



Nativity of the Lord - 25 December 2022

Mary Mother of God - 1 January 2023

Two-week newsletter 24 Dec to 8 Jan

Thought for the Week

With the arrival of Christmas there is an unspeakable sense of joy and happiness in the air. It's that wonderful time of year when the bright star of Bethlehem sets the world aflame with its message of Good News. The festive season is celebrated in many ways with a rich variety of customs, traditions and legends associated with this special time. Falling as it does in bleak midwinter with cold and frost outside, Christmas breathes life into the darkness and makes us concentrate on nearness and the warmth of love. Family and friends draw closer to each other at this time of year.

With all this excitement we must not forget or lose sight of the first Christmas, the birth of Jesus as a vulnerable infant in the simple trappings of a stable at Bethlehem. Visiting the crib, we pause and say a prayer of thanks for what we have. Spending time there we can gaze in silent wonder upon the mystery of God coming into our world, and embracing us with love. The image of a new-born child who came in poverty teaches us that there is greatness in humility, glory in service and power in self surrender. Christmas begins the assurance that, no matter how dark the days, God wants to free us from worry and grant us a peace that the world cannot give.

Sr Teresina

Christmas Message from Fr David

I would like to wish you and all your families, a Blessed and Happy Christmas. If you are away, I hope you travel safely. If you are in Windsor, I look forward to celebrating our Christmas Masses together. Let us pray that the New Year will bring many blessings upon all of us and our parish may grow in strength and holiness.

Fr David

Sacrament of Reconciliation

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available Saturdays from 11:00 – 11:30 at St Edward's.

Holy Hour

The next Holy Hour will be in St Edward's on 8th January at 16:00, this will take place on the second Sunday of each month at 16:00.

The Rosary

The Rosary is said after the 12:00 Mass each Friday, please join us.

Offertory

SO/DD - £ 1,848.08 Envelopes - £269.67 Loose - £486.71

Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve, Saturday 24 December

18:00 St Edward's (17:30 Carols)

22:00 St Edward's (21:30 Carols & Readings)

Christmas Day, Sunday 25 December

09:30 St Mark's

11:00 St Edward's

Mass Times + Intentions 24 Dec - 08 Jan '23

Sat	24	18:00	Neville Street - RIP
		22:00	Patrick Jordan - RIP
Sun	25	09:30	People of the Parish - St Mark's
		11:00	Marcella Dyke - RIP
Mon	26	10:00	Beata & Joaquim Fernandes - RIP
Tues	27	18:30	Eucharistic Service
Wed	28	10:00	Eucharistic Service
Thur	29	10:00	Eucharistic Service
Fri	30	12:00	Michael Gorman - RIP
Sat	31	18:00	Carmel Hammond - RIP

NEW YEARS DAY - Mary, Mother of God

Sun	01	09:30	People of the Parish - St Mark's
		11:00	Martin Conway - INT
Mon	02	10:00	Holy Souls
Tue	03	18:30	Michael Davies - RIP, 1 st Anniversary
Wed	04	10:00	David Ashbrook
Thur	05	10:00	Nancy & Robert Bamber - RIP

Solemnity of the Epiphany of The Lord

Fri	06	12:00	Nula Dermody - RIP
		18:30	Sir Thomas Fleetwood - FM
Sat	07	18:00	Roy Underwood - RIP
Sun	08	09:30	Marjorie Lewins - RIP St Mark's
		11:00	Anne Smart - RIP

Parish Diary 24 Dec - 08 Jan '23

Sat	24	11:30	SVP - Set up for Christmas Lunch - P/C
Sun	25	12:00	NO - Parish Teas & Coffee
		13:00	Christmas Lunch - run by SVP - P/C
Tue	27	18:00	Evening Prayer - Lady Chapel, St Edward's
Wed	28	09:30	Morning Prayer - Lady Chapel, St Edward's
Thur	29	09:30	Morning Prayer - Lady Chapel, St Edward's
		13:00	Mass Readings Explained - P/C
Sun	01	12:00	NO - Parish Tea & Coffee - P/C
Tue	03	14:30	Catenian Meeting - St Brigid's Room

Catholic Windsor - website www.catholicwindsor.org

Parish Office

Patricia Brown: Parish Secretary

office@catholicwindsor.org

Richard Flisher: Finance Manager

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Sharon Cole-Blows: Youth Ministry Worker/Coordinator

YouthCoordinator@catholicwindsor.org

Pat Burke: Safeguarding Representative

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Pastoral Team

Canon David Hopgood: Parish Priest

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Rev George Young: Deacon

georgeyoung@hotmail.com

Sr Teresina Fingleton CSB: Parish Sister

Presbytery: 44 Alma Road, Windsor Berkshire, SL4 3HJ

Phone: 01753 865163

Parish Diary /....

