

From Sunday's Gospel

This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was engaged to a man called Joseph; but before they could be married she became pregnant by the power of the Holy Spirit. Joseph was a good man and did not want to embarrass Mary so he planned to break the engagement privately. But the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because it is by the power of the Holy Spirit that she is going to have a son and you must call him Jesus." When Joseph woke up he did as the angel told him and took Mary home as his wife."



The Sunday Gospel through School on Wednesday

St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross says,
"Mary is the first and most perfect model
of Jesus." And St Louis de Montfort says,
"We go to Mary as a way leading to the

goal we seek—Jesus, her Son." Today's word is **Mary**. Mary accepted God's will with a thankful heart, she is the perfect example for all people, someone full of thoughtfulness, kindness and joy. How can we show thoughtfulness and kindness and bring joy to people in these last few days of Advent? We can start by asking Mary to help us, "Hail Mary full of grace, the Lord is with thee..."

Ministers

December 22nd

Liturgy of the Word

6.00pm P.Redshaw
8.30am C.Ivatts
10.00am S.Rudd

Liturgy of the Eucharist

T.Spalding/C.Hall
S.Crewdson/M.Booth
K.McKune/M.Farmer

Decembers 29th

6.00pm C.Hall
8.30am E.Davies
10.00am J.Sheard

S.Dyson/T.Spalding
S.Crewdson/M.Booth
M.Kehoe/G.Leggat

New Rotas at the back of the church. New Readers and changes to Ministers.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

First: £438.40 Second: £193.02 Shop: £226.19 Thank You

Cheques please to DIOCESE OF LEEDS— SACRED HEART



Sacred Heart & St William

31 High Street

Uppermill OL3 6HS

Web: www.sacredheartparish.org.uk

The Fourth Sunday of Advent December 22nd 2019 (Matthew's Gospel)

Times of Masses & Intentions

Saturday Vigil	6.00pm	Anne Jones & Monica Wilde
Sunday	8.30am	People of the Parish
	10.00am	Leslie Osbaldeston

Refreshments & Making Porch Nativity Scene after Mass—All Welcome

Monday	9.30am	Paul Brierley (Recovery)
Tuesday	9.30am	November Dead List
Christmas Eve	7.30pm	Carols and Readings
	8.00pm	Partington & McGowan Families
Christmas Day	8.30am	People of the Parish
	10.00am	Families of the Parish
Boxing Day	10.00am	Gertrude Gedzielewska
Friday	9.30am	Anne Hall
Saturday	10.00am	Deacon Tom Marshall
Saturday Vigil	6.00pm	Tara Dyson
Sunday	8.30am	Pamela Daniels
	10.00am	People of the Parish

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

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



Christmas 2019

The crib outside the church has once again drawn adults to tell the story of Christmas. The crib in front of the altar draws each one of us into the mystery of God's love for the whole of creation, the highlight of which was the creation of man and woman. Pope Francis has this year written an Apostolic Letter on the significance of the Creche/Crib— "Coming into this world, the Son of God was laid in the place where animals feed. Hay became the first bed of the One who would reveal Himself as 'the bread come down from heaven'." The nativity scene "evokes a number of the mysteries of Jesus' life and brings them close to our own daily lives", writes the Pope. The story we will hear proclaimed in God's word, in carols and in prayers is the same as last Christmas, it is we who have changed. We bring all of last year's experiences and our hopes for 2020 and leave them with the Holy Family for their blessing.



One Christmas Card for All

Save time and money for stamps etc by signing our Large Christmas Card, donating what you save in the wooden CAFOD Box, for World Gifts. If you are still thinking of Christmas gifts why not take a World Gifts catalogue which are available at the back of the church.



Offertory Envelopes 2020

Our thanks as a parish to Ernie for getting next years Offertory Envelopes ready for collection. They are at the back of the church arranged in alphabetical order. Please collect your set for use in January. If you currently do not have a set please see Ernie or Fr Bernard. Gift Aid forms are available for tax payers adding a further 25% to your gift.



Parish Diaries 2020

The 2020 Pocket Diaries are now available for collection 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, and major Feasts and Saints Days.



Crib Offerings this year

With encouragement from Bishop Marcus, this parish will be donating crib offerings to the **Friends of the Holy Land**. Every penny given will help the poorest Christian families, especially in and around Bethlehem, the West Bank, Gaza and Israel, with education, employment, health and housing costs. FHL is non-political and ecumenical. For further information, please see their website www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk and keep our brothers and sisters in the Holy Land in your prayers at this time. Cheques from any resulting collections are payable to 'Friends of the Holy Land' and should be sent to: Friends of the Holy Land, Farmer Ward Road, Kenilworth, CV8 2DH.

CHRISTMAS MORNING MASS FROM SAINT JOSEPH'S, BRADFORD – BBC1



The Mass of Christmas Day from Saint Joseph's, Bradford will be broadcast live on BBC1. The Mass begins at 10.00am. Please advertise this in your Parish Newsletters so that parishioners who are unable to attend Mass can prayerfully participate via the broadcast. + Marcus



The Charity Shop will be closed until **Tuesday 7th January 2020**. Our sincere thanks as a parish to all who so faithfully give their time in different ways throughout the year raising much needed funds and providing a very enjoyable place for people to meet.



Postage Stamps

Please save your postage stamps from the Christmas mail and leave them at the back of the church for charity. Thank You.



Primary Headteacher Vacancy

The Governors of St Peter's Catholic Primary School, Stalybridge are seeking a new Heateacher. Closing date: 20.01.20 Further details on the school website: stpetersstalybridge.co.uk or in The Catholic Teachers Gazette: www.e-ctg.com



"Being a believer is to experience, nourish and appreciate the beauty of our true humanity, no matter what form it takes."
Fr Daniel O'Leary, a priest of the diocese who died last January.