



Third Sunday of Advent

Laudete Sunday

Sat *12/Sun 13

*6.00pm Mass

Ceilie Reynolds (int)

9.00am Mass

Carlotta Brunelli (int)

11.30am Mass

John James O'Connell ann+

6.00pm Mass

Margaret Spittle +

Monday 14

(streamed as well)

6.30pm Mass

Mary Greene (int)

Tuesday 15

10.00am Mass

Mary Fitzsimons +

Wednesday 16

Closed

Thursday 17

10.00am Mass

Paddy Cowan +

Friday 18

10am Funeral Mass

(Private)

Eilish Lonergan +

6pm-7pm Adoration in Church

Saturday 19

6.00pm Mass

Noel Donegan ann +

20 Sunday Fourth in Advent

9.00am Mass

Paddy Cowan +

11.30am Mass

O'Connell Family (int)

6.00pm Mass

Fr John McKenna (int)

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came for testimony, to bear witness to the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness to the light.

St John the Baptist bridges the Old and New Testaments. He is the last of the Old Testament prophets who points the way to the Messiah. He is the first of the New Testament witnesses and martyrs. He is the herald who prepares the way for Jesus and who announces his mission to the people: Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world! (John 1:29). John was the greatest of the prophets, yet he lived as a humble and faithful servant of God. He pointed others to Jesus, the true Messiah and Saviour of the world. The Christian church from the earliest of times has given John many titles which signify his mission: Witness of the Lord, Trumpet of Heaven, Herald of Christ, Voice of the Word, Precursor of Truth, Friend of the Bridegroom, Crown of the Prophets, Forerunner of the Redeemer, Preparer of Salvation, Light of the Martyrs, and Servant of the Word.

As we welcome in the Third Sunday of Advent, God asks each one of us: "Do you point others to Jesus Christ by the example and witness of your life?"

Fr John



Advent Zoom Retreat 'Pause for Faith'

Monday 14 and 21 December, 8.00pm

Once you register @: www.barnetalpha.com/book-online you will receive a zoom link to join. It's not too late to join us for the last two sessions.

Christmas Masses ~ PLEASE READ

On the back page of this newsletter are the guidelines for booking your seat via our parish website. **This becomes active from 7.30pm this Sunday 13th December.** Please read the instructions carefully.

Apologies if you are unsuccessful in booking. Regrettably, the seating is limited following the guidelines for everyone's safety. We are encouraged to attend A Mass once over the Christmas season. ALL of the Masses will be live-streamed to allow you to join us spiritually at home.

IT IS IMPORTANT to know that none of the Christmas Masses are assigned for families/over 70s only this year - all are welcome.

**PLEASE DO NOT TURN UP FOR MASS OVER CHRISTMAS
UNLESS YOU HAVE BOOKED YOUR SEAT**

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Please remember in your prayers the sick, their families and all who care for them, including: Emanuele & Carlotta Brunelli, Linda & Stuart Atkinson, Pat Cosgrove, Irene Jones, Ivor Francis, Maria Wallace, Mariella Mansi, Margaret Greaney, Maurice Hunt, Ben Price, Rob Calrow, Amparo Abalos, Linda Quilter, Stasia Gallagher, Suzanne Greig, Marina Melinta, Roberto Lusignani, Leonor Driscoll, Anne McLoughlin, Delia Ward, John Lever, Jeanette Fernandes, Aishleen Sheeran, Elaine Brennan, Sarah Macdonald, Julie Loh, Veronica Soosay, George Buhagiar, Mark O'Brien, Marlene Hollocks, Fr Antony Conlon, Kathleen Flynn, Agnes Day, Rita Rawlings, Mary Stella Soosay, Margaret Trehy.

Eilish Lonergan's Funeral Mass is on Friday 18th December at 10am. This is a private Mass. Please keep family and friends in your prayers. May she rest in peace.

Bishop's Statement on COVID-19 Vaccination: In September 2020 the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales issued a statement [COVID-19 and Vaccination](#) (24 September 2020). In the light of the recent breakthrough in vaccine development we now wish to issue a follow up statement.

Each of us has a duty to protect others from infection with its danger of serious illness, and for some, death. A vaccine is the most effective way to achieve this unless one decides to self-isolate.

At present, debate concerns the use of the vaccines developed by Pfizer & BioNTech, Moderna, and AstraZeneca. Some have questioned the use of the Astra Zeneca vaccine since it has been developed from cell-lines originating from the cells of an aborted foetus in 1983.

The [Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith](#) and the [Pontifical Academy of Life](#) have expressed the view that one may in good conscience and for a grave reason receive a vaccine sourced in this way, provided that there is a sufficient moral distance between the present administration of the vaccine and the original wrongful action.

