

Our Parish Liturgy

This Week (Holy Family A)

DIVINE OFFICE	WEEK 1
ENTRANCE HYMN	18.00 144 09.00 144 11.00 Musicians
PENITENTIAL ACT	Spoken
GLORIA	18.00 120 09.00 120 11.00 Musicians
FIRST READING	Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14 <i>'He who fears the Lord honours his parents.'</i>
PSALM RESPONSE	<i>Blessed are all who fear the Lord, and walk in his ways.</i>
SECOND READING	Colossians 3:12-21 <i>'Family life in the Lord.'</i>
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION	<i>Alleluia, alleluia!</i> <i>Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts; let the word of Christ dwell in you richly. Alleluia!</i>
GOSPEL READING	Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23 <i>'Take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt.'</i>
PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS	18.00 148 09.00 148 11.00 Musicians
SANCTUS	18.00 Missal Tone 09.00 Missal Tone 11.00 Musicians
MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION	18.00 Missal Tone 09.00 Missal Tone 11.00 Musicians
GREAT AMEN	18.00 Missal Tone 09.00 Missal Tone 11.00 Musicians
OUR FATHER	18.00 Spoken 09.00 Spoken 11.00 Musicians
AGNUS DEI	18.00 Missal Tone 09.00 Missal Tone 11.00 Musicians
COMMUNION ANTIphon	<i>Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived among us.</i>
THANKSGIVING	18.00 123 09.00 123 11.00 Musicians
RECESSION	18.00 152 09.00 152 11.00 Musicians

Next Week (2 Christmas A)

DIVINE OFFICE	WEEK 1
FIRST READING	Sirach 24:1-2, 8-12 <i>'The wisdom of God has dwelt in the chosen people.'</i>
PSALM RESPONSE	<i>The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.</i>
SECOND READING	Ephesians 1:3-6, 15-18 <i>'He predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus.'</i>
GOSPEL READING	John 1:1-18 <i>'The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.'</i>

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MARRIAGE MATTERS

In the Apostolic Exhortation *Amoris Laetitia*, Pope Francis offers a profound insight into the joy of Christian marriage and reminds us of its place at the very heart of the Church's life. Christian marriage, he observes, 'is a sign of how much Christ loved his Church in the covenant sealed on the cross, yet it also makes that love present in the communion of the spouses. By becoming one flesh, they embody the espousal of our human nature by the Son of God.'

As we know, the Holy Scriptures feed and nourish our faith and help us to grow in our relationship with God and one another. It is for this reason that these scriptural reflections are offered. They should help enable married couples to focus on the richness of God's Word that we hear proclaimed each Sunday of the Year and to experience the deep joy of God's love expressed in the great Sacrament of Marriage.

BE KIND AND GENTLE WHEN WE ARE MAKING DECISIONS



The readings today challenge us to listen sensitively to each other; to be prepared to let go of our own desires and to be deeply aware of each other's thoughts and feelings as we make decisions together. For this we need to ask the Holy Spirit to open our hearts to the gifts of compassion and understanding, courage and hopefulness.

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Sacred Heart Parish Newsletter

for the Roman Catholic community of Cobham, Oxshott, & Stoke D'Abernon



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Volume 07 Issue 05 28th December 2025 : Holy Family Year A

A holy human family

With the story of Jesus' birth still fresh in our minds on this first Sunday after Christmas, the church uses the opportunity to celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family with all of the readings focused on families. The Gospel readings are from Matthew this year, so the focus this week is on Jesus' earthly father, Joseph. (When we read from the Gospel of Luke, the focus is on his mother, Mary.)

If the story of Jesus' birth warmed our hearts with its tale of the star over Bethlehem and the magi who travelled long distances to worship and bring him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh, the story today takes a terrible turn. Mary and Joseph have no time to savour his birth or let the wonder of the magi's visit sink in because suddenly their baby's life is in danger. Like millions of refugees throughout history, they must flee their home country on short notice with just a vague sense of a distant destination. Because they trust the guidance the angel gave Joseph in a dream, they save their son's life.

