

## **CHRISTMAS at OUR LADY of the VISITATION**

### **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December**

Cardinal Wiseman High School Carol Service  
6.30 pm, in Church,  
followed by refreshments in Cardinal Wiseman Dining Hall.

### **Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December**

Sunday School Nativity  
10.30 am, in the Parish Centre.

### **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December**

Our Lady of the Visitation School Carol Service  
2.00 pm, in Church.

### **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December**

Our Lady of the Visitation School Carol Service  
6.30 pm, in Church.

### **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December**

Cardinal Wiseman High School Christmas Liturgy  
9.00 am, in Church.

### **Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> December**

**Penitential Service at 11.00 am, in Church.**

### **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December**

Christmas Pageant Rehearsal  
1.00 pm to 3.00 pm, in the Old Church Hall

### **Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December**

Christmas Masses on Christmas Eve  
Children's Mass (Pageant) 6.00 pm  
Carols from 8.30 pm, followed by Mass at 9.00 pm  
Carols from 11.30 pm, followed by Mass at 12.00 midnight.

### **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> December**

Christmas Masses on Christmas Day  
9.00 am 10.30 am 12.00 noon  
NO 8.00 am and NO evening Mass

### **Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> December**

Mass at 12.00 noon  
Bank Holiday – the office will be closed.

## **Our Lady of the Visitation Parish**

Under the pastoral care of the Pallottines, Society of the Catholic Apostolate.  
Registered Charity No. 252929

358 Greenford Road, Greenford, Middlesex, UB6 9AN  
020-8578-1363  
greenford@rcdow.org.uk

### **COMMUNITY**

Fr. Eugene Lynch SCA, Fr. Liam O'Donovan SCA,  
Fr. Joe McLoughlin SCA, Fr. Tom Daly SCA

### **OFFICE HOURS**

Monday - Saturday 9.00 am – 4.00 pm  
Sunday 10.00 – 1.30 pm

### **MASSES**

Mon - Sat 12.00 noon  
Sunday Saturday 7.00 pm – Vigil Mass  
8.00 am, 9.00 am, 10.30 am  
12.00 noon and 7.00 pm

Confessions 11.00 am – 12.00 noon  
(Saturday) 6.15 pm – 6.45 pm

### **THE SECOND SUNDAY of ADVENT (YEAR A)**

**8<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2019**

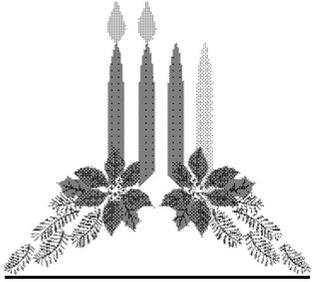
**The readings for this weekend's Masses start on  
page 85 in the Mass book.**

**The Creed – page 11/12      The Lord's Prayer - page 56**

**The response to the Psalm is :-  
*In his days justice shall flourish  
and peace till the moon fails.***

**The Acclamation is:**

***When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,  
we proclaim your death, O Lord, until you come again.***



After the plain-ness of Advent, the display of flowers in the Church is a wonderful addition to the celebration of the Masses. Next week's second collection is to help purchase ***Flowers for Christmas.***

#### ***ADVENT BIBLE PRAYER GROUP***

Enrich your Advent journey through praying and living the Word. **Join us in the meeting room behind the sacristy at 7.30 pm on Wednesday the 11<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> December.** The Lord has something powerful and beautiful for you, and the Word of God is creative and has the power to heal and soothe our souls; to open up new avenues and possibilities; and to shine a light in the darkness. Prayerfully reading the Bible, the Word of God, enables us to contemplate God and God's will in our lives.

#### ***PRAYER MEETING***

Fr. Joe hosts a prayer meeting every Thursday, from 7.30 to 8.30 pm in the parish centre. Everyone welcome.

#### ***EXTREME COLD***

Extreme cold can cause serious health problems and even death for those who are exposed overnight or for long periods of time.

**If you see anyone bedding down, please consider contacting Streetlink. You might just save their life. You can call them on 0300-500-0914**

#### ***PILGRIMAGE to FATIMA***

Fr. Liam will be leading a pilgrimage to Fatima from 27<sup>th</sup> April to 1<sup>st</sup> May 2020. The cost will be approximately £560.00 per person. **You will need to arrange your own travel insurance.** Full itinerary, booking forms and forms will be in the parish office. Please book as early as possible as the places are limited.

***The Westminster Year Book for 2020 is now available in the Parish Office, price £4.50.***

## ***Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December The Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary***

***Mass at 12.00 noon***

#### ***CHRISTMAS BAZAAR***

There have been so many people telling us that they had a wonderful time last Saturday, it has given us all a warm and fuzzy feeling. The elves in the Counting House have had to use their biggest abacus to count all the money, and then they checked it twice. We are very happy to tell you that the amount raised was a record breaking £6,096.46. We would like to thank everyone who played a part in making sure that the day was such a success, and everyone who came along and enjoyed the event.

#### ***CHRISTMAS GIFTS***

If you are not sure which gift to give, you might like to look at the CAFOD gift catalogue. You can pick one up in the church porch, then call them on 0808-14-000-14 or visit [cafod.org.uk/worldgifts](http://cafod.org.uk/worldgifts). Alternatively, you can always use the red post boxes! Prices start at £4.00 and go all the way up to £4,000(!!!).

#### ***THE GOSPEL Matthew 3:1-12***

*John the Baptist appears in Judea preaching a message of repentance.*

In this week's Gospel our Advent preparation for Christmas invites us to consider John the Baptist and his relationship with Jesus. John marks the conversion of those who seek him out with a baptism of repentance. Other groups in this period are thought to have practiced ritual washings for similar purposes, and John's baptism may have been related to the practices of the Essenes, a Jewish sect of the first century. John's baptism can be understood as an anticipation of Christian baptism. John's preaching of the coming of the Lord is a key theme of the Advent season. As John's message prepared the way for Jesus in the first century, we, too, are called to prepare ourselves for Jesus' coming. We respond to John's message by our repentance and reform of our lives. We are also called to be prophets of Christ, who announce by our lives, as John did, the coming of the Lord.