

The Catholic Parish of Carpenters Park & South Oxhey
 St Joseph's Church, Oxhey Drive Watford WD19 7SW
 carpenterspark@rcdow.org.uk www.carpenterspark.org.uk

The Catholic Parishes of Borehamwood
 St Teresa of the Child Jesus 291 Shenley Road, WD6 1TG
 SS John Fisher & Thomas More 28 Rossington Ave, WD6 4LA



Christmas Double Edition 2021

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| Fr John Warnaby | Asst Priest (based at St Joseph's) | Tel: 0208 428 0088 |
| Jackie Faria | Parish Admin (based at St Joseph's) | Tel: 0208 428 0088 |
| <i>Tuesday 10am—12noon & Friday 10am—3pm. carpenterspark@rcdow.org.uk</i> | | |
| Fr Dominic McKenna | Parish Priest (based at St Teresa's) | Tel: 020 8953 1294 |
| Sue Partington | Parish Admin (based at St Teresa's) | Tel: 020 8953 1294 |

MASS INTENTIONS

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| Friday 24th December | Vigil Christmas Mass | 4.00pm Mary Heskin 6.00pm Laurence Brett |
| | Christmas Mass | Midnight Maria Butler |
| Saturday 25th December | Christmas Mass | 8.30am Maurice Rodrigo & John Crowle RIP 10.30am People of the Parish |
| Sunday 26th December | Holy Family | 8.30am Dick Carey RIP 10.30am People of the parish |
| Thursday 30th December | 6th Day Christmas Octave | 9.15am John Andrews RIP |
| Friday 31st December | 7th Day Christmas Octave | 9.15am Brendan & Mary Grimes |
| Saturday 1st January | Solemnity of Mary The Holy Mother of God | 6.00pm Staff & Children St Joseph's School |
| Sunday 2nd January | 2nd after the Nativity | 8.30am People of the Parish 10.30am Catherine & John Malone |
| Thursday 6th January | The Epiphany of the Lord | 9.15am Aidan Cunningham |
| Friday 7th January | Christmas Feria | 9.15am Anthony Foley |
| Saturday 8th January | Christmas Feria | 8.30am People of the parish |

A Christmas Sermon written in 431AD by Theodotus, Bishop of Ancrya

The Lord of all comes in the form of a servant; and he comes as a poor man, so that he will not frighten away those souls he seeks to capture like a huntsman. He is born in an obscure town, deliberately choosing a humble dwelling-place. His mother is a simple maiden, not a great lady. And the reason for all this lowly state is so that he may gently ensnare mankind and bring us to salvation. If he had been born amid the splendour of a rich family, unbelievers would surely have said that the face of the world had been changed by the power of wealth. If he had chosen to be born in Rome, the greatest of cities, they would have ascribed the same change to the power of her citizens. Suppose our Lord had been the son of an emperor; they would have pointed to the advantage of authority. Imagine his father a legislator, their cry would have been, "See what can be brought about by the law." But, in fact what did he do? He chose nothing but poverty and mean surroundings, everything that was plain and ordinary, and in the eyes of most people, obscure. And this so that it could be clearly seen that the Godhead alone transformed the world. That was why he chose his mother from among the poor of a very poor country, and became poor himself. This is the lesson of the crib. Since there was no bed, our Lord was laid in a manger. This lack of necessities of life was the best way of proclaiming the will of God. He was laid in a manger to show that he was to be the food even of simple folk. We know in fact, how the divine Word, the Son of God, drew to himself both rich & poor, the eloquent and the inarticulate, as he lay in the manger surrounded by poverty. Seen then how poverty acted as a prophecy - how his poverty showed that he who became poor for our sake was thereby made accessible to everyone. Christ made no ostentatious display of riches, which would have made people frightened to approach him; he assumed no royal state, which would have driven men away from his presence. No, he came among ordinary men as one of themselves, offering himself freely for the salvation of all." We are made in the image and likeness of our God and so tonight we pray with Gerard Manley Hopkins: "Make me pure, Lord; thou art holy: Make me meek Lord; thou wert lowly, Now beginning, and always; Now begin, on Christmas Day." Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! O Holy Night. Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

1 Once in Royal David's City
stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her baby
in a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ, her little child.

2 He came down to earth from
heaven
who is God and Lord of all;
and his shelter was a stable
and his cradle was a stall:
with the poor and mean and lowly
lived on earth our Saviour holy.

3 And our eyes at last shall see him,
through his own redeeming love,
for that child so dear and gentle
is our Lord in heaven above;
and he leads his children on
to the place where he is gone.

4 Not in that poor lowly stable
with the oxen standing by,
we shall see him, but in heaven,
set at God's right hand on high;
there his children gather round
bright like stars, with glory crowned



1 Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet
head.

The stars in the bright sky looked down
where he lay, the little Lord Jesus asleep
on the hay.

2 The cattle are lowing, the baby
awakes, but little Lord Jesus no crying he
makes.

I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from
the sky, and stay by my side until morn-
ing is nigh.

3 Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to
stay close by me forever and love me, I
pray.

Bless all the dear children in your tender
care, and take us to heaven to live with
you there.

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and
triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem
Come and behold Him
Born the King of Angels

Chorus
O come, let us adore Him
O come, let us adore Him
O come, let us adore Him
Christ the Lord!

God of God, Light of Light
Lo, He abhors not the Virgin's womb
Very God
Begotten, not created (*Chorus*)

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in
exultation
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God
All glory in the highest (*Chorus*)

(*On Christmas Day)

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this
happy morning
Jesus, to Thee be glory given
Word of the Father
Now in flesh appearing (*Chorus*)



Liturgy of the Word: 26th December 2021

Entrance Antiphon: The Shepherds went in haste, And found Mary & Joseph & the infant lying in a manger.
Responsorial Psalm: O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways!
Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! May the peace of Christ reign in your hearts; Let the message of Christ find a home with you. Alleluia!

Liturgy of the Word: 2nd January 2022

Entrance Antiphon: When a profound silence covered all things and night was in the middle of its course, your all- powerful Word, O Lord bounded from heaven's royal throne.
Responsorial Psalm: The Word was made flesh and lived among us.
Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Glory be to you, O Christ, proclaimed by the pagans, Glory be to you, O Christ, believed in by the world. Alleluia!
Next week's Readings: Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11, Psalm 103, Titus 2;11-14, 3:4-7, Luke 3:15-16,21-22

Primary School Places

Applications for admission to St Joseph's Reception Class are now open. If your child was born between 1 September 2017 and 31 August 2018, please contact St Joseph's School on 0208 428 5371 or email admin@stjosephs775.herts.sch.uk.

Nursery School Places

Applications for admission to St Joseph's Nursery Class are now open. If your child was born between 1 September 2018 and 31 August 2019, please contact St Joseph's School on 0208 428 5371 or email admin@stjosephs775.herts.sch.uk.

For more information, please visit the school website at www.stjosephs775.herts.sch.uk

Our prayers are asked for Helen Birch and Tom O'Connor for the success of their hospital treatment.

The Parish Office reopens on 4th January

The Financials....

Total offertory for the month of November

Envelopes £1254.25

Loose Plate £1011.79

November Virgin Money Donations via web £7.50

November Monthly Standing Orders: £1537.50

