

Welcome to today's Mass. Worship is for everyone – children as well as adults – so do your best to join in as much as possible. The service can be followed in the Mass booklet and hymns are mostly in the dark red hymnbook (the numbers are printed below and displayed on the boards at the front of church).

Our Sunday School meets in the Church Hall for the first part of the service, before joining us in Church for Holy Communion and their Nativity!



Please make sure your **phones** and other devices are on silent and put away whilst we worship.



A **hearing loop** is in operation in church; please switch your hearing aid to the T position.



If you require a **gluten-free wafer** at Communion, please inform a steward before the start of the service.



Refreshments are served in the hall after the service; do join us for a drink and chat and, if you are new, make yourself known to us.

Large print service books are available; please ask at the door.

Today's Hymns

Processional: 400

Gradual: 620

Offertory: 612

Communion: choir piece; then hymn printed overleaf

Recessional: 364

Today's Readings

Micah 5.2-5a

Luke 1.39-55

Copies of the readings are available for those who would find that helpful; please ask at the door.

Communion Hymn

Earth was waiting, spent
and restless,
with a mingled hope and fear,
faithful men and women praying,
'Surely, Lord, the day is near:
the Desire of all the nations —
it is time he should appear!'

Then the Spirit of the Highest
to a virgin meek came down,
and he burdened her with blessing,
and he pained her with renown;
for she bore the Lord's anointed
for his cross and for his crown.

Earth has groaned and laboured
for him
since the ages first began,
for in him was hid the secret
which through all the ages ran —
Son of Mary, Son of David,
Son of God, and Son of Man.



Notices

Thank you to Chris Bennett who has very kindly 'powder coated' the metal stand for the processional crucifix and the bracket for the Victorian sanctuary lamp for St John's Chapel. They both now look very smart indeed!



Thank you to everyone who helped to deliver Christmas cards in the parish this week.

Please do try to come to at least one of our Christmas services this week, if you possibly can. They are:

Christmas Eve at 7pm
The Monday Mass

Christmas Eve at 11.30 pm
Midnight Mass

Christmas Day at 11 am
Christmas Day Mass – bring a Christmas gift to show!



You may be aware that earlier this year new laws came into effect concerning how organisations store and use personal data. These laws also apply to churches and so we are having to put various policies and procedures in place to ensure we comply. As part of this, we need consent to store and use your contact details. Therefore, please complete a **personal details form** and hand it to Mthr Katy or one of the Wardens.



Mthr Katy is available, to:

- visit the sick in hospital or at home;
- take Holy Communion to those who are ill or housebound;
- pray with those seeking healing or preparing for an operation;
- anoint the sick;
- administer the Sacrament of Reconciliation (confession);
- carry out house blessings;
- or just to listen.

If you would like any of these, please let her know. Mthr Katy is also happy to visit anyone who would like to get to know her better. If you would like a chat (it doesn't have to be for any particular reason), please invite her!



Bishop David asks that, to protect people from germs and the risk of being exposed to allergens, we all **please avoid dipping**

communion wafers in the wine. He says, "we are becoming increasingly aware of the severe reaction some people have to gluten. As a result, churches are now used to providing gluten-free bread in services of Holy Communion. However, what is often overlooked is that dipping wafers in the wine can introduce gluten which others then drink.

It is already advised nationally that, for reasons of hygiene, the intinction of wafers should be avoided. Should a communicant not wish to drink from the chalice, perhaps through having a heavy cold, then he or she may be assured that to receive the sacrament in one kind alone (bread or wine) is to receive the sacrament in its entirety."



For our prayers



The recently baptised:

Maximus Sneyd and
Chester Taylor

Those being baptised this month:



The sick & housebound: Vivian Singh, George Bickerstaff, John Cooper, David Gilmartin, Father Harry Edwards, Kirsty Littleford, Ruth Grace, Antonio Clayton, James Cowan, Eric Sherfield, Anne Whitehead and Jean Winterbottom.

The recently departed:

Years Mind: Thomas Henry Hunt (23rd), John Andrew Melia (24th), Gilbert Nield (24th), Alan Strongitharm (25th), Jack Bowling (25th), Olive Clayton (25th), Alice Clayton (26th), Laura Clayton (26th), Lawrence Bonar (26th), Alice Rathbone (28th), Frederick Ainsworth (28th) and Lea Hackley (28th).

Contact Us

You can contact Mthr Katy by
email: revkatycunliffe@gmail.com
telephone/text: 07548 295229

 Rev'd Katy Cunliffe
 @revkatycunliffe

The week ahead

Today – The Fourth Sunday of Advent

11.00am The Parish Mass with
Sunday School Nativity

Monday 24th - Christmas Eve

2pm Holy Communion at *Laburnum House*

7pm The Monday Mass for all ages

11.30pm Midnight Mass

Tuesday 25th – CHRISTMAS DAY

11.00am The Parish Mass

Wednesday 26th – Stephen

Thursday 27th - John

Friday 28th – The Holy Innocents

10am Said Mass and drop-in

Celebrant: Fr Graham

Saturday 29th – Thomas Becket

Sunday 30th - The First Sunday of Christmas

11.00 am The Parish Mass

*Taking
a
Break!*

Mthr Katy is taking some time off this week, from after the Mass on Christmas morning until next Sunday. She will still be contactable by email and phone but please only get in touch if it's an emergency!