	18:00	Evening Prayer - Lady Chapel, St Edward's
	19:15	R.C.I.A. - St Brigid's Room
Wed 04	09:30	Morning Prayer - Lady Chapel, St Edward's
Thur 05	09:30	Morning Prayer - Lady Chapel, St Edward's
	10:30	Bereavement Group - P/C
	13:00	Mass Readings Explained - P/C
Sun 08	10:30	Feedback Session - 'You will be my Witnesses' - St Mark's Hall Parish Teas & Coffee - St Mark's
	12:00	Feedback Session - 'You will be my Witnesses' - P/C
	12:00	Parish Teas & Coffee - P/C
	12:15	Baptism Prep - St Brigid's Room
	16:00	Holy Hour - Church

Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

The Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord is on Friday 6th January and is a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses will be at 12:00 and 18:30 at St Edward's.

Christmas Collection

There is a tradition that whatever you give in the collection at Christmas is your personal offering to your priest to supplement his annual stipend.

There is also a dedicated page on the fundraising platform, *Give As You Live*, which enables online donations to be made. Here is the link to the dedicated Christmas Collection page:

<https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/windsor-st-edwards-r-c-church-christmas-collection--2022>

Induction loop system

St Edward's Church now has a new induction loop system for everyone who uses a hearing aid. Simply turn to the 'T' setting and enjoy the good-quality sound. Please always do so, to prevent 'feedback' onto the system and interference on the speakers.

Sacrament of the Sick

We have not celebrated the Sacrament of the Sick since before COVID. As a trial, we will celebrate the Sacrament of Anointing on the second Friday of each month during the 12:00 Mass. Anyone who wishes to receive the Sacrament of Healing will be invited to come forward during the Mass. This does not mean that if you are attending the Mass you are obliged to receive the Sacrament. It is a Sacrament for those who are sick in mind or in body and who seek healing. The first will be celebrated on **Friday, 13 January 2023**.

The Gospel of Matthew

This year the Church is using the Gospel of St Matthew as its primary text for the Sunday Readings.

This short session (one hour) will act as an introduction to St Matthew's Gospel, giving some background and pointers to help us understand Matthew's faith in Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, son of Abraham.

All welcome.

Speaker: Fr. Kevin Hughes MHM

St Edmund Campion, Maidenhead

Monday 16 January @ 10:00 (after the 9:30 Mass)

St Edward, Windsor

Saturday 21 January @ 10:00 in the Parish Centre

'You will be my Witnesses' – Feedback Sessions

A big thank you to all who attended the Consultation Sessions and for the points and ideas which were raised, over a hundred people attended the gatherings.

We have now sent everybody's thoughts and ideas to the Bishop and they can be read on the parish website -

[You Will Be My Witnesses Ten Year Mission Plan Consultation Responses \(catholicwindsor.org\)](https://www.catholicwindsor.org)

We plan to hold 'feedback' sessions on Sunday 8th January after the 09:30 and 11:00 Masses. Please save the date.

Part time Parish Administrator

A vacancy has arisen for a part time Parish Administrator to in the Parish, at Our Lady of Lourdes and St Swithun's, Waverley Road, PORTSMOUTH. **Closing date for applications:** 12 noon on Friday 13th January 2023. **Job Description and details of how to apply please contact:**

recruitment@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Deceased

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Rosanna Pediconi. Her funeral will take place at St Edward's on 9 January at 10:00.

Please also pray for the repose of the soul of Maria Martin who died recently.

Guardian Angels

Angels are very present in the Nativity (and on Christmas cards!), but did you know we are all assigned a Guardian Angel from birth? There was a debate whether Guardian Angels were assigned at birth or at baptism. St Jerome argued decisively for the former, on the basis of Mathew 18:10, which supports the existence of Guardian Angels. Jesus says, '*See that you do not despise these little ones, for I say to you that their angels in heaven always look upon the face of my heavenly Father.*'

Guardian Angels protect us from both spiritual and physical harm. This belief is rooted in Scripture as in Psalm 91 11-12 '*For he commands his Angels with regard to you, to guard you in all your ways; they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.*'

For adults, perhaps you remember learning to recite the Prayer to your Guardian Angel. For parents, perhaps you may like to copy/cut out this prayer and pray it with your children.

Prayer to My Guardian Angel

For our own protection and for all whom we may meet

*O Angel of God,
My guardian dear
To whom God's love
Commits me here
Ever this day/night
Be at my side
To light and guard
To rule and guide
Amen*

