



Our Lady of Lourdes and Saint Michael, Uxbridge

Third Sunday of Advent *Gaudete* (Year B), 17th December 2017

Osborn Road, Uxbridge, Middlesex UB8 1UE | Telephone: 01895 233193 | www.catholicchurchuxbridge.org.uk

Parish Diary

Saturday 16th December

Advent FERIA

10am Teresa & Kieran O'Dea (RIP)

10.30am-11am Confessions

10.30am Brass-cleaning Team

2.30pm Altar Server Training

6.30pm Michael O'Hara (1st Ann)

Sunday 17th December

3rd Sunday of Advent (*Gaudete*)

8.30am Pro Populo

10.30am Marie Blaney (RIP)

3.45pm-4.45pm Holy Hour/Benediction

5pm Peter Craxton (RIP)

6.30pm **Parish Carol Service**

Monday 18th December

Advent FERIA

7.30am Candlelit Rorate Mass

(Wolfgang Kohlmayer, RIP)

5.45pm-6.30pm Confessions

Tuesday 19th December

Advent FERIA

9.30am Malone family & friends (RIP)

11am Geraldine Flynn (Funeral)

4pm **St Mary's School Carol Service**

Wednesday 20th December

Advent FERIA

9.30am Policarpo Goes (RIP)

with *St Mary's School*

followed by preparation of the church for

Christmas - help needed!

Thursday 21st December

Advent FERIA

NO MASS

Friday 22nd December

Advent FERIA

10.30am Rehearsal for Living Nativity

6.15pm-6.45pm Confessions

7pm Private intention

Saturday 23rd December

Advent FERIA

10am Geraldine Flynn (RIP)

10.30am-11am Confessions

NO EVENING MASS

Sunday 24th December

4th Sunday of Advent (Christmas Eve)

8.30am Geraldine Flynn (RIP)

10.30am Pro Populo

6pm **Vigil Mass for Christmas** with

Living Nativity (Pro Populo)

10.30pm **Carols**, leading into

11pm **Mass of Christmas Night**

Bible Sunday In Advent we reflect on the prophecies and promises throughout the Bible that prepare us for Christ's coming. This Sunday we will be focussing on the gift of Scripture; please bring along your Bible so that it can be blessed.

This Friday Please note the times for Mass and confessions have changed due to a funeral Fr Nicholas is attending at Our Lady of Willesden (his first parish). Mass will now be at 7pm, preceded by confessions (6.15pm-6.45pm). Apologies for any inconvenience caused.

Christmas Timetable Christmas falls on a Monday this year, meaning that Christmas Eve is also the Fourth Sunday of Advent! There is no Saturday evening Mass and the 8.30am and 10.30am Masses on 24th December fulfil the Sunday obligation, while Masses on Sunday evening and Monday morning are for Christmas! Full Christmas schedules are available, along with the CTU Christmas card. Please remember especially that the Christmas Vigil Mass is at 6pm and the 'Midnight' Mass this year starts at 11pm (with carols from 10.30pm) and ends around midnight. There will be two Masses on Christmas Day itself: 8.30am and 10.30am, both with carols.

Parish Carol Service takes place this Sunday (17th December) at **6.30pm**—why not come along to hear the Christmas story in Scripture and sing your favourite carols. A **Pop Up Choir** is being formed again and the final rehearsal is after the Sunday 10.30am Mass. All are welcome.

Candlelit 'Rorate' Mass On Monday (18th December) our morning Mass will be celebrated at the earlier time of **7.30am** and will be the annual 'Rorate' Mass, celebrated in candlelight. This beautiful Advent custom is popular in central and eastern Europe. The Mass starts in darkness but by the time it is over the sun is beginning to rise—a symbol of the light of Christ flooding into the world at Christmas. Coffee/tea and bacon rolls will be served afterwards!

St Mary's Carol Service takes place on Tuesday 19th December at 4pm, concluding with a visit from St Nicholas. All are welcome!

