

Fourth Sunday of Advent (A)
Is 7: 10-14; Ps 23; Rom 1: 1-7; Matt 1: 18-24

<p>Saturday 21st December 2019 5:30-6:15pm: Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions) 6:30pm: Sister Catherine Mulcahy RIP (Fr. David)</p>	<p>Sunday 22nd December 2019 8:30am: People of the Parish 10:30am: Deceased Family and Friends of Carlos and Sandra</p>
<p>Monday 23rd Dec. 2019 (Feria) 8:30am: Exposition 9:15am: Ina O'Connell RIP (Mick & Betty Murphy)</p>	<p>Christmas Eve Tuesday 24th December 2019 8:30am: Exposition 9:15am: Holy Souls 5:30pm: Christmas Carols 6pm: Vigil Mass: Private Intention 11:30pm: Christmas Carols Midnight: People of the Parish</p>
<p>The Nativity of the Lord Weds. 25th December 2019 8:30am: Richard Hanrahan RIP and Regina Bernard RIP 10:30am: John and Teresa Lynch RIP</p>	<p>St. Stephen, the First Martyr Thursday 26th December 2019 8:30am: Exposition 9:15am: Annette Staunton RIP (Murrell)</p>
<p>St. John, Apostle & Evangelist Friday 27th December 2019 8:30am: Exposition 9:15am: Pat Price (Francis)</p>	<p>The Holy Innocents Saturday 28th December 2019 10:00am: at Shalom Convent</p>
<p align="center">The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph (A) Ecclus 3: 3-7, 14-17; Ps 127; Col 3: 12-21; Matt 2: 13-15, 19-23</p>	
<p>Saturday 28th December 2019 5:30-6:15pm: Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions) 6:30pm: Deceased members of the McKie and Coligan Families</p>	<p>Sunday 29th December 2019 8:30am: Krystyna Helena Laszcz RIP 10:30am: People of the Parish</p>

Anniversaries of Death

Eloise Wright, Bert Yeo, Michael O'Keeffe, Joseph Birnie, Violet George, Joseph Nicholls, Margaret Whitfield, Marguerite O'Brian, Ivy Haley, Thomas Carragher, Francis Fisher, Jim Cassidy

"God-is-with-us"!

God sent his only Son on earth to be born of human stock. His name is Jesus and his mother's name is Mary. He is the Saviour of all the world, and through him we are called to real holiness of life.



St Mary of the Crays
 Catholic Church
 (part of the Roman Catholic
 Archdiocese of Southwark)

Holy Mass is celebrated
Monday – Friday at 9.15am
(followed by the Rosary)
(Exposition & Morning Prayer: 8.30am;
Novena to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal: Wednesday, after Mass)

Saturday 6:30pm
Sunday 8:30am and 10:30am
 (with children's liturgy of the Word of God)

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions)
(Advent Confessions before and after Saturday and Sunday Holy Mass)
Saturday 5:30pm-6:15pm
 and on request

Parish Office Telephone
07485 151159
 (office hours only)

Parish office
 8:30am-10:30am,
 Monday, Tuesday,
 Wednesday, Friday

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Parish Priest
 Fr. David Gummett
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Parish Secretary
 Vanessa Barker

Parish School
Head Teacher: Mrs. J. Sinclair
 St. Joseph's Primary School
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 01322 524 162
www.st-josephs.bexley.sch.uk

Parish Hall
 For enquiries and bookings contact
 01372 457651

Collection

Parish Collection: Gift Aid: £338.00; Cash: £186.00
Thank you for your continued generosity and financial support



It is Jesus' Birthday this week!

Pope Francis calls us all to look again at the Christmas Crib scene in Bethlehem 2020 years ago. He also reminds us how St. Francis of Assisi wanted to see that scene with his own eyes and so set up a manger next to an Altar in a cave in Greccio, central Italy in 1223 and so started the custom of Christmas Crib scenes throughout the world, as we have in Church today.

