

St. Agnes Catholic Church, Cricklewood
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Last Sunday's collection.£2114. Many Thanks.

Christmas and New Year Timetable of Masses and Services.

Advent Penitential Service with private confession on Friday 22nd December at 7 pm.

Saturday 23rd December. Mass at 10 am . Confession 10.30 am to 11.30 am. Vigil Mass for the Fourth Sunday of Advent at 6.30 pm. Confession 5.30 pm to 6.30 pm.

Sunday 24th December. Christmas Eve. Fourth Sunday of Advent. Masses at 9 am, 10.30 am, and 12 noon. First Mass for Christmas at 6.30 pm. Midnight Mass at 11 pm. Christmas Carols at 10.30pm.

Monday 25th December. Christmas Day. Masses at 9 am, 10.30 am and 12 noon. No Evening Mass.

Tuesday 26th December. Boxing Day/ St Stephen's Day. Mass at 10 am.

Wednesday 27th December. St John, Apostle and Evangelist. Mass at 10 am.

Thursday 28th December. The Holy Innocents. Mass at 10 am.

Friday 29th December. St Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr. Mass at 10 am.

Saturday 30th December. 6th Day in the Octave of Christmas. Mass at 10am. Vigil mass for Sunday at 6.30 pm.

Sunday 31st December. Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. Masses at 9am, 10.30 am, 12 noon and 6.30 pm.

Monday 1st January. Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. Mass at 10 am. No Evening Mass.

Requiem Mass for Catherine Carmody on Wednesday 27th December at 2 pm. Repatriation to Ireland. Please pray for the repose of her soul and for her family in their loss.

Prayers for the Dead. John Abreo, Letty Salazar, Kathleen Hasan, Catherine Carmody.

Gospel Notes. Suppose somebody has got a Christmas present for you but didn't tell you about it. It could be the greatest Christmas present in the world but if you never find what it is or where you can find it, it won't do much good.

God has given us the greatest Christmas present we could ever hope for but if it has stayed hidden it won't do much good. But as it stands, God not only sends the gift, but he has an angel to announce it, telling us what is and where to find it. The angels sing a glorious hymn of praise, the Gloria in Excelsis, which marks what God is doing among us, giving us the gift of our Savior. This gift, this announcement is what happens at Christmas. And it happens all year round, every time, every service where Christ comes among us, where his gospel is proclaimed, and where we get to join in the song of angels.

Blessing for a Christmas Tree. Lord God, amidst signs and wonders Christ Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea. His birth brings joy to our hearts and enlightenment to our minds. Let your blessing come upon us as we illumine this tree. May the light and cheer it gives be a sign of the joy that fills our hearts. With this tree decorated and adorned, may we welcome Christ among us. May its light guide us to the perfect light. May all who delight in this tree come to the knowledge and joy of salvation. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Thanks to all who participate in the Christmas events as celebrated here in the Parish. A special thanks to all those who work so hard in preparing the Church for Christmas. Your contribution is greatly appreciated. Let us continue to be mindful in our prayers of the state of the world at the present time with all its wars and injustice. The Holy Land remains especially in our thoughts. Wishing you nonetheless a very Happy Christmas and every blessing in the New Year.