Tragically, however, many families lost sons to Herod's cruelty when he ordered all baby boys killed in his efforts to kill Jesus. (These verses are omitted from the Gospel passage today.) So the Feast of the Holy Family is not "The Feast of the Perfect Family in a Perfect World." The Church celebrates this family today because of Mary and Joseph's willingness to say "yes" to

raising God's son, even though it brought them great fear, anxiety, uncertainty, and even anguish because of the evil one man, Herod, wreaked on so many families. They were a holy family, but they did not escape any challenges of being a human family.



"Put on love. And let the peace of Christ control your hearts, the peace into which you were also called in one body."

Sheepish Question:

When have I been less than understanding with members of my own family or faith community?

Questions of the week

- Does it change anything for you to think about Jesus' family in terms of being a refugee family like so many millions today and throughout history? How so?
- Mary and Joseph changed course unexpectedly when they needed to in order to protect Jesus' life. When have you had to change direction suddenly? Can you see the hand of God at work in that change?

Oren Arnold



Before Mass - Talk to God During Mass - Listen to God After Mass - Talk to your friends

Parish Office



Normal Office Hours : Monday to Wednesday 09.30 - 12.30
Parish Secretary : Sarah Cox (01932) 860244
 cobham@abdiocese.org.uk
Newsletter Editorial : Items for possible inclusion in the Parish Newsletter (if there is room) need to be received (in writing please) at the Parish Office by midday on Wednesday.
Gift Aid Organiser : Dan Meehan (01372) 456416
 ga.cobham@abdiocese.org.uk
Safeguarding Rep. : Mark Hillas 07436 571060
 sg1.cobham@abdiocese.org.uk



General Parish Information

Parishioner Registration : Every household within the Parish is requested to complete a 'Parishioner Registration/Census' form so that our Parish records may be kept up to date. These forms can be obtained from the Parish Office and should be completed fully before being returned to the Parish Office.

Should you move address within the Parish at any time please complete a new form and write 'AMENDMENT' across the top of the form. Thank you.

Hospital : If you are going into hospital as a 'planned admission' you are strongly encouraged to make contact with Fr Daryl well beforehand so that, if appropriate, the Sacrament of the Sick can be celebrated beforehand.

Infant Baptism : Infant Baptisms are intended for the children of practising parishioners only and are celebrated on five occasions during the year after parents and godparents have completed a course of preparation. There can be no celebration without this important course. The dates of the courses for the current year can be found in the application form available from the Parish Office. Baptisms do not take place during the seasons of Advent or Lent.

Sacramental Preparation : Notice of the availability of Application Forms for preparation for First Reconciliation and First Eucharist will be made via the Parish Newsletter between the school Summer Half Term and 31st August each year. Possible candidates for Confirmation should respond to the announcements made via the Parish Newsletter at the beginning of the Autumn school term.

Parishioners are advised that it is very difficult to imagine that any family or individual who is not regularly practising the Faith as members of our community could possibly be ready to celebrate a Sacrament of the Church.

Marriage Preparation : Marriages are celebrated by appointment with the Parish Priest. It should be remembered that in the Diocese of Arundel & Brighton twelve months minimum notice is required before a marriage may take place; this is a requirement of the Church for all marriages that involve a Roman Catholic (even if they are not taking place in the Catholic Church). It is also necessary that one of the parties must have a meaningful connection with the Parish. Marriages do not take place during the seasons of Advent or Lent.

Parish Car Park : All Parishioners attending Mass and using our Car Park need to make sure that they have fully completed our 'Parishioner Registration/Census Form' (available from the Parish Office) before using the Car Park; this ensures that your current vehicle registration is lodged in the system. Registering only needs to be done once (unless you change your car or if you use another car in the family that is not registered on the system).

Important : if you are not registered on the system and you use the car park you will receive a parking notice.