Do you have one at home as well, where you can gather family and children to pray and remember God loves you so much He became one of us? *Fr. David*

Advent Service of Reconciliation with Confessions

Monday 23rd December 2019 at 7pm: St. John Fisher, 48 Thanet Road, Bexley, DA5 1AP. **Please come.**

Decorating the Church for Christmas

We are looking for volunteers to decorate the Church for the Christmas season on **Monday 23rd December at 10:30am.** Everybody welcome. If you have any greenery such as holly, ivy or any other evergreens that we can use, please leave it in the Church reception area for the 21st December. Please could you bring scissors or secateurs and gardening gloves as these may be very useful. If you have any enquiries, please contact Liz Doherty (0208 311 2319) or Josie Coward (01322 272934). Thank you.

Support St. Mary's Parish by Using Our Repository/Church Shop

Our Repository is now fully stocked with: Christmas Cards, Diaries, Calendars, Candles, Nativity Sets, Prayer Cards, Prayer Books, Catholic Bibles and Rosaries. It is open throughout the week before and after Holy Mass.

Please note your purchases in notebook and deposit payment in Repository Money Box on the wall of the Reception Area.

Christmas Masses Schedule

Christmas Eve (Tues. 24th December)	5:30pm	Carols
	6:00pm	Vigil Mass (Children)
	11:30pm	Carols
	12:00am	Midnight Mass and Reception
Christmas Day (Wed. 25th December)	8:30am	Mass
	10:30am	Mass
St. Stephen's Day (Thurs. 26th December)	9:15am	Mass

Christmas Wishes to You All

We would like to wish you all and your families and friends a very Happy and Holy Christmas and a prosperous New Year 2020.

Christmas
BEGINS WITH
Christ

For all who are travelling this Christmas

For all Parishioners who will be away this Christmas, we wish you all safe travels and a Happy and Holy Christmas holiday and New Year 2020.

Thank You

I would like to thank everyone who has worked so hard to contribute to the Christmas celebrations including the Liturgy Group, those who decorated the Church, the Church cleaners, the Folk Group and the Altar Servers. **Fr. David.**

Christmas Posters

Take a Christmas Poster to share the Joy and Peace of the Christmas Season.

Christmas Crib Offerings

This year our Christmas Crib Offerings will be shared between: -

- ◆ **The Catholic Children's Society's Southwark Crisis Fund** which provides immediate support to those children and families in the Diocese who are most in need.
- ◆ **Friends of the Holy Land** for the poorest Christian families in and around Bethlehem, the West Bank, Gaza and Israel.

Gift Aiders can use one of the spare envelopes, but please add your Gift Aid number.

Christmas Offerings

Christmas offerings are by custom given for the support of Priests in parish ministries. Together with the Easter offering, it forms the main source of income of parish clergy in the Diocese who do not receive a wage throughout the year.

Social Club Opening Times for Christmas

The Club will be **closed** from **Monday 23rd December to Thursday 26th December.** It will be **open**, as usual, on **Friday 27th December (7.30-11.30pm), Saturday 28th December (7.30-11.30pm) and Sunday 29th December (12-4pm).** The Club will also be **open** on **New Year's Eve, Tuesday 31st December, from 7.30pm-12.30am.** Please join us to welcome in the New Year. Please bring your own nibbles.

100 Club

Please join our 100 Club. Please contact Jim Saunders. It is a great way of raising funds for the Parish and the Building Fund. Your continued support is very greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Please pray for the members of our Parish family who are sick:

Alan Wall, Anna Idahosa, Anne McGagh, Chandra Rawal, Chloe Mutimer, Clare Cooney, David Hull, Eva Austin, Felicity Dyer, Ivor Harper, Jackie Dawson, James Farrelly, Linda Rawlinson, Lucy Kiernan, Marie Rogerston, Maureen Sheldon, Pat Price, Renee Rae, Tommy Cox and Veronica Francis