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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

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Mass this Sunday: Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (C) 16th January 2022

Today's Readings

Isaiah 62:1-5 The prophet proclaims that just as a bridegroom rejoices in his bride, so God rejoices in God's people.

1 Corinthians 12:4-11 Paul speaks of the great variety of gifts that are given by the Holy Spirit.

John 2:1-11 At a wedding at Cana in Galilee, Jesus gives his disciples the first sign of his glory.

Mass This Week

Saturday 15th 6:30pm

Sunday 16th 9:00am

10:30am

Tuesday 18th 7:30pm Weekday

Wednesday 19th **10:00am** **Funeral Mass**

Thursday 20th **7:30pm** **Weekday**

Friday 21st 9:15am St Agnes

Intention

For Our Parishioners

Heinz Benner (RIP)

Rose Lardner (RIP)

Sr Joan Yates (RIP)

Sarah Friel (RIP)

Christian Unity

Churches Together in Royston and District

The Sanctuary Lamp burns for A Private Intention

The Sacrament of Reconciliation may be celebrated during exposition (5:30pm Saturday) or by appointment.

Readers Next Sunday (the Third Sunday of Ordinary Time) will be honoured as the Sunday of the Word of God. We will therefore re-commission all our volunteer readers at the Masses. Some of our masses are very short of readers, not least the 10:30am Mass. If anyone else would be willing to join the readers' rota, please let Fr Philip know and we will arrange a suitable induction to this valuable ministry.

Relaxations/Precautions We shall continue at our present level and review if there is a change in Government statutes or Bishops' Conference advice. Our current protocols are on our parish website: <http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/royston/>

Change Of Mass Times Please note that there will be no Mass at 9:15am on Wednesday. This has been replaced by the funeral Mass of Sarah Friel (RIP) at 10am

Also the mass time for Thursday has been moved to 7:30pm. As some of you may have heard on the grapevine, Fr Philip's elderly aunt is needing extra care at the moment and he has an appointment to speak with her GP on Thursday morning and so has moved the mass to the evening. Apologies for any inconvenience this causes and thank you for your understanding.

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2022 The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity runs from the 18th -25th January each year, and in Royston we have had a joint act of worship to celebrate the Week for many years. The ecumenical service for 2022 will be held on 23rd January at 3pm. This year the service has been devised by the Christians in the Middle East and is based on the words, 'We saw His Star in the East'. Christians in the Middle East are only too used to conflict and battles and are aware that the world shares many of their difficulties. We all yearn for a light to lead the way to the Saviour who was the light which overcame darkness. We hope that as many people as possible will be able to join us at the Church of St Thomas of Canterbury, Melbourn Rd, on Sunday 23rd January at 3pm. Refreshments will be served after the service.

Prayer resources for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in 2022 are available at: <https://ctbi.org.uk/week-of-prayer-for-christian-unity-2022/>

Serving the Gospel today requires a commitment to the human being, especially the poorest, the weakest and those marginalised. It requires from the churches transparency and accountability in dealing with the world, and with each other. This means churches need to cooperate to provide relief to the afflicted, to welcome the displaced, to relieve the burdened, and to build a just and honest society. This is a call for churches to work together so that young people can build a good future according to God's heart, a future in which all humanity can experience life, peace and justice.

Please note we shall also include intentions at Mass during the week (18th-23rd) and at Morning and Evening Prayer (9am and 5:30pm)

Holy Fathers Prayer Intentions for January
For true human fraternity

We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognized, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.

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Scripture Festival 3rd - 5th February '22

In such turbulent times, it is more important than ever to celebrate the God Who Speaks into our lives and who offers us life to the full (John 10:10). You are invited to our *God Who Speaks Festival* at St Albans Cathedral from 3rd to 5th February 2022. We hope that all pilgrims, whether from schools, parishes, or just visitors to the Cathedral will have an encounter with Christ through His Word at this three-day event. From 10am to 4:00pm we be offering different ways of exploring the Word of God in prayer, through activities and our intellect.

A variety of content providers will join us over the three days and help us to engage with Scripture using your mind, heart, and soul. This could be the perfect opportunity to consider what is on offer for people who want to know more about the Bible in their local area.

If anyone is interested in taking part, please check for details at

<https://rcdow.org.uk/scripturefestival/>

If there enough people interested we may organise a Parish Trip to St Albans on Saturday 5th February. Please tell or e-mail Fr Philip if you would want to join the pilgrimage.

Servers We have had some interest shown in learning how to serve at mass and will arrange another training session. If and children who have received their first Holy Communion or adults would like to join our serving teams, please let Fr Philip know.

Printer Ink As some of you may have twigged, a major irritation and frustration for Fr Philip this past week has been a misbehaving printer. After considerable wasting of time and energy trying to fix the problem, following the troubleshooting advice on the company webpage and YouTube videos etc., and exchanging emails - the manufacturers eventually offered to service the old printer for a cost of £118 – so Fr Philip has bought a new printer for £75. However, this does mean I have some ink cartridges which fitted the old machine but not the new. If anyone has a use for Epson 27 (Clock) cartridges please let Fr Philip know and he will be happy to give away his excess stock to a good home!