Registered Parishioners and pre-registered visitors are able to park whilst they attend our Masses/liturgies without fear of a charge notice.
 (Car Park queries - parking@shpcobham.com)

NOTE : the Car Park does not use QR codes any found are **scams!**

Church Mouse (cub reporter). . .



The musings of one of God's smallest creatures on events in and around the Parish over the past seven days . . .

A hectic week, given all the preparations for and celebration of the Nativity of the Lord . . .

Sunday afternoon and evening was quite full-on: our last Advent Evening Prayer and Benediction, the annual Parish Advent Carol Service, followed by a Parish Social with mince pies and mulled wine. The Carol Service was really very, very good (Fr D met people from outside the Parish who come along because they find it so good!). Afterwards at the Parish Social there were a lot of people who stayed around enjoying the event and chatting with others for some while. This was a great start to our immediate Christmas celebrations.

On Monday morning Fr D finalised the Vigil and Midnight Mass homilies and prepared the Intercessions for the Christmas Season. He was also able to get to the supermarket to get the fresh veg for the next few days (though he was less enthused about the numbers of people who obviously thought that the shops were not going to be open again for the next six months!). In the evening he went out to supper with the new Parish Priest of Weybridge - a very enjoyable evening, and very restful. The Christmas tree was erected and decorated in the church in the evening and the basic crib structure put in place (it was due to be decorated with the various statues during the Children's Crib Service on Wednesday afternoon).

Tuesday morning after Mass Fr D was pleased that the heating engineer for the church boiler came to find out why it had been working well throughout November and up to Sunday midday before it cut out before Evening Prayer & Benediction? In the event it appears that something was not reset at the service in October and the system thought that it had done it's allotted hours! In the afternoon Fr D was trying to finish the newsletter for next week (so that Sarah didn't feel that she had to find time to come in and print it before starting again next week). He also got started on looking at his diary to see what dates he could put aside in the new year to look at Confirmation with our four younger parishioners who have expressed an interest in exploring being confirmed in May. In the early afternoon the ladies came and prepared the flowers used to decorate the church over Christmas - wonderful!!!

Having celebrated the last Mass before the Christmas season began in the morning. Fr D got the statues out and hid them behind the altar ready for the Children's Crib Service in the afternoon. He then had time to say some prayers . . .

Church mouse

CHILDREN'S WORD SEARCH HOLY FAMILY YEAR A

L	Z	C	Y	A	T	C	B	A	Y	B	I	H	N	W	B	A	S	O	N	afraid	death	Galilee
G	A	L	I	L	E	E	M	R	R	H	D	D	I	U	A	O	E	X	F	angel	departed	Herod
B	E	T	H	L	E	H	M	C	X	R	E	G	S	H	R	Y	G	R	appeared	destroy	Israel	
S	T	O	W	N	L	H	P	R	N	X	U	P	Q	O	E	M	N	S	Archelaus	dream	Joseph	
O	P	B	F	E	T	W	A	A	K	Y	L	A	Z	U	R	O	U	E	Bethlehem	dwelt	Judea	
J	N	R	G	O	A	E	E	D	O	I	I	R	G	G	O	P	X	H	boys	Egypt	land	
T	C	N	M	E	S	R	W	R	E	D	N	T	B	H	D	R	T	E	child	father	life	
O	A	O	D	J	A	D	T	B	E	A	G	E	X	T	F	O	E	J	consoled	flee	Lord	
J	R	U	N	Z	W	S	J	L	Z	N	T	D	X	N	L	P	S	D	dead	fulfilled	mother	
I	I	D	A	S	E	Y	L	R	F	F	A	H	Z	V	E	H	J	W	Nazarean	search		
A	R	N	E	D	O	I	G	N	E	M	B	Z	L	H	E	E	H	E	Nazareth	son		
R	U	I	M	R	F	L	D	F	A	G	T	S	A	F	A	T	S	L	night	sought		
C	I	J	S	L	E	R	E	E	H	P	I	I	R	R	A	L	O	T	ordered	spoken		
H	S	D	U	E	O	D	R	D	O	P	M	O	J	S	E	T	M	M	out	stay		
E	R	F	N	L	D	D	I	I	G	N	E	F	N	Z	E	T	H	P	prophet	time		
L	A	R	N	I	G	H	T	V	O	L	V	F	W	D	Z	G	H	E	region	town		
A	E	P	A	S	P	O	K	N	V	D	B	S	C	Y	T	R			rise			
U	L	R	W	G	G	O	W	A	P	P	A	E	R	D	T	U	P	O	ruling			
S	F	E	D	C	H	I	L	D	Q	W	E	M	Z	D	Q	O	A	I				
A	L	I	F	E	Y	E	A	R	S	D	J	O	S	E	P	H	M	Y				



