

The Catholic Parishes of Borehamwood
 St Teresa of the Child Jesus 291 Shenley Road, WD6 1TG
 SS John Fisher & Thomas More 28 Rossington Ave, WD6 4LA
borehamwood@rcdow.org.uk www.catholicparishesofborehamwood.org

The Catholic Parish of Carpenters Park & South Oxhey
 St Joseph's Church, Oxhey Drove Watford WD19 7SW
carpenterspark@rcdow.org.uk www.carpenterspark.org.uk



1st Sunday of Advent: (Year B) 29th November 2020

Fr. Dominic McKenna Parish Priest (based at St Teresa's) Tel: 020 8953 1294
 Sue Partington Parish Admin (based at St Teresa's) Tel: 020 8953 1294
Monday to Thursday: 9.30am—4.30pm. suepartington@rcdow.org.uk
 Fr John Warnaby Asst Priest (based at St Joseph's) Tel: 0202 428 0088
 Jackie Faria Parish Admin (based at St Joseph's) Tel: 0202 428 0088

St Teresa's church is 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.

All masses and services are shown live via our website on the "Live Streaming" page. They are also recorded and kept for a month so if you miss a live service, you can still watch it later.

Saturday 28th November	Vigil: 1st Sunday of Advent	6pm	Florrie D'Arcy RIP (Ann)
Sunday 29th November	1st Sunday of Advent	10am	Fergus McGrath RIP (Ann) & Brian Brennan RIP
Monday 30th November	St Andrew	9.15am	Mary Neeson RIP (Ann)
		6.30pm	Holy Hour
Tuesday 1st December	Advent feria	9.15am	Guss McCarthy RIP (Ann)
			Church open for private prayer 3pm-4pm
Wednes. 2nd December	Advent	9.15am	Holy Souls
			Church open for private prayer 3pm-4pm
Thursday 3rd December	St Francis Xavier	9.15am	Michael O'Leary RIP
		6.30pm	Holy Hour
Friday 4th December	Advent Feria	9.15am	Frank Atkinson RIP & Lenin Furtado RIP
Saturday 5th December	Vigil: 2nd Sunday of Advent	6pm	John O'Donnell RIP (Ann)

All intentions for 2020 now taken, don't forget to get in touch for special dates in 2021

Liturgy of the Word: 29th November 2020

Entrance Antiphon: *To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame Nor let my enemies exult over me; & let none who hope in you be put to shame.*
Responsorial Psalm: *God of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.*
Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia! Let us see, O Lord, your mercy & give us your saving help! Alleluia!*
Next week's readings: *Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11 Psalm 84:9-14 resp v8, 2 Peter 3:8-14, Mark 1:1-8*

Fr Dominic writes: "Stay Awake! Be Ready! You Don't Know the Hour When the Lord is Coming!"
Jesus says, "I am going to prepare a place for you, & after I have gone and prepared the place I shall return to take you with me, so that where I am you may be too." I was reminded of this very forcefully this week when I was called to bless a parishioner who had died very suddenly at home. All the family were there & in deep shock. As we said the prayers, I could sense a deep faith & a desire to make sense of the sudden passing. The Lord was waiting for one of his own.

Each Advent when I go into the school & talk about the period of preparation I am always amused when one or other child cannot restrain themselves & decides that Santa Claus is the real reason for the Season. But as adults do we really know that "Jesus is the reason for the Season". Very often we get caught up with the present buying & giving, the 'family gathering' & who goes where. This, of course, is much more difficult this year with the restrictions, the Tiers & the fear of infection & the very real danger of the vulnerable being exposed to infection or even death. This should be a time, not only, of personal preparation but also of our responsibility to the wider community. We must be ready to change, to become the adult Christians that we are. We are called to conversion & to be a real example to those in our family & in our wider community. In this crazy time it is easy to try & find ways around any restriction that may be imposed, sulk like children that we are being deprived of our chance to celebrate, but how many of us could live with ourselves if a vulnerable member of our family died because we wanted to party? This will be a different Advent, a different Christmas & we have a responsibility to try to make it as safe as possible as well as being as fruitful. We must stay awake, be aware of our duty to protect our poor and weak.



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 privacy policy on rcdow.org.uk/diocese/privacy-policy**



If you can help the Foodbank, here is a list of essentials that they always need. Jam, tinned carrots, tinned potatoes or packets of mash powder, cereals, tinned rice pudding, tinned fruit & tinned hot dogs, tinned meat pies, tinned custard or custard powder and crisps. Thank you for your continued amazing response - you never fail us!



