

The Catholic Parishes of Borehamwood
St Teresa of the Child Jesus 291 Shenley Road, WD6 1TG
SS John Fisher & Thomas More 28 Rossington Ave,
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@borehamwoodp



catholic parishes of borehamwood



Year A : Christmas & New Year Double edition
22nd December 2019

Fr. Dominic McKenna Parish Priest Tel: 020 8953 1294
 Fr. Antonio Pineda Assistant Priest Tel: 020 8931 4124
 Sue Partington Parish Administrator Tel: 020 8953 1294
 Monday to Thursday: 9.30am—4.30pm.suepartington@rcdow.org.uk

Both churches are monitored by CCTV cameras 24 hours a day. Live streaming of all services takes place at St Teresa's and can be viewed at www.churchservices.tv/borehamwood or through the link on our website

FIRE SAFETY NOTICE: *If anyone has difficulty in hearing, walking or anything else that may slow down safe exit in the event of a fire, please let us know before the service starts, so that we can arrange for assistance for you.*

Saturday 21st December	Vigil: 4th Sunday	6pm (St T)	Jason O'Sullivan RIP
Sunday 22nd December	4th Sunday Of Advent	8.30am (SSJFTM) 10am (St T) Noon (SSJFTM)	Holy Souls Jason O'Sullivan RIP Thanksgiving: Gilda Filler & Family
Monday 23rd December	Advent Feria	9.15am (St T)	Mary Linnane RIP
Tuesday 24th December	Vigil & Nativity Vigil Carols Midnight Mass	5pm (St T) 8pm (St T) 11.30-12pm (SSJFTM) Midnight (SSJFTM)	Children of the Parishes Ted Mansfield RIP All Parishioners
Wednes. 25th December	Nativity of the Lord	10am (St T) Noon (SSJFTM)	All deceased Parishioners All deceased Priests of the Parishes
Thursday 26th December	St Stephen	Noon (St T)	Mary Linnane RIP
Friday 27th December	St John	9.15am (St T)	Rita McKellen RIP
Saturday 28th December	Vigil: Holy Family	6pm (St T)	Evelyn Doegah RIP (6th Ann)
Sunday 29th December	Feast of the Holy Family	8.30am (SSJFTM) 10am (St T) Noon (SSJFTM)	Philomena Fitzpatrick RIP Dot & Ollie Quinn RIP (Ann) Thanksgiving: Bertram Tapsee
Monday 30th December	6th day in Christmas Octave	9.15am (St T)	Dot Quinn RIP
Tuesday 31st December	7th day in Christmas Octave Vigil: Mary, the Holy Mother of God	9.15am (St T) 9.30pm	Jack & Nonie McCarthy RIP Bernie & Brendan Cheevers & Meave Kelly (Int)
Wednes. 1st January	Mary, the Holy Mother of God	Noon (St T)	Peggy Crossan RIP (3rd Ann)
Thursday 2nd January	Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen	9.15am (St T)	Mary McNamara RIP
Friday 3rd January	Christmas Feria	9.15am (St T)	Lilly Pinto RIP
Saturday 4th January	Vigil: Epiphany	6pm (St T)	Vanni "John" Carloni RIP & Mara Bertini RIP

Liturgy of the Word: 22nd December (Mass Book page 90)

Entrance Antiphon: *Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.*

Responsorial Psalm: *let the Lord enter! He is the king of glory.*

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia! The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel, a name which means "God-is-with- us" Alleluia!*

Next week's readings: *Eccles. 3:2-6,12-14, Psalm 127:1-5 resp.cf v1, Colossians 3:12-21, Matthew 2:13-15,19-23*

Liturgy of the Word: 29th December (Mass Book page 106)

Entrance Antiphon: *The shepherds went in haste, and found Mary and Joseph and the infant lying in a manger.*

Responsorial Psalm: *O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways!*

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia! May the peace of Christ reign in your hearts; let the message of Christ find a home with you. Alleluia!*

Next week's readings: *Isaiah 60:1-6, Psalm 71:1-2,7-8,10-13,resp.cf v11,Ephesians 3:2-3,5-6,Matthew 2:1-12*