Preparation of the Church for Christmas Volunteers are asked to help us after the 9.30am school end of term Mass on Wednesday (20th December).

Living Nativity During the 6pm Christmas Vigil Mass our children (Year 3 and below) will form our tableau to illustrate the Gospel. Please come to the rehearsal on Friday (22nd December) at 10.30am to get one of the parts. However, if you cannot make the rehearsal, your child is still invited to come to the Mass dressed as a shepherd, an angel or even an animal (preferably one that is mentioned in the Christmas story!).

Funerals Sadly, a number of funerals have come for this time of year, including Geraldine Flynn, the daughter of Mary and Stephen, at 11am on Tuesday 19th December, Marian O’Riordan on Tuesday 2nd January at 11.30am and Albert Thomas on Wednesday 3rd January at 10.45am. May they all rest in peace!

Christmas Readers—if you are a reader and would like to do one of the readings at a Christmas Mass, please see Angela.

Advent Confessions There will be extra confessions just before Christmas and there will also be a Day of Reconciliation at St Thomas More, Eastcote on Saturday 16th December. Confessions will be available during exposition from 10am until 6pm (except 12.45-2.15pm).

News from the Home Visit Team Would you be willing to give a lift to elderly or housebound parishioners to and from church for a Christmas Mass? Also, do you know of a Catholic living in Uxbridge who is unable to come to church but would like a visit from a priest and/or our Home Visiting Team? If so, please see Angela.

Fair Trade Stall can be found at the back of the church, with a wide range of gifts and products available. Why not have a look?

Baptism Preparation for Infants next takes place at 10.45am on Saturday 27th January. Please see Angela for further details.

Brunel Catholic Society has stopped for the holidays and will restart on the 17th January 2018. The committee wish all students and their families a wonderful Christmas and hope your new year be full of great happiness, prosperity, peace and love! If you would like to get in contact over the season please email our chaplain, Mary.Kenefick@brunel.ac.uk. Alternatively, find us on a Facebook page – Brunel Catholic Society. Merry Christmas.

Westminster Year Book 2018 is now available, priced £4.50 each, with full information about the parishes, chaplaincies and other agencies of our diocese, and a liturgical calendar for 2018.

FoodBank at Christmas This Advent why not donate tinned or dried food and place it in the FoodBank box in the porch to help those in need?

We’re connected! Check us out on Instagram (@uxbridgecatholic), Facebook (@Uxbridge Catholic Parish) and Twitter (@UxbridgeCath), as well as our website (www.catholicchurchuxbridge.org.uk).

In case you are admitted to hospital please indicate on entering hospital that your details are to be passed to the RC Chaplain. Alternatively contact Fr Nicholas or Angela.

Pope’s Prayer Intention for December is ‘that the elderly, sustained by families and Christian communities, may apply their wisdom and experience to spreading the faith and forming the new generations.’

Sunday Collection:
Sunday 10th December

Loose Plate £465.84
Planned Giving £453.75

Total: £919.59 Many thanks!

This Week’s Sanctuary Lamp Intentions

Bl. Sacrament: Jeanne Freynet (RIP)

Our Lady: Delphine de Lima (RIP)

Point to Ponder: ‘God, the inspirer and author of both Testaments, wisely arranged that the New Testament be hidden in the Old and the Old be made manifest in the New. For, though Christ established the new covenant in His blood, still the books of the Old Testament with all their parts, caught up into the proclamation of the Gospel, acquire and show forth their full meaning in the New Testament and in turn shed light on it and explain it.’ (*Dei Verbum*, the document from Vatican II on Divine Revelation)

For Your Diary...looking ahead to 2018

Signing of Nursery Forms
16th & 23rd January, 4pm-6pm

Evening Tour of Diocesan Archive Monday 5th February

Mass of Healing for the Sick Saturday 10th February, 2pm

Marriage Preparation Course 24th February & 10th March



Parish Priest

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