



Parish Priest: Fr Philip Knights
6, Melbourn Road
Royston
Herts SG 8 7DB

philipknights@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Secretary: Sharon O' Toole
The Parish Office is open:

Tues 9:30am - 12:30pm

Wed 9:30am - 12:30pm

Fri 9:30am - 12:30pm

royston@rcdow.org.uk

01763 243117

<http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/royston/>

facebook @roystoncatholic

Mass this Sunday: First Sunday of Advent (A) 1st December 2019

Today's Readings

Isaiah 2:1-5 We climb the mountain of God separately, but we meet at the summit.

Romans 13:11-14 We are in the night, but we can see the dawn is coming.

Matthew 24:37-44 Pray, think, care, and then you will be awake, ready for God in all things.

Mass This Week

Saturday 30th 6:30pm

Sunday 1st 9:00am

10:30am

Tuesday 3rd 7:30pm

St Francis Xavier

Wednesday 4th 9:15am

St John of Damascus

Thursday 5th 9:15am

Advent Weekday

Friday 6th 9:15am

St Nicholas

Intention

Josephine Nangle (RIP)

For Our Parishioners

Mary Bolwell (RIP)

Fred Bristow (anniversary)

Hymn Writers

Our RCIA candidates and sponsors

Children

Sacrament of Reconciliation 5:45pm or by appointment

The Sanctuary Lamp burns in memory of Luke & Margaret Walsh (anniversary)

Last Week's Offertory This amounted to £381.62
Many thanks for all your generosity. We also receive about £600 each week in bank standing orders from parishioners. **Text Giving** If you wish to support the parish by giving £5 via your mobile 'phone, just text PARISH ROYST to 70800.

Immaculate Conception Advance notice that there will be mass for the Holy Day of Obligation in Church on Monday 9th December at 9:15am and 7:30pm

Volunteers Needed! We still need counters, welcomers, readers, Eucharistic Ministers and Servers. This will be even more so than usual over Christmas. Please see or e-mail Fr Philip if you can help.

Parish Pastoral Council our next meeting will be on Wednesday 11th December at 7:30pm *in the Sacristy*. The main item of discussion will be to reflect on the Parish Mission and our next steps. All are welcome to participate. Any other items for pastoral planning

should be communicated to Fr Philip or Peter Brazier by next weekend.

Food Bank The 'Pink Box' will be left in the Church Porch to be available for those in need until a succession plan has been fully worked out for the Royston Foodbank.

The God Who Speaks Parish Afternoon of Reflection *Reading the Old Testament as Christian Scripture*. This will be on Sunday 8th December from 2pm. This is part of our parish commitment to provide opportunities for recollection for readers, but everyone is warmly invited to take part. Please bring along a bible.

Our Parish Advent Calendar will be appearing on our Facebook account. **Advent Evening Prayer:** 5:30pm . Tuesday – Friday throughout Advent.

Advent Adoration and Reconciliation Saturday 14th December From 2pm: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with the opportunity for Sacramental Reconciliation

Advent Adventure Saturday 7th December 1pm-3pm Preparing for Christmas with our Young People.

The House of Prayer will next meet on Thursday 5th December, 10 till 12, at 52 Cherry Drive. New members welcome

CWL Christmas Raffle Tickets will be on sale outside church after all Masses this weekend and next weekend. We will be having our final coffee morning of the year next weekend after the Sunday morning masses when the raffle will be drawn. Lots of prizes, including a Christmas Hamper, wine, chocolates, toiletries, etc. There will also be a Gift Stall. Please come and support us

Coin Collection: The school and church will be jointly fundraising to help with the celebrations of the Church Centenary and the school's 50 years. We hope to create a large outline of both the Church and the School, then fill them in with coins; these can be either UK or overseas coins. There is a bucket in the Sacristy to collect your donations. Thank you

Rosaries there are some lovely rosaries (handmade by one of our artistic parishioners) available in the Sacristy, suggested donation of £10.

The Holy Father's Intention for December: The Future of the Very Young. That every country take the measures necessary to prioritize the future of the very young, especially those who are suffering.

Would you like to make your own stunning Christmas flower arrangement for your own Christmas table or to give to a loved one, friend or neighbour? If so please come to an afternoon run by our own Church flower arrangers. All instruction and equipment will be provided (containers, oasis, wire, greenery and flowers), together with a glass of prosecco (non-alcoholic alternatives will be provided). No experience necessary. Please bring any baubles (small), ribbons, candles or other decorative bits you would like. Children in year 7 and above are welcome but must be accompanied and supervised by an adult. Last years event was relaxing and very friendly and really fun. **Sunday 15th December 2 to 4pm, The Parish Hall.** £15 per person, includes a glass of prosecco and tea or coffee. There is a sign up sheet at the back of Church. For more information please contact Wanda (details on the sign up sheet at the back of Church)

Cleaning Rota Monday – Tessie Friday – Monica & Annalise

"Read, mark, learn and inwardly digest"

One time-tested way of allowing God to speak through the prayerful reading of scripture is *Lectio Divina* (Divine Reading)

A simple process to follow is:

1. Prepare (*Silencio*) – Find a quiet place. Put yourself in the presence of God. Become quiet and offer yourself to God. A prayer you might use is: Loving God whose Holy Spirit inspired the writing of Holy Scripture, may your Holy Spirit now inspire this reading.
2. Read (*Lectio*) - Read the passage slowly, allowing the words to resonate and settle in your heart. After a pause, re-read the passage. During these first two readings, listen for the word or phrase that catches your attention and lights up for you.
3. Reflect (*Meditatio*) - Take time to sit with your word or phrase. Re-read the passage and listen to where the word connects with your life right now. Enter into the scene in your imagination.
4. Pray (*Oratio*)- Talk to God about the word or phrase he has highlighted and what's coming up. How has God addressed you in this Word and invited you to respond? Allow the Scripture to lead you into a prayer response.
5. Rest (*Contemplatio*) - Rest in God's presence. Deeply receive God's word and rest in his presence and love. Give yourself some time to wait and be still before you re-enter life as usual. Take God's word to you with you throughout the day.

