



# Parish of St Peter and St Paul

ARCHDIOCESE OF WESTMINSTER

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## Feast of the **HOLY FAMILY** Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023

## **HOLY MOTHER of GOD** Monday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024



**Monday 1 Jan, Mary Mother of God**

Tuesday 2 Jan

Wednesday 3 Jan

Thursday 4 Jan

Friday 5 Jan

Saturday 6 Jan

**Sunday 7 Jan, Epiphany of the Lord**

**Monday 8 Jan, Baptism of the Lord**

**12:30pm**

8:00am

*No Mass*

*No Mass*

*No Mass*

*No Mass*

**9:45am & 12noon**

**12:30pm**

Thank you to all who have made this Christmas time so prayerful and beautiful. Thank you for all your gifts to me, you are all very kind.

**SCAN to GIVE**  
You can scan this QR code for your weekly Sunday donation. Thank you.



# 'new' beginnings



Today, 31st December, Feast of the Holy Family, is New Year's Eve. A 'new' year is about to begin.

Will it be a new beginning?  
Or, more of the old same?

Will you (and me) win the temptation to remain still, never leaving the 'labyrinth' of our fears?

Fears, schemes, old ways make for an immobility that has the apparent advantage of not creating problems – "*quieta non movere*" (the Latins used to say) – but in reality, make us wander aimlessly within our own labyrinths.

We all run the risk of finding ourselves entangled in the web of our own fears, entering a new year simply content "just to get by", with nothing really 'new' to hope for.

But, how do 'new' things happen?  
Where do 'new' things come from?  
At Christmas, as in the whole of the Bible, the answer is very clear:  
**new things begin "from Above".**

A virgin became a mother because of the Holy Spirit 'from Above'.  
Joseph became a father because of a dream 'from Above'.  
The Shepherds of Bethlehem moved because of a message 'from Above'.  
The Magi of the East kept moving because of a Star 'from Above'.  
Peace on earth resounded 'from Above'.  
A family became Holy by obeying to the voice 'from Above'.

As we enter a new year, let us always remember to look up, above.  
Let us not forget that every journey, every fresh start, every new beginning always, always, come "from Above", with a call from God, with a sign from Heaven, with a light from his Word, with the power from his Spirit. "From Above" is not only the way we escape from our labyrinths of fears but also the way we keep moving forward...

*In manus.*

Father Ivano