



St. Paul's Church, Cheshunt

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Parish Priest: Fr. Clement Nyarko

30/31 DECEMBER 2023

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH YEAR B



Saturday	30th	5.00 pm		For the Sick
Sunday	31st	9.00 am		Zoe & Vivian Oparah (int.)
		11.00am		People of the Parish
Monday	Jan 1st	9.30 am	Mary, Mother of God	
Tuesday	2nd	9.30 am	St. Basil & Gregory	Holy Souls
Wednesday	3rd	9.30 am	The Most Holy Name of Jesus	Sherly Thomas (int.)
Friday	5th	9:00 am	Benediction & Mass	The Sick & Carers
The Epiphany of The Year B				
Saturday	6th	5.00 pm		
Sunday	7th	9 & 11.00 am		
Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 4:30-pm or telephone the presbytery for an appointment				

We pray for the sick in our Parish especially, Mary Marah, Margaret Watson, Patricia Reilly, Mariesha McDonagh, Barbara Bassett, Barbara Alexander and for those who have no one to care for them. We pray for the repose of the souls of all the faithful departed especially Benedict Clifford De Silver, Alexander Nicolaidis, Thomas Kilcommons, Rosalinda Zanre and Andrew Cash and those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading: Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3 Abraham and Sarah are given a child as a reward for their faith

Second Reading: Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19 The outcome of the faith of Abraham and Sarah

Gospel Reading: Luke 2:22, 39-40 The child Jesus was presented to God, then lived at home in Nazareth

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK- What sustained the family of Nazareth

Today's Gospel from St Matthew shows how the little family had to flee as refugees to Egypt because the child Jesus' life was in danger from king Herod, in much the same way as refugees from war-torn countries have to flee to save their lives. This prompts us to be more aware of, and show more empathy towards, those refugees in our own day who seek a safer life among us than they had in the countries from which they fled. What sustained the family of Nazareth through all of these trials and crosses? What holds families together in times of difficulty is love and trust. Whenever families are happy, it is where love and respect are highly prized among them. We pray for an outpouring of those qualities in our families today. A major threat to family life nowadays is that we don't spend enough time together. We are so busy working, socialising, using our electronic gadgets or watching TV that we have no time to talk to each other.

BAPTISM OF THE LORD MASSES AT THE PARISH

We will celebrate Baptism of the Lord on Monday January 8, 2024. There will be two Masses on the day at 9:30am in the morning and 7:30pm in the evening. This marks the end of the Christmas season so, you are all welcome to take part.

REPOSITORY

The repository will be open after the 11.00 am Mass on Sunday.

CONFIRMATION COURSE 23/24

Parents and candidates are to note that the course begins with parents and catechists gathering **on January 6, 2024 after the 5pm Mass**. The course starts at 3pm on January 13, 2024. All must be present. Emails have been sent already. If you have not received one, cross check your email address with Fr. Clement

SAFEGUARDING; Achieving a culture of safeguarding in our Parish

To help create a safe space and build a culture of safeguarding, I would like to remind parishioners that, the parish has a Safeguarding representative in the person of Trevor Mills. Contact Trevor on 07954438606/cheshuntsg@safeguardingrcdow.org.uk. www.catholicsafeguarding.org.uk. www.rcdow.org.uk/diocese/safeguarding. The diocesan safeguarding coordinator can be contacted on: 02077989350.

CHRISTMAS MEAL

The Parish is hosting a Christmas meal for its Senior Citizens and the housebound on Saturday 6th January 2024 at 1.00pm with St Joseph's Church. If you would like to attend or know of anyone who would like to come along, please give names and details to the Parish Office. If you would like to help on the day with preparing, cooking or serving the meal, please contact the St Joseph's Parish Office-01992 623156.

ST PAUL'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

School admissions for a primary, junior or middle school place is open until 15 January 2024. If you would like to apply for a place at St Paul's Catholic Primary School, all you need to do is: make a new in year application via Hertfordshire admissions and complete a Supplementary Information Form which is available on the school website. If you would like to view St Paul's or have any questions, please contact admin@stpauls373.herts.sch.uk and we will be happy to help.

SUPPORT SVP

"The SVP are distributing over 10,000 Vinnie Packs containing cold weather essentials to the homeless and those spending the principal part of their day on the streets. Each pack contains thermal gloves, thermal hat, two pairs of thermal socks, face flannel, toothbrush, toothpaste, information sheet and pen. Please could you consider sponsoring packs at a suggested donation of £4.20 per pack? Donations can be sent to Vinnie Packs, PO Box 72264, London SW1P 9EZ with cheques made out to SVP or by bank transfer to Nat West sort code 60-60-04, account no. 4608 8237. Thank you so much for your support."

URGENT APPEAL FOR WINTER CLOTHING- Supporting local refugees and asylum seekers (Closed)

The appeal was a big success. Thanks to your generous giving! Appreciation from the organisers. God bless you all.

KNOCK PILGRIMAGES

Escorted Pilgrimage to Knock & Co Mayo, 10th March 2024. £899.00 pps. Price includes flight, 10kg hold luggage, 5 nights in 4* Castlecourt Hotel, Westport with Dinner, Bed & Breakfast. Lunch on three days. All entertainment, excursions and transport included. Visit Knock, Galway City, Kylemore Abbey, Croagh Patrick & Ashford Castle. Single supplement on Enquiry. Contact Patricia or Natali on 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com.

DIOCESAN JOBS

Are you looking for job opportunities? Westminster Diocese has some opportunities for you. For a list of current vacancies and further details, please visit <https://jobs.rcdow.org.uk/>

CRIB OFFERINGS

Our Crib Offerings will be donated, as usual, to The Catholic Children's Society (CCS). They will be used to support local children and families in need. The Society is helping families in crisis who are struggling to put food on their table, keep warm and provide a safe home for their children. You can donate at the Crib, or via the CCS website www.cathchild.org.uk/crib

APPRECIATION

Thank you for your continuous support to the Parish.

A personal thank you to you all for your cards and gifts and all the Christmas presents. God bless you. Merry Christmas!