

27th December 2020: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph (B)



CHRIST IN THE HUMAN FAMILY

God sets us the Holy Family of Nazareth as the model for all families. The family unit is the basic structure upon which human society is built. A Christian family life is a powerful witness to our world of God's love for us revealed in Christ.

The child grew, filled with wisdom.

MASS TIMES, INTENTIONS & FEAST DAYS

Sat 26	<i>First Mass of Sunday</i>
18:30	Intention of the Sweeney Lynch Family
Sun 27	<i>THE HOLY FAMILY of JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH (B)</i>
09.30	Esther Nowak RIP
11.00	Lesley Jane & Divine Mercy
Mon 28	<i>The Holy Innocents</i>
09.30	Carl & Christine Burrows RIP
Tue 29	<i>Saint Thomas of Canterbury</i>
09.30	Rita & Joseph Rajakariar RIP
Wed 30	
09.30	Wellbeing of Felicity Monoharan
Thu 31	
09.30	Sheldon Graham - Special Intention
Fri 01	<i>MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD</i>
11.00	Thanksgiving for Jean Baptist Assemien
Sat 02	Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen
09.30	People of the Parish
	<i>First Mass of Sunday</i>
18:30	The deceased of the Connolly & Lee Families
Sun 03	<i>SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY</i>
09.30	Thanksgiving for 2021 for the Assemien & N'Doman families
11.00	Judd Graham RIP

SECOND COLLECTIONS

This Week: Priest's Collection Next Week: Priest's Collection

OFFERTORY LAST WEEK

Gift-Aided: £135 Non Gift-Aided: £292
 Tap to Donate (GA): £30 Tap to Donate (Non GA): £5
 Standing Orders: £550

SECOND COLLECTION LAST WEEK (APOSTLESHIP OF THE SEA)

Gift-Aided: £70 Non Gift-Aided: £95
 Tap to Donate (GA): £30 Tap to Donate (Non GA): £0

MASS COUNT LAST WEEK

Saturday: 6:30 pm - 24 Sunday: 9.30 am - 41, 11 am - 37

WAYS YOU CAN DONATE

Gift Aid Tax payers, please sign up. We receive an extra 25p for every £1 you donate. Visit www.olspn.church for details.

Tap to Donate Please use the Card Payment Machine in Church Foyer or donate via our website: www.olspn.church

Standing Order A/c Name: **RCAS St. Philip Neri Sydenham**
 Sort Code: **60-21-12** A/c No: **37298445**

Cheques Payable to: **RCAS St. Philip Neri Sydenham**

Spiritual Thought

“The word became flesh and lived among us.”

This is the Christmas Gospel. Christmas is not simply the celebration of the birth of the baby Jesus, but the awesome mystery of the Incarnation of God. God pitched his tent among us and remains among us as a human being for ever.

The world did not know him. His own people, the leaders of the Jews did not accept him. We have accepted him and our vocation is to make his light shine for the whole world.

The collection at the Christmas Masses

Archbishop John recognises that with the various COVID restrictions, parishioners may not be able to attend Mass on Christmas Day, but may come during the Octave period and may want to give something to their priest in the traditional way.

Therefore, all of the collections (including electronic giving and standing orders) which are taken on each of the days within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord, and up to and including 6th January 2021, will constitute the annual personal Christmas offering of the faithful to their priest.

Thank you.

Christmas Flowers in the Church

It is the custom of this parish to donate money for the flowers and decorations of the Church at Christmas in memory of the 'Faithful Departed'.

The Mass on Sunday 31st January 2021 at 11.00am will be offered for them.

Please mark your envelope 'Christmas Flowers' – writing name (s) in block capitals. Thank you.

CONTACT POINTS

Treasurer	David Simpson sydenhamtreasurer@rcaos.org.uk
Secretary	Steve Pearce (9 am-12 noon, Mon-Fri) 0208 778 9460 or sydenham@rcaos.org.uk
Catholic Club	Margaret Doherty - 07930 889632
Hall Enquiries	Praetorium (Rita / Conor) - 01372 427651

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The Shepherds went in haste, and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in a manger.

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

FIRST READING – Genesis 15: 1-6; 21: 1-3

The word of the Lord was spoken to Abram in a vision, 'Have no fear, Abram, I am your shield; your reward will be very great.'

'My Lord,' Abram replied 'what do you intend to give me? I go childless...'. Then Abram said, 'See, you have given me no descendants; some man of my household will be my heir.' And then this word of the Lord was spoken to him, 'He shall not be your heir; your heir shall be of your own flesh and blood.' Then taking him outside he said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified.

The Lord dealt kindly with Sarah as he had said, and did what he had promised. So Sarah conceived and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, at the time God had promised. Abraham named the son born to him Isaac, the son to whom Sarah had given birth.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM - Psalm 104

**R. He, the Lord, is our God.
He remembers his covenant for ever.**

SECOND READING – Colossians 3: 12-21

You are God's chosen race, his saints; he loves you, and you should be clothed in sincere compassion, in kindness and humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with one another; forgive each other as soon as a quarrel begins. The Lord has forgiven you; now you must do the same. Over all these clothes, to keep them together and complete them, put on love. And may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts, because it is for this that you were called together as parts of one body. Always be thankful.

Let the message of Christ, in all its richness, find a home with you. Teach each other, and advise each other, in all wisdom. With gratitude in your hearts sing psalms and hymns and inspired songs to God; and never say or do anything except in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Wives, give way to your husbands, as you should in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and treat them with gentleness. Children, be obedient to your parents always, because that is what will please the Lord. Parents, never drive your children to resentment or you will make them feel frustrated.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

At various times in the past and in various different ways, God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; but in our own time, the last days he has spoken to us through his Son.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL – Luke 2: 22-40

When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord, – observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: Every first-born male must be consecrated to the Lord – and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.

Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel's comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the Law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God; and he said:

'Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace, just as you promised; because my eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared for all the nations to see, a light to enlighten the pagans and the glory of your people Israel.'

As the child's father and mother stood there wondering at the things that were being said about him, Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, 'You see this child: he is destined for the fall and for the rising of many in Israel, destined to be a sign that is rejected – and a sword will pierce your own soul too – so that the secret thoughts of many may be laid bare.'

There was a prophetess also, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was well on in years. Her days of girlhood over, she had been married for seven years before becoming a widow. She was now eighty-four years old and never left the Temple, serving God night and day with fasting and prayer. She came by just at that moment and began to praise God; and she spoke of the child to all who looked forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem.

When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God's favour was with him.

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.