Lectio Divina Prayer This Week . . .

GOD'S PROTECTION

Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

¹³After they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph and said, "Herod will be looking for the child in order to kill him. So get up, take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt, and stay there until I tell you to leave."

¹⁴Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and left during the night for Egypt, ¹⁵where he stayed until Herod died. This was done to make what the Lord had said through the prophet come true, "I called my Son out of Egypt."

¹⁹After Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt ²⁰and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and go back to the land of Israel, because those who tried to kill the child are dead." ²¹So Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went back to Israel.

²²But when Joseph heard that Archelaus had succeeded his father Herod as king of Judea, he was afraid to go there. He was given more instructions in a dream, so he went to the province of Galilee ²³and made his home in a town named Nazareth. And so what the prophets had said came true: "He will be called a Nazarene."

Other Readings: Ecclesiasticus 3:2-6, 12-14; Psalm 128:1-5; Colossians 3:12-21

LECTIO:

The visit from the Magi is still fresh in Mary and Joseph's mind when an angel speaks to Joseph in a dream, this time giving a warning to leave the country as the family is in danger.

Herod the Great, who ruled on behalf of the Romans, was worried. His rule was harsh and at the slightest whiff of a threat to his reign, he took action. This time he is looking to kill a young king – the newborn child the Magi have told him about.

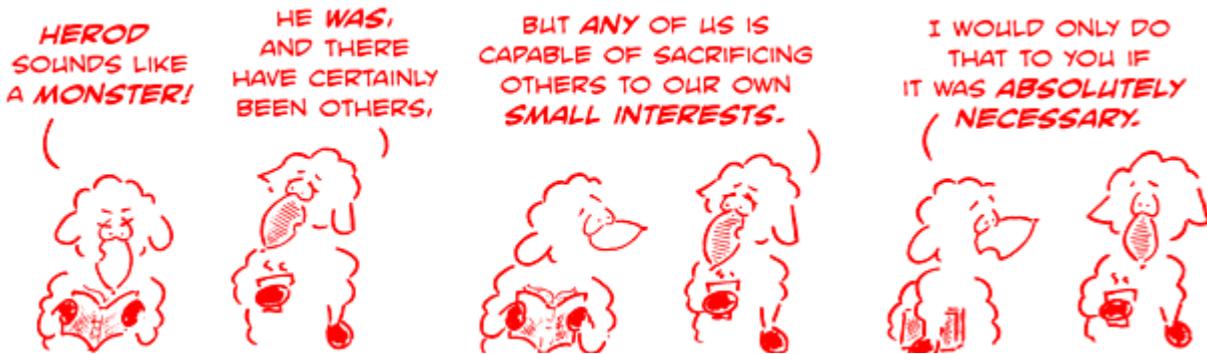
God intervenes for the Holy Family. They flee to Egypt – a journey of several hundred miles. The family leaves quickly that night and stays in Egypt living quietly until Herod's death.

God then sends his messenger to speak to Joseph again. This time the angel tells him to return home. Joseph is obedient and sets off immediately for Palestine.

But along the way Joseph realises that although Herod's kingdom had been split up, Archelaus, one of Herod's crueler sons, now runs Judea. Joseph is nervous and unsure about what to do.