Fr Dominic writes: *The Gospel this week focuses on the forgotten person of the Nativity, St. Joseph. Yet Joseph is important. The background of the reading might seem a little bewildering to us with all the talk of engagement, betrothal and divorce. It was a different cultural world from ours. Evidently, in those days people married in stages. The **first stage** was the engagement. This happened when the boy and girl were very young and it was done by their families. In those days, marriage was too important to be left to the vagaries of the human heart. The parents made the engagement. The **second stage** was the betrothal. Here is where the couple accepted and ratified the engagement their parents had made. They could leave before the betrothal but to separate after the betrothal required a formal legal procedure to procure a divorce. A year after the betrothal came the **third stage**, the solemn marriage. Joseph and Mary were at the middle stage where Joseph is told in a dream not to fear taking Mary as his wife. We see Joseph as a man of commitment. He truly loved Mary and he would not subject her to the demeaning public divorce process and was ready to separate quietly. He was reassured, however, by God's word and never looked back. He was committed to Mary and Joseph. We are known by our commitments. It has been said that our character is revealed not by the number of options we leave open but by the commitments we embrace. Joseph could have walked away from his commitment to Mary and Joseph, even after the dream, but he didn't. Christmas is a good time to renew our commitments to our families, our vocation, our work and our Church. **Maturity is indeed defined by the commitments we keep even when it is not easy, just like Joseph.***

Christmas Raffle - the first prize was won by ticket no: 831 in the name of "Helen", unfortunately the telephone number is incomplete on the ticket stub. Please call the Parish Office to claim your prize. Thank you to all who bought a ticket, we made a net profit of £425.

 **2020 Confirmation Programme** - Next meeting for candidates **Tuesday 14th January 6.30pm St Teresa's Parish Centre.**

Finances 15th December 2019: St T Plate £524.91 Envelopes £701.00 Standing Orders £614, £1839.91 in total. **SSJFTM:** Plate £314.42 Envelopes £127.50 Standing Orders £141, £ 582.92 in total 

 **2020 First Holy Communion Programme - Following from FIRST RECONCILIATIONS this coming week,** the programme takes a break now until after Christmas, with the next Children's session being **9th January 6.15-7.30pm St Teresa's School**

Caritas Christmas Food Stall. After the 10am Mass on Sunday 22nd December we will be holding a free Christmas Food Stall in the Parish organised by the Caritas Food Collective. All the food will be provided by The Felix Project, who rescue perfectly good food that would have gone to waste and make sure it goes to a good home. Please help yourself to the free food to make sure we are all doing our bit to tackle food waste this Christmas. The Caritas Food Collective are a new project by Caritas Westminster working to ensure everyone gets enough to eat and no food goes to waste, to find out more visit www.caritasfoodcollective.org.uk or call 020 7931 6077. 

Protecting your privacy: Any personal details that you provide to this parish, (name, address, email, telephone number etc.) will be held on file & stored on the parish computer securely. If applicable, your details will also be entered into the appropriate Sacramental Register. For Volunteers groups, Readers, Eucharistic Ministers etc., your details will be shared with other group members in this parish to enable you to arrange cover etc. If you do not wish your details to be shared, please let the Parish Office know **You can read our full** 

 Caritas Westminster is recruiting at least one Representative for Social Outreach from each parish to help communication between the Parish and Caritas to support and grow charitable activities. They will help to display posters and flyers, speak in Masses, learn about new tools and models for social action and share best practice between parishes. If you would like to become a Caritas Representative, please speak to Fr Dominic

 **Contingency Fund Collection:** Sunday 29th will be the last Contingency Fund Collection of the year. With the weather getting colder, your contributions to this fund mean that we can get any unexpected repairs made good in a timely manner, which helps maintain the fabric of the buildings.

Baptism: . We welcome **Karmiel who is being baptised this weekend.** Our baptisms are held individually on a Saturday afternoon with a Rite of Welcome the week before at your usual Mass. .If you would like to have your child baptised, please complete a baptism form & hand in to the Parish Office, or post in the post boxes. You will also need to complete a Baptism Preparation Course. **Next Course is 11th January 4pm-5pm St. Teresa's Church.** 

 **SVP NEWS :** The SVP is an international Christian voluntary organisation. If you have 1hr to spare every other week to visit those who would really welcome your company, contact us at SVPBorehamwood@gmail.com, or on 07479847130.

If you would like an electronic or large print version of this newsletter, please call us on 0208 953 1294, or email : suepartington@rcdow.org.uk