

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



17th December 2023: Third Sunday of Advent

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Monday to Thursday: 10am - 4.30pm. suepartington@rcdow.org.uk

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 SS John Fisher & Thomas More. These 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.

Services for the forthcoming week

Saturday 16th December	Vigil: 3rd Sunday	6pm (SSJFTM)	Jim Brennan RIP (Ann)
Sunday 17th December	3rd Sunday of Advent	8.30am (SSJFTM) 10am (St T) Noon (St T)	Laurence & Margaret Boland (Int) Mary Caffrey RIP (1st Ann) Fr Dominic McKenna RIP
Monday 18th December	Communion	9.15am (St T)	
Tuesday 19th December	Communion	9.15am (St T)	
Wednesday 20th Dec	No Mass		
Thursday 21st Dec	Communion	9.15am (St T)	
Friday 22nd December	Advent Feria	9.15am (St T)	Bridie Burke RIP (Bday)
Saturday 25th 23rd Dec	Vigil: 4th Sunday	6pm (SSJFTM)	Laurence & Margaret Boland (Int)

Liturgy of the Word - 17th December 2023

Entrance Antiphon: Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice.
Indeed, the Lord is near.

Responsorial Psalm: My soul rejoices in in my God.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia!
The spirit of the Lord has been given to me.
He has sent me to bring good news to the poor.
Alleluia!

Next Sunday Readings: 2 Samuel 7:1-5,8-12,14-16, Psalm 88:2-5,27,29 Rv2, Romans 16:25-27,
(4th Sunday of Advent) Luke 1:26-38

Fr Tony writes:

"Rejoice"

On this Third Sunday of the Advent season, the message is "Rejoice!" And so, this Sunday has come to be known as "Gaudete Sunday". In the past, Advent was a penitential season - there were four fast days during this period - and the celebrant of the liturgy wears vestments with the penitential colour of purple or violet. The atmosphere was deliberately sombre and penitential.

So, in the middle of it all, people needed to be reminded of what they were preparing for - the very joyful occasion of the birth of Jesus. In the midst of all the penance and fasting, this Sunday was conceived as a window of joy and brightness in anticipation of what was to come. On this day, too, the violet vestments in many churches give way to a less penitential colour, usually described as "rose".

And why should we be rejoicing? Because we are soon to remember that the Son of God, Jesus the Christ, came to live among us, and be one of us. Further, we rejoice because he the Lord brings such good news. The First Reading quotes, from the prophet Isaiah, a text which Jesus, in Luke's Gospel, will apply to himself: "The spirit of the Lord God is upon me because the Lord has anointed me".

We are to be joyful, we can be joyful, because the Lord is coming. The Lord chooses to share our lives, at every level. He is coming to share all that weighs us down, all that is a burden for us. He comes to do that willingly and gladly. It can be easy to say what we don't have, but we also need to be aware of the blessings that come our way, from time we need to count our blessings. In these days of Advent, let us take a moment to do that, and then we will see many reasons to be joyful.

Monthly Standing Orders: £3,885

Offertory for the last fortnight

Envelopes £ 635.

Loose Plate £ 384

Contactless donations £ 638

Total for weekends of **3rd & 10th December £1,657**

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 23-24 PROGRAMME



Our next meeting will be for Children and Parents and will be **at St Teresa's School 6.15pm**. Fr Shaun Lennard from Potters Bar will talk to you all about reconciliations. Then the children will make their First Reconciliations on Saturday 20th January at St Teresa's Church, we would ask the parents to consider making a reconciliation as well.



BAPTISMS: We welcome Ikeola who is being baptised this weekend here in Borehamwood.

Our baptisms take place on a Saturday afternoon, with a Rite of Welcome at your usual Mass the weekend before. They are individual ceremonies. If you would like your child to be baptised, please complete the registration form over the website (under Sacraments) . You will also need to complete a Baptism Preparation Course **.Please make sure your baptism date is arranged & confirmed by Sue before you invite guests!**



If you would prefer to give your offertory by contactless and you can't get to the machine, please use the QR code here which is for St Teresa's. .



St TERESA'S PRIMARY SCHOOL: APPLICATIONS for RECEPTION CLASS SEPTEMBER 2024

Date of birth for Primary Applications: 1st September 2019 – 31st August 2020

School start date: September 2024.

Applications open Wednesday 1st November 2023 .

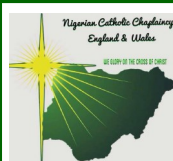
Application packs available from school office from Thursday 2nd November (between 9.30am–3pm) **Applications close 3pm prompt Monday 15th January 2024** School offers made 16th April 2024 For any enquiries please call the school office 020 8953 375.

Certificates of Catholic Practice: If you would like a certificate for school applications, please pick up one of the form requests in either church & return it to Sue with the relevant documentation. Certificates will not be issued without the request form and any accompanying documents if needed.

CONFIRMATION 23-24 PROGRAMME



Answers to sessions 1, 2, & 3, Saints & Sponsors details and Photo permission need to be received by **Monday 8th January please** . The next meeting is **Tuesday 16th January 6.30pm at St Teresa's CHURCH.**



THE NIGERIAN CATHOLIC CHAPLAINCY (Mill Hill Mass Centre) invites you to join them on the **4TH SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH @ 2pm. VENUE: Sacred Heart & Mary Immaculate (RC) Church, 2 Flower Lane, Mill Hill, London, NW7 2J**



Like to get the newsletter emailed direct to you? Just drop Sue an email and we will add you to the list. You can also view it on our website, **or we can provide a larger print version for you.**



Raffle Tickets raised £936.50 and as all the prizes were donated, this was a straight profit, so thank you very much to all who bought a ticket, big thanks to those who donated, those who sold the tickets and congratulations to all who won.



A date for your diary - our first social event of the 2024 will be our Burns Night Supper; complete with piper and plenty of haggis, neeps and tatties! Saturday 27th January—tickets on sale after Christmas but get the date booked!



Borehamwood SVP Act of Kindness Appeal.

Dear Parishioners, the phenomenal increase in requests from people in our community has skyrocketed to unprecedented heights. Our neighbours are being pushed to breaking point - with food prices continuing to soar and rent rises at their highest level since 2016. Families are feeling pressured and anxious. It is unbearable for those who can no longer afford to buy fuel, food, laundry products and toiletries. Borehamwood SVP want to do more of what we do best. We are calling on your kindness and requesting your help for donations of Laundry products, Cleaning products , Men's and women's toiletries. Donation boxes will be available at the back of both churches for the next two weeks. Please help us to ensure more people in our community feel the blessed joy of Christ this Christmas.

SVP Homeless "Vinnie Packs" distribution. "The SVP are distributing over 10,000 Vinnie Packs containing cold weather essentials to the homeless this winter. Please could you consider sponsoring packs at a suggested donation of £4.20 per pack? Donations can be sent to Vinnie Packs, PO Box 72264, London SW1P 9EZ with cheques made out to SVP or by bank transfer to Nat West sort code 60-60-04, account no. 4608 8237 .

Thank you so much for your support to both projects.

CHRISTMAS SERVICE CARDS in both churches; please do take one as some masses have changed from last year.

Rosary Group every Tuesday Morning after Mass/ Service of Communion. All welcome,