A third dream helps Joseph make the decision to go to the small town of Nazareth, in the northern province of Galilee, which is ruled by Herod Antipas, who later beheads John the Baptist.

Two more prophecies are fulfilled through Joseph's obedience to God. Jesus, like Israel, is called out of exile in Egypt as prophesied by Hosea 11:1, 'I called my Son out of Egypt.' Matthew also attributes prophetic significance to Jesus being brought up in Nazareth. He may have in mind Judges 13:5-7 or Isaiah 11:1 where the Hebrew word *nezer* (which is similar to Nazarene) means branch. Isaiah says a new branch will grow out of the root of Jesse. A new beginning will emerge from the royal house of David bringing deliverance and salvation, which Jesus offered and continues to offer to everyone who will follow him.



MEDITATIO:

- How do you think Mary and Joseph felt as they arrived in Egypt and set about finding a new home, work and an income? What can you learn from this?
- God gave Joseph specific directions that shaped human history. How do you feel God intervenes today?
- Think about the times you have experienced God's protection or guidance.
- How do you discern between your own good ideas and a word from God to direct you?

ORATIO:

Psalm 128 commends us to fear and obey God. This fear is not about being terrified but rather a respect and holy awe for who God is. Bring some of the large and small decisions you have to make to God so he can lead you. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you act on what God tells you. Spend some time praying for members of your family today.

CONTEMPLATIO:

Colossians 3:12-21 speaks about relationships, firstly with God and then with our families and others. Spend some time pondering on these verses and let God speak to you through them.

Services For The Coming Week . . .

Day	Date	Time	Service / Intention	Donor
Sat.	27 th December	St John, Apostle & Evangelist	PLEASE NOTE : No Sacrament of Reconciliation Today	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Live-Stream / Recorded 18.00	Joan Short †	C. Davis
Sun.	28 th December	HOLY FAMILY, YEAR A		
		<input type="checkbox"/> Live-Stream / Recorded 09.00	Ifor Taylor †	D. & P. Meehan
		<input type="checkbox"/> Live-Stream / Recorded 11.00	For the Parishioners	
Mon.	29 th December	St Thomas Becket, Bishop & Martyr	No Service Today	Mass 10.00 at Leatherhead
Tue.	30 th December	Six Day of Christmas Octave	PLEASE NOTE : No Morning Prayer of the Church Today	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Live-Streamed 09.30	Margaret Byrne †	M. Drury
			PLEASE NOTE : No Exposition of Blessed Sacrament Today	
Wed.	31 st December	Seventh Day of Christmas Octave	PLEASE NOTE : No Morning Prayer of the Church Today	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Live-Streamed 09.30	James & Muriel Drury †	M. Drury
Thu.	1 st January	MARY, MOTHER OF GOD, YEAR A	PLEASE NOTE : No Morning Prayer of the Church Today	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Live-Streamed 12.00	Andrew & Mary Wilson	M. Drury
Fri.	2 nd January	Sts Basil & Gregory, Doctors of the Church (<i>Day of Abstinence</i>)	PLEASE NOTE : No Morning Prayer of the Church Today	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Live-Streamed 09.30	Connor Massey †	L. Massey
Sat.	3 rd January	Weekday of Christmastide	PLEASE NOTE : No Sacrament of Reconciliation Today	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Live-Stream / Recorded 18.00	Private Intention	L. Massey
Sun.	4 th January	2 nd Sunday Christmas, Year A		
		<input type="checkbox"/> Live-Stream / Recorded 09.00	Kolber Family	L. Kolber
		<input type="checkbox"/> Live-Stream / Recorded 11.00	For the Parishioners	

Mass may be offered for both the living and the dead and also for most other intentions. We do our best to try and accommodate specific dates but this can be especially difficult on weekends and at less than three months notice.

'Mass Intentions' are published in the Parish Newsletter on the weekend before they are celebrated although sometimes a Requiem Mass will 'bump' an intention to a later date.

