**SUNDAY DECEMBER 22nd 2019 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (A)**

*(Parish Mass Book P33)*

**ST MATTHEW’S CATHOLIC CHURCH**

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Parish Priest: Fr. Brian O’Mahony ([brianomahony@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:brianomahony@rcdow.org.uk))  
R.E. Coordinator Eileen O’Sullivan [eileenosullivan@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:eileenosullivan@rcdow.org.uk)

Administration Assistant (and Hall Bookings) : Cheryl Myring (Mon-Fri 9am-11am)

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**MASSSES AND SERVICES THIS WEEK**

SATURDAY 21st *[Advent feria]*

18.00 **Cecil Hogg RIP**

SUNDAY 22nd **[4th Sunday of Advent (A)]**

09.00 **Mark Anthony Xavier (Ann.)**11.15 **Ciaran Francis Smith RIP**  
18.00 **Alfred Scudder RIP**

*Weekday 10 am Masses preceded by Morning Prayer at 9:40*

MONDAY 23rd *[Advent feria]*

10:00 **Margaret Smith RIP**TUESDAY 24th *[Advent feria]*

10.00 **Maisie Marsden (Ann.)**

**[The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)]**

17.30 (Vigil) **People of the Parish**

**Midnight** **People of the Parish**

WEDS 25th  09:00 **People of the Parish**

11.15 **People of the Parish**

THURS 26th *[St Stephen]*

11.00 **Daniel & Eileen McSweeney**FRIDAY 27th *[St John]*

11.00 **Keith Whitehead RIP (Ann.)** SATURDAY 28th *[The Holy Innocents]*

11.00 **Dcn Braz Menezes RIP**

18:00 (Vigil) **Joe Da Cunha RIP**

SUNDAY 29th **[The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph]**

09.00 **Simon Manouvel RIP**  
 11.15 **Anna RIP**

18.00 **The Good Counsel Network (int.)**

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**GENERAL PARISH NOTICES**

**LAST WEEK’S COLLECTION(S)**

Offertory collection: £  
Catholic Children’s Society : The final total will be tallied to

include our Crib offering

Many thanks, as always, for your generosity.

**PARISH SICK LIST**

Please remember our sick parishioners in your prayers: Jo Brookes, Tom Erhard, Teresa Bingham-Daly, Don Williamson, , Victor Kumaratharsan, Jean Vaughan, John Csh, Mrs Klavkowski, Michael Enskat, Laura Everest, Curzio Pirfo, Czeslaw Czaprowski, Mary Hodgison, Alexandre Silva, Bella King, Margaret Tso, Gerard O’Brien, John Donohoe, Margaret Saines, Mary Ahern, Dominic Manley, Cecil Cain, Eileen Murray, Kathleen Wood, Duncan Webster, Lisa Walker, James Elton, Michael Coyle, Timor Yonel, Jason Jackson, Luke Slater, Anna Benton, Joe Da Silva, Emma Quirke, Mary Wallace, Jacob Nuske, Susan Birley, Barrie Jervis, Ann Kelly.

**CONFESSIONS DURING ADVENT**

Celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation during Advent is a fruitful way to prepare individually for the coming of Jesus. In addition to the regular publishied times, Confessions will also be available at these times this week:

Sunday 22nd  17:00 – 17:45

Monday 23rd 09:00 – 09:45

19:30 – 20:30

Tuesday 24th 09:00 – 9:45

10:30 – 11:30

**CATHOLIC CHILDRENS SOCIETY APPEAL**

With grateful thanks for the enthusiastic respose to the appeal that we made in the last few weeks for the work of the Catholic Children’s Society. Together we have raised in excess of £1,800!! The final total will be added to the Crib collection and made availbale in the first week of the New Year.

**PREPARATIONS FOR CHRISTMAS**

**THE CHRISTMAS CRIB**

The Christmas Crib is a powerful symbol of our faith in this season. Pope Francis has recently written a short letter on the meaning and importance of the nativity scene, entitled *Admirabile Signum.*(The Enchanting Image)Why not prepare for Christmas by reading his reflection? Copies can be found online for free at [www.vatican.va](http://www.vatican.va)

The crib offerings in our parish this year will be added to our collection for the Catholic Children’s Society.

**NOTES OF THANKS**

We can all see and appreciate the results of all the hard work to help prepare the Church for the upcoming festivities in all the forms that the help takes. Sincere thanks to everyone for their generosity and goodwill. Thanks also to all the donors of seasonal greenery. Our Church Christmas tree this year is a kind gift to us from Haven Funeral Services, a local Funeral Director.

Thanks too, to everyone involved in our Sunday School for all your hard work last Sunday to prepare for the wonderful ceremony of carols, readings and re-telling the Nativity story by our children. Your commitment throughout the year is genuinely appreciated.

Thanks finally from Fr Brian for all the generosity and kindness shown over the last few months.

**LAST CHANCE TO RECLAIM LOST PROPERTY**

There is an inevitable accumulation of lost property at the back of the Church near the repository shop, which must be cleared away before Christmas. Please relacim anything that may be yours. Any items unclaimed by the end of Sunday will be donated to a charity shop or disposed of.

**CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER**

There will be a Christmas edition of the Parish Newsletter, however there will not be a newsletter published next weekend. Normal Service will resume for the Solemnity of the Epiphany

**CHRISTMAS MASS AND SERVICE SCHEDULE:**

**Christmas Eve:**

**Masses: 17:30 (families with children are especially welcome)**

**23:30 Service of Carols**

**Midnight: Solemn Mass of the Nativity**

**Christmas Day:**

**Masses: 09:00**

**11:15**

**St Stephen’s Day (December 26th)**

**11:00 Annual Mass for Altar Servers**

**Friday 27th & Saturday 28th December**

**11:00 (plus usual 18:00 Saturday Vigil)**

**Sunday 29th December**

**Usual Mass Schedule**

**AMMENDED PARISH OFFICE TIMES**

**Tuesday 24th 12noon – Monday 30th: Closed**

**Monday 30th – Friday 3rd: Reduced hours**

**Monday 6th onwards: Normal service**