In the COVID-19 pandemic, we judge that this grave reason exists and that one does not sin by receiving the vaccine.

Both the Pfizer & BioNTech and Moderna vaccines have a different source since they are mRNA-based vaccines. On 2 December 2020, the Pfizer & BioNTech vaccine was approved for use in the UK.

Each Catholic must educate his or her conscience on this matter and decide what to do, also bearing in mind that a vaccine must be safe, effective, and universally available, especially to the poor of the world.

Catholics may in good conscience receive any of these vaccines for the good of others and themselves. In good conscience, one may refuse a particular vaccine but continues to have a duty to protect others from infection.

Right Reverend Richard Moth

Chair, Department of Social Justice

Over the next few weeks, I am going to do my best to reach out to each of you by way of a letter. **Apologies if the letter is addressed to a young person/child - we will correct this when we hear from you.** You will receive a registration card which I need you to complete and return to me in the stamp addressed envelope provided as soon as possible. We will then work as fast as we can to update our database with your current information.

YEAR 9 CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME 2020-22

Application Forms are now available on the parish website. Programme begins in January 2021 so please forward the completed forms to Anita Hammond, via email if possible, to anitahammond@rcdow.org.uk

CHRISTMAS 2020

SUN 20 Fourth Sunday of Advent

6.00pm Vigil Mass (19th)

9.00am Mass

11.30am Mass

6.00pm Mass

MON 21

6.30pm Reconciliation Service (with individual confessions)
(in a safe and socially distanced environment)

TUE 22

10.00am Mass

WEDS 23

No Mass

**SEATING AT THE MASSES BELOW MUST BE BOOKED ONLINE
FROM 7.30PM* SUNDAY 13th DECEMBER**

***YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO BOOK BEFORE THEN**

PLEASE SEE THE BACK PAGE FOR INSTRUCTIONS

THU 24 CHRISTMAS EVE

4.00pm Mass (*this is not a family mass - all are welcome*)

6.00pm Mass (*this is not a family Mass - all are welcome*)

9.00pm Mass

FRI 25 THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

9.00am Mass

11.30am Mass



SAT 26/SUN 27 THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

6.00pm Vigil Mass (Sat)

9.00am Mass

11.30am Mass

6.00pm Mass

Flowers: if you would like to make a donation towards the flowers for Christmas, please place your contribution in an envelope marked 'Flowers' and post it in the presbytery this week.

Presents under the tree: is cancelled this year.

Parish Staff Contact Information

Anita Hammond - Pastoral Assistant/Catechetical Co-ordinator: anitahammond@rcdow.org.uk

Jonathan Stephens - Evangelisation Co-ordinator: jonathanstephens@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Office - barnet@rcdow.org.uk **Secretary:** Janet Nestor

HOW TO BOOK YOUR MASS OVER THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

Go to parish.rcdow.org.uk/barnet (our parish website)

1. On the left hand side of the front page there are index tabs.
2. Press on the tab marked 'Events'.
3. Click on the Mass you wish to book.
4. Follow the instructions.
5. Add your full name and contact details.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. **Q: How many seats can I book? A:** No more than 6 per household.
2. **Q: Can I book myself/family at more than one Mass? A:** It would only be fair to allow as many parishioners the opportunity to attend a Mass. If you feel the need to attend more than one, please email the parish office. You will be contacted if seats become available. *During this time, please remember we are encouraged by the Bishops to attend one Mass over the Christmas season and it doesn't need to be just on Sundays.*
3. **Q: The Mass I want is fully booked: A:** Check the 'Events' section daily, as this may alter and seats become available. This is due to administrative changes. We would advise you to consider booking an alternative Mass.
4. **Q: How will I know my booking has gone through? A:** You will receive a message acknowledging your booking and indicating that you will not be able to amend the booking. To make any amendments: please contact the parish office to cancel or amend your booking by email only.
5. **Q: I do not have a computer - how do I book? A:** A number of seats for each Mass will be available from the parish office. **To book your Mass** the presbytery will be open **Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday: 10.45am to 12 noon this week.** For other opening times, please call 020 8449 3338. Please come to the presbytery at these times only.
6. **Q: Are any of the Masses just for families or the over 70s? A:** No, each Mass is open to everyone.
7. **Q: I haven't been able to book a Mass - what next? A:** Apologies if you have been unsuccessful in booking a Mass, you will be able to join us 'spiritually' from your home as we will be live-streaming every Mass over Christmas.
8. **I feel unwell and can't make my Mass - what do I do? A:** Please inform the parish office (*even half an hour before*) that you are unable to attend Mass - this will enable us to offer your seat to someone else.

Any other questions: email the parish office barnet@rcdow.org.uk