy Ghost and the Statue of Our Lady at St. Bede's.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve Thursday 24th December

6.00 pm Carol Service
6.30 pm Vigil Mass
9.30 pm Carol Service
10.00 pm Mass during the Night

Christmas Day Friday 25th December

8.00 am Dawn Mass
10.00 am Mass during the day
No Evening Mass

St. Stephen's Day Saturday 26th December

11.00 am Mass

Sunday 27th December

9.00am Mass
11.00am Mass
6.30pm Mass

All Masses at St. Bede's Church



Christmas Mass in other Languages

At Holy Ghost Church.

SYRO MALABAR RITE MASS

In Holy Ghost Church

On Christmas Eve: 6.00 pm Carols
6.30 pm Mass

POLISH MASS

In Holy Ghost Church

On Christmas Eve: 9.00 pm Mass

Wesolych Swiat Bozego Narodzenia **feliz Navidad**

joyeux Noel, buon Natale, 圣诞快乐

Maligayang Pasko, ಕ್ರಿಸ್ ಮಸ್ ಹಬ್ಬದ