



The Sunday Gospel through School on Wednesday



Pope Francis writes: "We must learn from Mary and we must imitate her unconditional readiness to receive Christ in her life. Let the model of

Mary be reflected in our lives." Mary already knew that the Holy Spirit had come upon her, but Joseph did not know, all he knew was that he was not the father of the child Mary was carrying. But when he found out in a dream that Mary had not only **not** been unfaithful, but utterly faithful to God, he took her as his wife. Can we have the faith of Mary and Joseph?

Ministers

December 18th

Liturgy of the Word

6.00pm L.Anderton
8.30am M.Crewdson
10.00am C.Street-Brown

Liturgy of the Eucharist

S,Dyson
S.Crewdson/M.Booth
M.Kehoe/M.Farmer

Christmas Eve & Christmas Day

8.00pm
8.30am
10.00am

Readers and Eucharistic Ministers are asked to let Fr Bernard know which Mass they will be attending this Christmas



Parish Diaries

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



Christmas Flowers

If you would like to make a donation towards the flowers this Christmas please see the notice at the back of the church.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

First: £540.14 Second: £154.12 Shop: £242.77 Thank You
In Memory of Imelda Nichols £160.00 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

4th Sunday of Advent

December 18th 2016 Year A (Matthew's Gospel)

Times of Masses & Intentions

Saturday Vigil 6.00pm
Sunday 8.30am
10.00am

Anne Jones
People of the Parish
Ann McCarthy

Refreshments after Mass

Fr Michael Krychiewskyj
Kevin Gibson

Taizé Prayer group this week

Monica Wilde

Service of Reconciliation

Stephen Jones

Preparing Church for Christmas

Special Intention
Vera Ackerley

Carols

Parishioners' Intentions
People of the Parish
Families of the Parish

Monday 9.30am
Tuesday 9.30am
Wednesday 12.00 noon

7.30pm
Thursday 9.30am
10.00am

Friday 9.30am
Saturday 10.00am

**Christmas Eve 7.30pm
8.00pm**

**Christmas Day 8.30am
10.00am**

**Confessions: After the 10.00am Mass on Saturday and on request
Exposition: 40 minutes before Mass each weekday**

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



Music for Christmas

There will be another practice FOR THOSE WISHING TO HELP WITH THE MUSIC at the 8.00pm MASS CHRISTMAS EVE, this Sunday, December 18th, Parish Centre after the 10.00am Mass Thank you, Chris Johnson.



One Christmas Card for All

More than £100.00 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.



Preparing the Church for Christmas

If you are able to spend a little time **after the 10.00am Mass on THURSDAY 22nd December** to polish the sacred vessels and prepare the rest of the church for the great Celebration of Christmas, it will be greatly appreciated. Tea, Coffee and Mince Pies supplied!"



The Charity Shop

The Charity shop will now be **closed until Tuesday January 10th**. Our thanks to all who work in the shop throughout the year, raising much needed funds for the Parish. May they all have a very well earned rest, and our very best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.



Offertory Envelopes 2017

Please continue to collect the Offertory Envelopes for 2017. If anyone who does not currently have a set of offertory envelopes and would like to take one, would they please see Ernie or Fr Bernard. Gift Aid forms are also available. Thank You.



Stamps for Charity

Please remember to collect and bring to church your postage stamps from Christmas mail this year. They really do make a difference.

Advent Service of Reconciliation

This Wednesday 21st December 7.30pm



Amidst all the other preparations and the busyness of this time of the year we are invited to find the time to come to this Celebration of God's loving forgiveness:

To listen to the Scriptures which tell us of God's unconditional and eternal love for each one of us.

To look into our lives, thanking God for all the blessings we have received and asking for forgiveness for the times we have failed.

To be reconciled to God and to one another.

Christmas 2016

Many of us will have the great joy of celebrating Christmas next weekend.

Already the crib outside the church has attracted the attention of many people and the

story of Jesus has been retold. We will have

opportunities over the Christmas season to look into the crib in front of the altar and to share our own thoughts

and prayers with the Lord. As we do so we will be aware that in many parts of the world families will NOT be free to visit a church or other

places of worship, but rather will be seeking out somewhere they can go for safety. We ask the Prince of Peace to bring peace into our world.

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 and the patrons include Cardinal Nichols and Archbishop Welby.



Thought for the week

The importance of God coming into our world as a fragile baby can never be exhausted. His birth opens the way to peace and goodwill for all. Fr Sean Keegan