



CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST BEDE

185 Baldwins Lane, Croxley Green, Rickmansworth, Herts, WD3 3LL

Tel **01923 231969** e-mail croxleygreen@rcdow.org.uk

website: www.parish.rcdow.org.uk/croxleygreen

Parish Priest: **FR JOHN WILEY**

Parish Administrator: Eithne Doody

Safeguarding Representative: Mrs Ursula Bartlett

THIS PARISH IS PART OF THE WESTMINSTER ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE TRUSTEE CHARITY NO. 233699

3rd Sunday of Advent – Sunday 17th of December 2023

WEEKLY MASSES

Tuesday	10.00am
Thursday	10.00am
Saturday	6.00pm
Sunday	10.00am

Mass Intentions

Sunday 17th December - 10am
Catherine Benham & Christine
Barrett (in their memory)

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Sunday 24th December – 5pm

CHILDREN'S NATIVITY MASS

Sunday 24th December – 8pm

CHRISTMAS NIGHT TIME MASS

Monday 25th December – 10am

CHRISTMAS DAYTIME MASS



ADVENT CANDLELIT SERVICE OF CAROLS & READINGS.

It was heartening to welcome so many of you to this joyful celebration last Sunday evening. Mulled wine and mince pies were enjoyed in the Hall afterwards. We are grateful to June and Louise for organising the refreshments, and to all who decorated and prepared the church, which looked beautiful.

FINANCIAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS TO 31st DECEMBER 2022

This document is now available on the parish website (paper copies on request).

We are most grateful to David Reilly, retiring Chair of Finance, for preparing this document, and for his unstinting dedication to managing the parish finances for many years. At the recent Finance Committee Meeting, we presented David with a gift as a token of our thanks and appreciation. We will miss him.

THURSDAY CLUB

NO MEETING on 21st December, and we will be taking a break over Christmas. NEXT MEETING will be on 11th January, when we will be holding our post-Christmas/New Year lunch. Please let Louise know if you would like to attend.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY 10am Sunday Mass

The children will be escorted to the Hall for their own liturgy, and will re-join Mass at the Offertory.

HELP YOUR CHILDREN TO STAY FOCUSED IN MASS

Feel free to borrow books from the rack in the church porch during Mass. ***Please remember to return these on your way out!***

GIFT AID

Your donations to the parish can be increased by 25%? If you are a UK tax payer, you can sign a Gift Aid declaration, enabling the parish to claim an additional 25% on your donations, at no additional expense to you. Forms available in the church porch or from the parish office.

CHURCHES TOGETHER WELCOME SPACES

Following on from our Warm Spaces initiative last winter, we have been exploring more effective ways to offer a warm welcome this year, and it was decided that tapping into existing activities may be the best option. Posters are on display, advertising the following opportunities:

Mondays at Café O – 8.45am to 11.45am

at St Oswald's Church, Malvern Way.

Fridays at the Drop in Café – 10.30am to 12noon

at All Saints Church, The Green.

CONTACTLESS GIVING

Please make use of our DCP (Digital Collection Plate) in the church porch.

Donations to the parish, Mass Intentions, and payments for items from the Repository (SHOP), etc., can be made with your debit/credit cards. There is also a Gift Aid option (where appropriate), which requires a one-time-only registration for each card used. If you have any difficulties or queries, please speak to one of the Parish Team.

CHILDREN'S NATIVITY MASS

Sun 24th December at 5pm

Please encourage your children to ***participate as Nativity characters*** at our Children's Nativity Mass on Christmas Eve.

This is a great opportunity for your children to get involved. If you would like your child to take part please fill in one of the forms (in church porch), and hand in to one of the Catechists.

CHRISTMAS PREPARATIONS

Many thanks to all who came along last Saturday to assemble the Christmas Crib, decorate the Christmas tree, and prepare the church for the Advent Carol Service. We would also like to mention THE PLANT STOP Garden Supplies, Hempstead Road, Watford, who very kindly gave a 10% discount on our Christmas tree when we mentioned it was for St Bede's!

FINANCE COMMITTEE

We are currently seeking a successor to David. If you, or someone you know in the parish (with a background in finance) would be interested in joining the Finance Committee, with a view to eventually taking on the post of Chair, please do speak to Fr John.

ST BEDE'S GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE

The re-organisation of the Garden of Remembrance is currently a project in progress. Our plans to install a display board recording the names of those interred will be taken forward as soon as parish finances permit. In the meantime, thank you to those who have been in contact. We will keep your details on file and let you know when we are ready to take the next step.

Girlguiding in Croxley is trying to recruit some volunteers. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.
Janet Eavis
07790 476050

SUPPORTING FAIRTRADE

St Bede's is a Fairtrade parish, so we encourage you to look out for the familiar logo when you are shopping. Further details available from: <https://www.fairtrade.org.uk/>

BLUE CHRISTMAS

Thursday 21st December 7pm
Baptist Church
A Contemplative service for those who are grieving or hurting over Christmas.
Refreshment afterwards.

CAFOD WORLD GIFTS

Make Christmas special with a meaningful gift that could change lives.

Just a few of the gift options available:

Happy Queen Bee - £4

(helping to set up bee hives)

Trees for Life - £8

(providing tools and training to start a tree nursery, to produce fruit year after year)

Super Soup Kitchen - £10

(providing nutritious, warm meals for refugees)

Chirpy Chickens - £20

(providing chickens, along with training to produce eggs that can be eaten or sold)

Winter Survival Kit - £30

(providing much-needed essentials during harsh winter weather, for those whose homes have been devastated)

www.cafod.org.uk/worldgifts

CAFOD

CAFOD would like to Thank the Parishioners of St Bede for your generous support this year and for your donation of £429.00 Thank you so much for being there for our global family.

6TH RICKMANSWORTH SEA

SCOUT GROUP welcomes new members. Please take a leaflet (in church porch) or contact Group Scout Leader - Chris Doran.

Tel: 01923 776035 / 07792 103736

Email:

info@6thrickyseascouts.org.uk

LORETO COLLEGE

The Governors of Loreto College (St Albans) have recently agreed to propose some changes to their admissions criteria for 2025/2026. The full detail is available on the website. <https://www.loreto.herts.sch.uk/Admissions/Admissions-Consultation-2025/>

Written comments are welcomed by the closing date of the formal consultation, 9am on 31st January 2024 - these should be emailed to swilliams@loreto.herts.sch.uk

SAFEGUARDING

Safeguarding and the practice of love, honesty, respect, support and accountability are essential parts of our Catholic ministry and mission. All people should be valued, supported and protected from harm, and we recognise the personal dignity and rights of vulnerable people towards whom the church has a special responsibility. If you have any concerns, or would like to know more please contact: Ursula Bartlett - 07771 578562
croxleygreensg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk Further information available at <https://rcdow.org.uk/safeguarding/creating-a-safe-environment/>

PARISH NURSE PROJECT

<https://www.croxleyparishnurse.org/>

Seeking to appoint a volunteer to assist the Trustees of Churches in Croxley Green CIO to support our two Parish Nurses. We are entirely funded by donations and grants and are looking for a volunteer to help with fundraising activities. If you are interested please **contact David Reilly at cicgciotreasurer@gmail.com**