



Fourth Sunday of Advent - 24 December '23

Holy Family - 31 December 2023

Thought for the Week



I would like to wish you all a very blessed, happy and Holy Christmastide. I shall be remembering you in my prayers and at Christmas Masses this year. Let us remember also, those whose Christmas is being torn apart by war and violence in different parts of the world. Let us pray that the light of Christ may touch governments and leaders to work for peace and reconciliation.

One of the prominent figures in Advent, Christmas and on the Feast of The Holy Family is Mary, always there in the background pointing us to Christ.

Our Advent wreaths are sometimes discarded once we reach Christmas – but an Advent wreath is more than just purple candles. The fifth, white, candle is perhaps the most important of all – it signifies the birth of our saviour. I hope you have noticed the Advent wreaths now have flowers and colour, not just greenery! This is to remind us that the birth of Christ empowers us to bring the light and joy of the Gospel to others. The candles are pieces of self-consuming wax and flame, which say that light has more right to exist in our world than darkness. These candles will burn out; it is up to us, disciples of the Light of the World, to catch the fire from Christ, and bring something of this fire and light in into our own lives. Then we can be a beacon of hope, for those whom Christmas may not be a feast of joy, rather a time of darkness that stirs up painful memories – perhaps of death, separation or other reasons. The fire we catch from Christ is our readiness to be consumed, like him, in the flame of loving service of our brothers and sisters. This may be as simple a gift, a visit, a letter, an email, phone call, or an invitation to a meal. When we do these things, we will truly be celebrating something of a Happy Christmas.

Canon David Hoggood

Advent Chant

During Advent, we will be singing the following chant 3 times, after Communion. Do please join in!
'Jesus, name above all names. Beautiful Saviour, glorious Lord. Emmanuel, God is with us. Blessed Redeemer, Living Word.'

Christmas Crib Collection

The crib offerings from Christmas will be donated this year to the Friends of the Holy Land, as our brothers and sisters in Christ in that region are suffering greatly.

Mass Times & Intentions 23 Dec - 7 Jan

Sat 23	18:00	Mathilde & Yosef Glowa - RIP
Sun 24	09:30	Marcella & Lawrence Dyke RIP - St Mark's
	11:00	Jimmy Regan - RIP

CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES

Sun 24	18:00	John Hastings - INT <i>(Carols from 17:30)</i>
	22:00	A MacDonald - RIP <i>(Carols from 21:30)</i>

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES

Mon 25	09:30	Billy MacDonald - RIP - St Mark's
	11:00	James Gregory - RIP

Tue 26	10:00	Joaquim and Beata Fernandes - RIP
Wed 27	10:00	People of the Parish
Thur 28	10:00	Holy Souls - St Mark's
Fri 29	12:00	Aloysius de Souza - RIP
Sat 30	18:00	People of the Parish
Sun 31	09:30	Pam Daly - INT
	11:00	Leonie Cummings - RIP

New Year's Day - Mary Mother of God

Mon 01	10:00	People of the Parish
Tue 02	18:30	Mariano de Oliveria - RIP
Wed 03	10:00	Sue Furney - INT
Thur 04	10:00	Eucharistic Service
Fri 05	12:00	Carmen de Souza - RIP
Sat 06	18:00	Siobhan Palluel - RIP
Sun 07	09:30	Jock Cooper - RIP
	11:00	Rosanna Pediconi - RIP

Parish Diary 24 Dec - 6 Jan

Sun 24	12:30	SVP Christmas Lunch - P/C
Thur 28	18:30	Mass Readings Explained - St Brigid's Room
Thur 04	10:30	Bereavement Group - P/C
Sat 06	10:00	Talk - St Mark's Gospel Fr Kevin Hughes
		St Mark's
	09:45	World Youth Day reunion P/C followed by Mass
	16:00	Leaders of Groups - Ministries, Meeting - P/C

Catholic Windsor - website www.catholicwindsor.org

Parish Office

Patricia Brown: Parish Secretary

office@catholicwindsor.org

Richard Flisher: Finance Manager

finance@catholicwindsor.org

Sharon Cole-Blows: Youth Ministry Worker/Coordinator

YouthCoordinator@catholicwindsor.org

Pat Burke: Safeguarding Representative

safeguarding@catholicwindsor.org

Pastoral Team

Canon David Hoggood: Parish Priest

canondavid@catholicwindsor.org

Rev George Young: Deacon

revgeorgeyoung@hotmail.com

Sr Teresina Fingleton CSB: Parish Sister

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

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth – Charity No. 1199568

Morning & Evening Prayer

Tue 02 18:00 Evening Prayer - Lady Chapel, St Edward's
Wed 03 09:30 Morning Prayer - Lady Chapel, St Edward's

