



The Sunday Gospel through School on Wednesday

Pope Francis writes: "God is full of love: to him be praise and glory forever!" On this New Year's Day the Church celebrates the Solemnity of

Mary the Mother of God and the Gospel tells us of the shepherds hurrying to Bethlehem, seeing Mary and Joseph and the child lying in a manger, and then going back praising God for all they had heard and seen. We too praise God for the birth of Jesus, as we think of all the good things we have received from God. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit...Amen

#### Ministers

#### January 1st

##### Liturgy of the Word

6.00pm M.Jefferis

8.30am E.Davies

10.00am J.Sheard

##### Liturgy of the Eucharist

S.Dyson

S.Crewdson/M.Booth

C.Ward/K.McKune

#### January 8th

6.00pm L.Anderton

8.30am J.McMahon

10.00am Sunday School Family

S.Dyson

S.Crewdson/M.Booth

M.Kehoe/M.Farmer

#### Parish Diaries & Offertory Envelopes



The 2017 Pocket Parish Diary is now available at the back of the church. Please feel free to take one for use during the year. They contain information about the Liturgical Seasons, Holydays of Obligation, Festivals and Bank Holidays and the major Feasts and Saints' Days.



There are still a few boxes of **Offertory Envelopes** to be collected from the back of the church. If you have not already collected yours, please do so as they **begin THIS weekend** on Sunday 1st January

#### LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

First: £472.45 Second: £169.40 Thank You Shop closed until January 10th  
Christmas Offerings: £982.83 Thank You

#### IMPORTANT NOTICE CONCERNING CHEQUES

If you are making out a cheque please make it payable to  
DIOCESE OF LEEDS— SACRED HEART



## Sacred Heart & St. William

31 High Street  
Uppermill OL3 6HS  
web: [www.sacredheartparish.org.uk](http://www.sacredheartparish.org.uk)

## ***Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God January 1st 2017 Year A (Matthew's Gospel)***

#### Times of Masses & Intentions

Saturday Vigil 6.00pm Michael Reynolds and Family

Sunday 8.30am Angela Gorman

10.00am People of the Parish

#### Refreshments after Mass

Monday 10.00am In Thanksgiving (Bank Holiday)

Tuesday 9.30am George Sparkes

#### 8.00pm Taizé Prayer group

Wednesday 12.00 noon November Dead List

Thursday 9.30am Intentions of the Grabowski Family

Friday 10.30am **Gospel Reflection Presbytery**  
12.00 noon Sr Patricia Carey (First Friday)

Saturday 10.00am Yorkshire Brethren

Vigil 6.00pm Honorah Kenyon

Sunday 8.30am Mary Howell

10.00am People of the Parish

#### Sunday School

**Confessions: After the 10.00am Mass on Saturday and on request**

**Exposition: 40 minutes before Mass each weekday**

**When there is A Service of the Word & Holy Communion there is NO Exposition**

#### Telephone Contact Details:

Parish Priest: Fr Bernard Bickers Tel: 01457 872603

Permanent Deacon: Revd Peter Rudd Tel: 01457 876559

Safeguarding Officers: Mrs Tessa Spalding Tel: 01457 873515

Mrs Michelle Moore Tel: 01457 829895



### Mary the Mother of God

This Year the Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God falls on Sunday 1st January and we are invited to dedicate ourselves, our families, our parish and indeed all people to her intercession throughout the coming year. This weekend is an opportunity to look back over the past 12 months with a sense of gratitude for the blessings we have received, the joys we have experienced and the strength we have been granted to overcome disappointment and pain. It is also an opportunity to look forward to the coming year with a sense of real hope and confidence that comes from our believing that the birth of Jesus really does mean that God is with us!



### Christmas 2016

#### **CRIB OFFERINGS:**

This year, at the request of Bishop Marcus, our parish will be donating crib offerings to **Friends of the Holy Land**. Every penny will help the poorest Christian families, especially in and around Bethlehem, the West Bank, Gaza and Israel, with education, employment, health and housing initiatives. Friends of the Holy Land is apolitical and ecumenical.

"Dear Lord Jesus, thank you for Christmas, for coming into our world to fill our lives with your joy, peace and love. Help us to welcome you with love and to share your love with all, especially those who are most in need, near and far."

### One Christmas Card for All

**More than £300.00** has already been donated through the One Card for All. All the money collected will be used to buy World Gifts.

Please see the booklets at the back of the church for more information. Also a **cheque for £200.00** was sent to CAFOD in response to the urgent appeal for the people of Yemen who are suffering so terribly at this time. Thank You



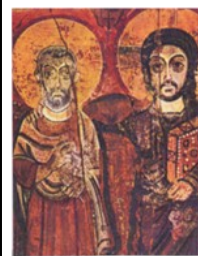
Thank you to everyone who in so many different ways made the celebration of Christmas such a wonderful occasion. Renewed thanks to our young families for preparing the crib that has brightened up the porch. Numerically we don't need three Christmas Masses but each has its own unique atmosphere and hopefully all

who were present received many graces. At the beginning of this New Year of 2017 we, as a parish, thank everyone who has contributed to the life of the parish so generously over the past 12 months, spiritually, liturgically, socially, financially and in many other ways.

On a personal note my very sincere thanks for all the greetings, cards, gifts and Christmas Offerings. Your love, friendship, generosity and continued support are very greatly appreciated. It is both a privilege and a great pleasure to be parish priest here at the Sacred Heart & St William. Fr Bernard



Next Friday, 6th January, there will be the opportunity to join in a Gospel Reflection on the Gospel for the Following Sunday at 10.15 for 10.30am in the Parish Room in the Presbytery.



### Opportunities to deepen prayer in 2017

#### **Week of Accompanied Prayer in the Parish**

Monday February 6th—Friday 10th

#### **Individually Guided Retreat—Old Colwyn Residential**

Sunday 7th May—Friday 12th

Please see the back of church for more information and for booking forms etc.

### Thought for the week



Comfort and console us, strengthen us in hope, and give us the wisdom and courage to work tirelessly for a world where true peace and love reign among nations and in the hearts of all. Pope Francis