



Parish Priest: Fr Philip Knights
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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

facebook @roystoncatholic

Mass this Sunday: Second Sunday of Advent (B) 6th December 2020

Today's Readings

Isaiah 40:1-5. 9-11 God tells the people of Israel to be consoled: they have paid the price of their sins and must now prepare a way for the Lord in a repentant heart.

2 Peter 3:8-14 We are waiting for God to bring about the long-promised new heavens and new earth. In the meantime, we should live good lives and be at peace.

Mark 1:1-8 John the Baptist appeared, promising that he was preparing the way for someone greater than himself. He baptised with water but the one whose coming he foretold would baptise with the Holy Spirit.

Mass This Week

Saturday 5 th	6:30pm		
Sunday 6 th	9:00am		
	10:30am		
Tuesday 8 th	7:30pm	Immaculate Conception of The Blessed Virgin Mary	Sr Francois Legros (RIP)
Wednesday 9 th	9:15am	Advent Weekday	Private Intention
Thursday 10 th	9:15am	Advent Weekday	Confirmation candidates
Friday 11 th	9:15am	Advent Weekday	Holy Souls

Intention

For Our Parishioners

Sr Marie Marchal (RIP)

Sr Maria Teresa (RIP)

Sr Francois Legros (RIP)

Private Intention

Confirmation candidates

Holy Souls

Sacrament of Reconciliation by appointment only

The Sanctuary Lamp burns for Homeless Families

Exposition and Private Prayer from 5:30pm on Saturday (on the presumption there are sufficient volunteer stewards)

Keeping Covid Secure

Please let's look after each other's safety and wellbeing:

- use the hand sanitiser provided, on entering the church.
 - wear a face covering, over nose and mouth, all the time whilst in Church
 - Follow the one way system
 - if you wish to attend a weekend Mass, ensure you book in beforehand at <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/royston/events/>
- NB Volunteers will also need to book in through this system.

- **Do not come to church if you are feeling unwell.**

Offertory Many thanks for all your generosity. We are still advised against receiving cash or cheques. We have installed contactless giving in the Sacristy. Please, if you can, give electronically via your bank or <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/royston/donate/>

Volunteers Thank you to all who have helped keep things going. If you can help at this time when we need everyone to pull together please do volunteer. The Advent volunteer rota is at <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1D2vS4wHz9x3NLTqppqHbYkXy-i-WF-rSOGygxWMkkyE/edit?usp=sharing>

The next Zoom meeting for **Confirmation candidates** will be at 7pm on Thursday 10th December. An e-mail has gone out with the Zoom invitation for this, if you think you should have received this but haven't please let Fr Philip know urgently.

On-Line Christmas Wreath Making Workshop - Saturday 12 December 2020 2pm – 4pm
Any more who want to be involved please register as soon as possible! All ages and abilities are welcome to take part. This is an on-line event. You can join the live interactive workshop hosted over Zoom or watch the workshop video on YouTube and create your wreath at your leisure. You will receive details on how to watch the event once you purchase your ticket. Tickets: £25 for the workshop and wreath making kit (excluding greenery), or £7 just for the workshop. To order, please email RoystonCatholic@gmail.com

Christmas Tree We invite people to contribute to our usual "giving tree" initiative. Please note, all gifts must be in by December 20th. There is a basket in the Sacristy to receive any decorated wooden baubles and also some spare wooden blank baubles available.

The Parish Office Sharon will be in the parish office on the usual days and times. However, we are **NOT** open to visitors so please only contact by post, phone or email.

Fr Philip on retreat Going away on retreat proved impossible in 2020 so I have booked in to an online retreat from Dec 13th-18th (I had hoped to do this earlier in the year but they were fully booked) This does mean I shall be physically in the parish and offering the usual masses, but not otherwise available except in emergency. Please can you avoid any other 'business' with me during this period: i.e. if you need me to do anything please contact me this coming week!

Doorstep Carols started in Shropshire but many areas are now taking part – including ours. To join in, go to <https://www.doorstepcarols.co.uk/> to print off the words to the carols they have chosen. On 16th December at 6pm, tune into BBC Radio Cambridgeshire (96.0 FM) to hear the carols live and use your song sheet and music sheets to sing and/or play along to the radio accompaniment. If you go outside or onto your doorstep (providing you are not currently self-isolating) you can sing with your neighbours. Please make sure that you are socially distanced!

Christmas Masses: We will have a further open meeting of our PPC on Wednesday 9th at 7pm in order

to finalise our Christmas plans. If you would like to be involved in this but haven't yet received an invitation of MS Teams, please let Fr Philip know. Please understand that the following bullet points represent Plan A which may rapidly evolve/devolve into plans B, C or D!

- A recorded Children's act of Christmas worship. Children are invited to submit pictures on the theme of the Nativity and Christmas story and it would be delightful to have volunteers from our younger community members read and sing. Please email Fr Philip if you (or your child/children) are willing to read or help in any other way. Amongst places where you can find colouring pages are <http://www.4catholiceducators.com/nativity-coloring-pages.htm> or you could make your own design!
- On Christmas Eve the most likely pattern will be a vigil mass (NB this will NOT be the usual children's Mass) at 6pm and the Mass of the Night at 9pm. It may be possible that there may be outdoor carol singing.
- On Christmas Day we are planning for the Mass of the Dawn at 9am and the Mass of the Day at 10:30am.
- For these masses we are considering ways we can increase the capacity of our buildings to enable as many people as we can to participate safely.
- Because we shall need to limit numbers, it is absolutely necessary that people book in for these beforehand; we intend to make it possible for people to book in after the Masses on 13th and 21st as well as online. *Please let anyone in your Christmas Bubble, or anyone who occasionally comes to Church know this.*
- This year will require even more helpers than a normal year. Please volunteer as soon as possible so that we can make plans. YOU are our most valuable asset and we need your help. The Christmas volunteer roster is online at https://docs.google.com/document/d/1co6hKjrutoSJFVTEgZDjl4wC_GGQ3KRHqpg1K0zmLk/edit?usp=sharing and will be in the Sacristy. **NO MASS WILL GO AHEAD IF WE ARE SHORT OF STEWARDS OR OTHER VOLUNTEERS.** The booking in system will not open until we have enough volunteers.

Holy Fathers Prayer Intentions for December: For a Life of Prayer We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.