



From Sunday's Gospel

Every year Joseph and Mary went to Jerusalem to celebrate the feast of the Passover. When Jesus was twelve he went with them. After the feast, on the way home, Mary and Joseph realised that Jesus was missing from the group. So they went back to Jerusalem to look for him. After three days, they found Jesus in the Temple, listening to the teachers and asking them questions. The teachers were amazed at his intelligence. His parents were overcome when they found him and told him how worried they had been. "Why were you looking

for me?" asked Jesus. "Did you not know that I would be in my Father's house?"

Then Jesus went back home to Nazareth and lived in obedience to his parents.

He grew in wisdom and grew in favour with God and the people.

From the Gospel of Sunday 26th December 2021 Luke 2: 41-52



Pope Francis writes, "My dear young people, "Wisdom is the grace of being able to see things through the eyes of God."

Today's word is **Wisdom**. In which ways did Jesus grow when he went back to Nazareth

with his parents? In this Sunday's Gospel we discover that, from a very young age, Jesus was filled with wisdom because of his closeness to God the Father. Our families can also be filled with wisdom, if we stay close to God. Pope Francis also writes, "We can ask the Lord to grant us the gift of wisdom." Wisdom is a gift from God and helps us to see things more clearly and make the right choices in life. It's about using knowledge well – having good judgement. Each of us could choose a way in which we will try to grow in God's wisdom throughout the coming year. ***Dear Lord Jesus, please help us to grow in wisdom and to live in obedience to you.***

Offertory Collections and Shop Income October 10th

First Collection: £406.20 Second: £102.40 Shop: £241.00 Thank You

Sing for Pleasure Choir £175.00 Thank You



Sacred Heart & St William

31 High Street

Uppermill OL3 6HS

www.sacredheartparish.org.uk

Please visit the website above.

Feast of the Holy Family

December 26th 2021 (Luke's Gospel)

The intentions are as follows:

Saturday:	NO VIGIL MASS
Sunday	9.00am People of the Parish (People welcome to attend this Mass)
	10.30am Anne Hall
Monday:	10.00am The McKnight Family (Bank Holiday)
Tuesday:	10.00am Patricia Grogan
Wednesday:	12.00pm Pamela Daniels
Thursday:	9.30am Jo & Jack Wiggett
Friday	9.30am Special intention (DHS)
Saturday	10.00am Joseph & Clara Casey 6.00pm Sr Margaret Mary Gormally
Sunday:	9.00am Tony & Doreen Bickers (People welcome to attend this Mass) 10.30am People of the Parish

**Confessions after the Saturday 10.00am Mass and by appointment
Exposition 40 minutes before each weekday Mass**

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



Feast of the Holy Family

This year the Feast of the Holy Family falls on the day after Christmas Day when the Church invites us to reflect on the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. It is an opportunity for us to thank God for our families, large or small, living or dead. The following is a prayer from **Thoughts & Prayers at Christmas**—The Prayer Trust.

Lord, I ask you to bestow your blessing on my family this Christmas. Bless each and every one of them, those near, those I don't see often, and those far away. Keep them in your loving care and protect them from harm. Bless those who have died and whom we miss so much. May they all know the wonder of your love, revealed to us tenderly in a new born child. Amen



Friends of the Holy Land

Bishop Marcus has asked that the Crib Offerings this year be once again sent to the Friends of the Holy Land to enable them to give hope and practical support to the most vulnerable Christians in and around Bethlehem. There is a box by the crib where donations can be put. Thank You.



Thanks to those who have signed the card. There is still time to sign the One Christmas Card for all and leave any offerings for CAFOD in the box provided.

2022 Parish Diaries

These are available for collection at the back of the Church. They are pocket size and have all the, Liturgical Seasons, Holy Days Solemnities, Feasts and Memorials throughout the year. Please feel free to take one home.



Thanks to the kind offices of Ernie, next year's **Offertory Envelopes** are now available for collection at the back of the church. Please collect them as soon as possible because they begin the first weekend of January.



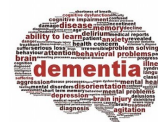
Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God

This year New Year's Day falls on a Saturday and the Church invites us to begin the New Year by celebrating the Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God. With it being a Saturday Mass will be at 10.00am. At the turn of every New Year we are invited to look **back** and thank God for the blessings we have received during the past year, and to look **forward** to 2022 with confidence. But whether we look backwards or forwards, we can only live in the **present**, and the **present** is God's **gift** to us.



To all who came to the church after the 10.00am Mass on Thursday to get the church ready for Christmas and to Brenda who decorated the window sills and arranged the flowers. May we all enjoy a peaceful, safe and happy Christmas Day and Season. And as we come the end of another year which has been greatly disrupted by the Covid-19 pandemic, let us pray for each other that we will keep safe, and soon return to life without restrictions.

Brief Reflection for the families and carers of people with Dementia



At the end of Matthew's Gospel Jesus promised to be with us until the end of time, and those who look after people with dementia or visit them in care homes, put Jesus' words into practice. You see through loving eyes how dementia can turn a loved one into a stranger, how it can strip away memory, intelligence and personality. You truly put the love of Christ into action, and we know that love endures, if not in words then in simple actions, a hug, a gentle clasp of hands, a smile, a warm embrace can communicate love more eloquently than words. Let us never lose hope despite all the trials and hardships. On this Feast of the Holy Family let us hang on to Jesus' promise 'I am with you always, yes to the end of time.' And let us pray for one another, for the love and faith we need at this time.