Mary, Mother of God . . .

Mary's motherhood broadens our Christmas spotlight. Mary has an important role to play in the Incarnation of the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity. She consents to the invitation conveyed by the angel. Elizabeth proclaims: "Most blessed are you among women and blessed is the *fruit of your womb*. And how does this happen to me, that *the mother of my Lord* should come to me?" Mary's role as mother of God places her in a unique position in God's redemptive plan. Without naming Mary, St Paul

asserts that "God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law." Paul further states that "God sent the spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying out 'Abba, Father!'" helps us realise that Mary is mother to all the brothers and sisters of Jesus. Some theologians also insist that her motherhood of Jesus is an important element in God's creative plan. God's "first" thought in creating was Jesus. Jesus, the incarnate Word, is the one who could give God perfect love and worship on behalf of creation. As Jesus was "first" in God's



Parish Ministries For Next Weekend

DATE / MASS	WELCOME MINISTERS	READERS	EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS	REPOSITORY AFTER MASS
SATURDAY 2 Christmas A 03/01/26 18.00	Still Required; please offer	J. Granström	N/A at present	P. Hunt A. Essien
SUNDAY 2 Christmas A 04/01/26 09.00	Still Required; please offer	G. Fisher	Sr Maria P. Carello	B. Harris M. Jethwa
SUNDAY 2 Christmas A 04/01/26 11.00	Still Required; please offer	A. Cowper	J. Foster P. Mascolo	I. Heims S. Williams

PLEASE REMEMBER : If you are unable to complete your particular ministry then it is **your responsibility** to arrange cover with another minister. In this way our Sunday Liturgies will run in a smooth and prayerful way.



CRIB OFFERINGS DURING THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

Arundel & Brighton Family Crisis Fund - We operate a Crisis Fund which provides immediate financial support for families facing a crisis in their lives. This support can make a huge difference to families in desperate situations when they have nowhere else to turn.

*"We've had a difficult year and your help, support and kindness means a great deal to us.
Just knowing there are people who care gives me strength to carry on."*

Widowed mother, with two young children

Why this is needed - Many families find themselves in traumatic situations completely outside of their control. One diagnosis/fire/redundancy/death can cause their whole world to unravel. Without appropriate support these families can face serious hardship and find themselves in a downward spiral.

"I have spoken to mum who broke down in tears – I think you have restored her faith in humankind... you have really helped to make a difference to one of my families today"

Headteacher

How we help - Our Crisis Fund provides immediate financial support for families where a relatively small amount of one-off funding can make a lasting difference. Examples of families we have helped include:

- A seven year old girl was sleeping huddled in blankets with her younger sister on the floor because the family were destitute. We helped the family buy bunk beds, mattresses and bedding ensuring these two young children now have a comfortable and warm place to sleep.
- Two teenage girls lost their mother in a traffic accident. The school reported that the siblings were "finding coping with both grief and organising their mother's funeral with no money unbearable." As they were both in full time education they didn't qualify for any statutory assistance. The Crisis Fund enabled these siblings to hold a basic funeral and bury their mother with dignity.
- A mother and her three young children fled domestic violence and needed help getting a deposit to rent a new flat. Our Crisis Fund provided the family with the immediate one-off support they needed to have a safe place to call home.

"The family have been through such a difficult time and I know that your donation will go a long way to helping them get back on their feet. Thank you."

Head of School

Prayers Please

FOR THOSE UNWELL AT THIS TIME:

Jay Adams, Sr Anne Bayley, Jim Begley, Maggie Dongray, Tom Delbridge, Fiona Frank, Maureen Garner, baby Naomi Hunt, Michael Nutcher, Fr Sebastian Paul, Pascal Smyth and Anne Sproul.

THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

None

ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH:

Rinaea Demetriou †
John Payne †
Canon Walter Stone †
Canon Michael Reynell †
Canon Ernest Wake †
Fr Emmanuel Agius †
Fr Enda Naughton †
Fr Reginald Redding †
Fr Joseph Ware †
Fr Andrew Convey †
Canon John Stapleton †

HOLY FATHER'S MONTHLY PRAYER INTENTION:

“... that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope . . .”