Our restrictions for Baptisms depend on what tier we fall into. The lowest tier allows Baptisms with up to 6 people, the highest allows up to 6 all of whom must be in the same household. If you would like to get your child baptised as a starting point, please complete & submit the online baptism registration form, (found under sacraments on the website), we will then get in touch with you & arrange for you to see Fr Dominic and decide what you would like to do around dates.



Why not change the way you give your offertory?

In these strange times, we have a number of uncollected envelopes in the sacristy gathering dust and who knows when we will be able to have a full church again. Instead of giving by way of envelopes, have you thought about using a standing order instead? This is a much simpler way, it means you won't need that Sunday scrabble for cash, and once set up you can forget about it! All you need to do is fill in a form, return it to us & let us do the rest. Having less cash in the church is much safer for us all and as would seem to be the case, more hygienic. Contact us if you would like to make the change!!

Of course we have our new contactless machine at St Teresa's but there's only so much it can do - you have to be here in person! So please don't forget to use our **Virgin Money Giving**, which can be accessed via their site or by clicking on the button on our website.



Look at the "About us" page on the website & you will see "Donate" - its all there and please call us if you need help!



Thank you to everyone who got in touch to commit to buying a present for prisoners children this year. Due to the coronavirus, Pentonville prison only had a small list which we were able to fill using monetary donations that you had already sent. PACT, who work with Caritas & with whom we usually split the donations, have decided that this year they will just ask for book tokens instead. They would like you to buy a token to the value of £10 that can be sent in a Christmas Card to a Prisoner's child. Please can you get a national book token, not a token for a shop that sells books. These can be bought online at www.nationalbooktokens.com. They then need to be sent to



Operation Christmas Elf, PACT, 29 Peckham Road,, London SE5 8UA. If you would like to help, please allow enough time for the charity to receive the token & get the card to the child. You can also register your support on the PACT website; www.prisonadvice.org.uk



Confirmation 2021 :The deadlines have now been reached for these & you should have received an email confirming registration. The programme will start in 2021 and we will be in touch before Christmas to give further details on how the course will be run next year.



First Holy Communion 2021. You should have received an email advising you that the course will start in the new year. We will be in touch after 2nd December to let you know how we plan to carry out the teaching. In the meantime we have the "I belong" books in for you to collect either from St Teresa's school, if your child attends there, or from the parish office.

The Financials....

Monthly Standing Orders: £3,106 (£2,973 mthly last year)

Last weekend Offertory -

Envelopes £430

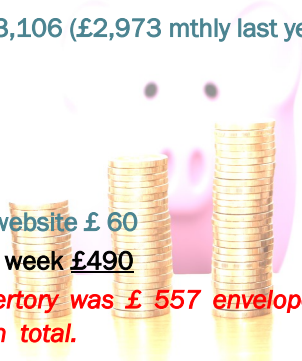
Loose Plate £

Contactless donations £ 0

Virgin Money Donations via website £ 60

Total weekly income for last week £490

This time last year our offertory was £ 557 envelopes & £675.52 plate, £1,232.52 in total.



As we come out of Lockdown we are pleased to advise that Public Masses can resume but subject to the same restrictions as before, namely you must follow the stringent guidelines, you must pre book your attendance, (if your name's not on the list, you're not coming in!) and face masks must be worn at all times, unless you are medically exempt. You may remember that we had a problem with people not booking & just turning up, please do book as we cannot exceed the limit of people allowed in the church under the regulations, no one wants to be the one to turn people away, which is also unfair on our dedicated Stewards. Weekday masses are less well attended and so you do not need to book. If you have problems, please call us & we can book from this end. Communion will be given at the end of Mass and in the hand only. All masses will continue to be at St Teresa's to allow everything to be Live Streamed. We have made some changes however; - **we will no longer have a Sunday Mid-day Mass - we will only have the 8.30am & 10am.** Also as we come out of lockdown, the Wednesday Morning Masses & Holy Hours will stop. **We are currently working on Christmas mass times and will communicate them to you next week.**



School Reception Admissions for 2021/22 open 2/11/20 until 15/1/21 - signing of the Certificates of Catholic Practice (CCP). Fr Dominic will be signing the certificates but you will not need to see him in person, please follow the following procedures: **Download** and print the Certificate of Catholic Practice from the website (look on Home page or News) Fill in the required information and then send the completed certificate to the Parish Office, with a copy of your child's baptismal certificate. Once you have submitted the certificate and supporting documentation, please allow three days to turn it around then you can pick up from the Parish Office. **Fr Dominic may ask you to call in to see him if he doesn't recall your family from Mass attendance.**



SVP NEWS : The SVP is an international Christian voluntary organisation that carries out voluntary work in your local area. If you are interested, contact us at SVPBorehamwood@gmail.com, or on 07479847130. They also have a number of pot plants to sell to help funding, if you are interested in purchasing some & helping this charity, please call the number above.