Offertory

S/O - D/D 1,848.08 Envelopes £ 259.49 Loose £1,791.88

Reconciliation

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available at St Edward's:

Saturday 23 Dec: 11:00 - 11:30 17:30 - 18:00

Saturday 30 Dec: 11:00 - 11:30 17:30 - 18:00

Tuesday 02 Jan: 18:00 - 18:30

The Rosary

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

Tea & Coffee

Tea and coffee after the 11:00 Mass in the Parish Centre will start again on 7 January 2024.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

This takes place every **Friday from 10:00 - 16:00** in St Edward's Church. We can only have Adoration if members of the parish commit themselves to 30 or 60 minutes each Friday. Adoration is a blessing to a parish and to the individual who commits this time of prayer each week.

By committing, you ensure that others who call into the church can experience Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

If you would like to be a part of this important work and ministry, then please put your name on the list of the back of the church or contact the Parish Office.

The Good News From Mark

This year, the Church is using the Gospel of Mark. This short presentation introduces us to the Evangelist and his priorities in announcing the Good News of Jesus Christ. A talk by Kevin Hughes, MHM.

St Mark's Church, **Saturday 6 January at 10:00**. Come and be inspired and informed at the start of the New Year!

The Diaconate - Stephen Patterson

At Mass last Saturday evening Canon David (at the request and delegation of the bishop) instituted Stephen with the Ministry of Acolyte. This is one of the ministries that are given prior to his ordination as a Permanent Deacon - which will take place next summer. Please keep him in your prayers as he prepares for ordination.

Ministries in the Parish

In January there will be a gathering of the leaders of all our groups, to plan a 'Ministries Month' to draw more people into the life of the parish. This will take place on **Saturday 6 January in the Parish Centre at 16:00**.

RIP - Fr Clement Marshall

Many of you will fondly remember Fr Clement Marshall who was assistant priest here from 1989 to 1990 and has been a supply priest for the parish during his retirement years. Fr Clement died in Belfast on 20 December.

Christmas Offertory

Our Christmas Offertory is an opportunity for Parishioners to acknowledge the dedication, service, and witness our Parish Priest offers all year long. You will be able to contribute by way of the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day offertory as usual (any cheques should be payable to **CDP Windsor St Edwards** for tax purposes) but in addition, we have set up an online giving page.

Please do use it as an alternative by logging on to:

<https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/windsor-st-edwards-r-c-church-christmas-collection-2023>

For any questions please contact:

finance@catholicwindsor.org

Pastoral Area - Come and Join us

Prayer is essential in our relationship with Jesus Christ and belief in the power of prayer will help us to listen to God's will as our parishes join together. Let us all take this Pastoral Area Prayer into our ministries, our schools and our private prayer over the coming months.

Heavenly Father,

We come before you with hearts full of faith and hope as we pray for the successful joining of our two parishes in this pastoral area.

Lord, we seek your guidance and blessings for this journey as we strengthen our faith community and fulfil your mission to evangelise and bring people closer to Jesus Christ.

May your wisdom enlighten our journey as we join together in faith, love, and unity.

In the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, we offer this prayer.

Amen.

Please take a copy of the Pastoral Prayer from the back of the Church and pray it as often as you can.

St Francis of Assisi - Ascot

You can log on to their website for a copy of the newsletter:

www.stfrancisascot.co.uk

HCPT

The group are busily planning their pilgrimage to Lourdes in Easter 2024. They would like to take 4 or 5 children from the Parish, aged between 7 and 17 years who have additional needs. This may be social needs, a disability, or children who would simply benefit from a very special week away. All costs are paid by HCPT. If you have a child or know a child who might be helped by a trip to Lourdes please contact Pat Burke (Group leader) for a confidential chat.

Contact Pat through the Parish office or email:

group128@hcpt.org.uk

Deceased

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Pat Brooke**. Further details will follow.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Tom Costello**. His funeral will take place on Thursday 18 January at St Mark's at 10:00.

Also pray for the repose of the soul of **Catherine King**. Her funeral service will take place on Friday 26 January at Slough Crematorium at 12:00.