For those who are unwell.....

those who have died recently....

those whose anniversaries occur.....

the Holy Father's Prayer Intention....

Parish Roundup

Many, many thanks for all the Christmas wishes, thoughts, and cards received over the past couple of weeks - they are very much appreciated.

Every good gift comes from the Father of Light. May he grant you all his grace and every blessing, and keep you safe throughout the coming year.

May he grant you all unwavering faith, constant hope, and love that endures to the end.

May he order your days and works in his peace, hear your every prayer, and lead you to everlasting life and joy. Fr Daryl



RESPONSES TO DIOCESAN PASTORAL PLAN - If you did not get to return your postcard regarding the progression of the Bishop's Diocesan Pastoral Plan individuals can continue to have your say using the on-line form (www.epsomdeanery.com), which will continue to operate until the end of December.

PARISH DIARIES Now Available - Our Parish Diaries have arrived and are now available in the Repository after our weekend Masses for a donation of £1 per copy.

ELECTRONIC GIVING - As the number of parishioners using our 'Dona' electronic giving terminal at the rear of the church has been steadily growing, the Parish Finance Committee has decided that a second terminal should be available to reduce the queuing that sometimes takes place whilst waiting to access the terminal. When the second terminal arrives we will be positioning both terminals half way down the two side aisles, this will assist access and 'unblock' the exit at the end of Masses. Of course, parishioners do not have to wait until the end of our Masses to use the terminals - after arrival and before taking seats?

CHRISTMAS SEASON - The Christmas Season began with the Christmas Vigil Mass (24th Dec. 18.00) and lasts until the 11.00 Mass on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord (11th Jan.). Between these two dates it is customary for parishioners (particularly families) to pay visits to the Crib to pray for their own families and also for those throughout the world who do not have the advantages of a family life like our own.

NEW YEAR EVENTS IN THE DIOCESE

CATHOLIC RESPONSES TO WAR AND PEACE - Five Tuesdays from 13th January, 12.00 - 13.00, online (Cost: £60). An exploration of the history and development of Catholic 'Just War' theory with Dr Aidan Cottrell-Boyce, starting in late antiquity and tracing the story of the Catholic response to war and peace up to the present day.

 www.londonjesuitcentre.org to book.

CATHOLIC UNION PUB TALK : 'Reflections on a First Year in Parliament' - 19th January, 18.00, London, SW1V 1AU. Sojan Joseph MP will talk about his reflections on his first year in Parliament, drawing on his background working in the NHS in mental health for 22 years and inclusion in the community.

 www.catholicunion.org.uk/eventscalendar/ to book.

DAY OF REFLECTION FOR MINISTERS OF THE WORD - 24th January, 11.00-16.00 at St Michael's Church, Worthing, BN13 3AL. Led by Bishop Richard and Catherine Christmas (diocesan Liturgy & Music Adviser) this day will include talks on the Scriptures, the Lectionary and its use in the Liturgy, the Liturgy of the Word, and preparing to minister as a reader.

Register your free place:  www.abdiocese.churchsuite.com/events/

MAKING CHOICES WITH ST IGNATIUS - 31st January, 10.00 - 16.00, The House of Prayer, Molesey, KT8 0PB (Cost: £35). Ignatius offers wisdom to help us make choices: both the big decisions about what kind of life we lead, and the smaller ones of how we live out our day. The day will offer input on praying about our choices.

 www.christian-retreat.org for details/booking

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS TRAINING - 7th February, 10.00 - 15.00, St Philip Howard Centre, Crawley, RH10 6RP (£40). The number of people experiencing poor mental health is rising. This course will help attendees understand the impact and reality of poor mental health, enabling them to identify the early signs and symptoms and signpost people effectively.

 www.abdiocese.org.uk/diocese/events to book your place.