

Mass Times at St. Josephs

Sat, 20th - 6.30p.m. Vigil Mass (*Robert Osborne RIP*)

Sun, 21st, 4th Sunday of Advent - 11.00a.m. Mass (*Oliver Terry RIP*)

Mon, 22nd - 9.30a.m. Mass

(*Deceased Members of the Congregation especially John Sone's Family*)

Weds, 24th, Christmas Eve - 9.30a.m. Mass (*Private Intention*)

11.00p.m. Carol Service and Midnight Mass

Thurs, 25th, Christmas Day - 11.00a.m. Mass

(*Patricia Catherine & Martin Flahive RIP*)

Fri, 26th - 11.00a.m. **St. Stephen's Day** Mass

Sat, 27th - 6.30p.m. Vigil Mass for the **Feast of the Holy Family**

Sun, 28th - 11.00a.m. Mass for the **Feast of the Holy Family**

Weds, 31st - 9.30a.m. Mass

Thurs, 1st January - 11.00a.m. Mass for the **Feast of Mary the Mother of God**

(*Frederick Seymour RIP*)

Fri, 2nd - 7.00p.m. Mass (*Theresa Mary Mitchell RIP*)

Sat, 3rd - 6.30p.m. Vigil Mass for the **Feast of the Epiphany**

Sun, 4th - 11.00a.m. Mass for the **Feast of the Epiphany** (*Mary Claire Tibbets RIP*)

Mass Times at Ss. Thomas

Sun, 21st, 4th Sunday of Advent - 9.00a.m. Mass (*People of the Parish*)

Sun, 21st 4th Sunday of Advent - 6.00p.m. Mass (*Special Intentions*)

Tues, 23rd - 10.00a.m. Mass (*Maitiu Breathnach RIP*)

Weds, 24th, Christmas Eve - 6.30p.m. Vigil Mass of Christmas for Families

(*Kevin Kieran RIP*)

Thurs, 25th, Christmas Day - 9.00a.m. Mass (*Pat & Gerry Billington RIP*)

Sat, 27th - 10.30a.m. Mass for the **Feast of John the Apostle**

(*Stuart & Maureen's Intentions*)

Sun, 28th - 9.00a.m. Mass for the **Feast of the Holy Family**

Sun, 28th - 6.00p.m. Mass for the **Feast of the Holy Family**

(*Richard & Elizabeth Knapp, Junior & Family RIP*)

Mon, 29th - 10.00a.m. Mass of the

Feast of St. Thomas of Canterbury (*Dora Hartnell RIP*)

Tues, 30th - 10.00a.m. Mass

Sat, 3rd January - 10.30a.m. Mass of the **Most Holy Name of Jesus**

(*Sidney Harmer RIP*)

Sun, 4th - 9.00a.m. Mass for the **Feast of the Epiphany**

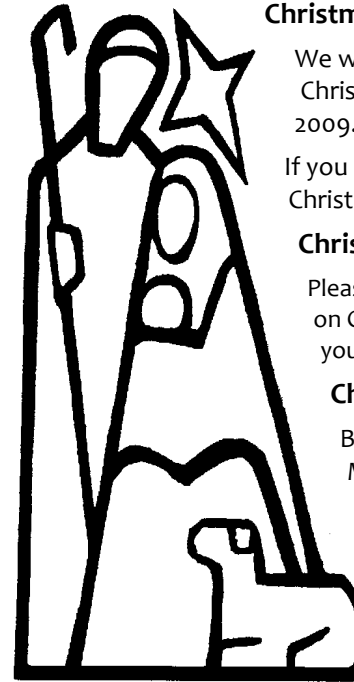
(*Richard & Elizabeth Knapp, Senior & Family RIP*)

Sun, 4th - 6.00p.m. Mass for the **Feast of the Epiphany**

(*Maria & Anthony Wawzyniak RIP*)

Rejoice!

St. Josephs & Ss. Thomas Catholic Parish of Havant & Emsworth 4th Sunday of Advent and Christmas



Christmas Wishes

We wish everybody a Happy and Holy Christmas and Blessings in abundance for 2009.

If you are away, we hope you have a great Christmas. Happy New Year to everybody.

Christmas Offerings

Please note that your offerings at all Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day are your personal gift to the priest.

Christmas Helpers Needed

Because we get many visitors at all our Masses on Christmas Eve and on Christmas Day, our regular church goers are invited to pull out all the stops this year especially in the following areas:

Car park attendants, welcomers, singers, musicians, readers, church cleaners and special ministers. Everybody should be especially vigilant about clearing up after Masses because another group of people will use the churches after you. They too will expect the same high standards you have enjoyed.

Church Cleaning for Christmas

Help is needed to clean St. Josephs for Christmas on Tuesday, 23rd at 10.00a.m. If you could spare just one hour, your help would be much appreciated.

Saturday, 20th - Sunday, 4th January, 2009



Seeing Your Life Through the Lens of the Gospels

Luke 1: 26-38

1. 'Greetings, favoured one. The Lord is with you'. We are all favoured ones and God is with us. Sometimes we are more aware of this than at other times. How have you experienced being a favoured person, one blessed by God? Have you experienced God's presence? Who has been Gabriel to you ... a messenger of Good News?
2. 'Do not be Afraid'. Mary was perplexed by the words of the Angel. Perhaps you too have sometimes been perplexed by life's path and wondered what it all meant. Perhaps at times you have doubted if God was really with you. In your troubled moments, who has been an Angel helping to lessen your anxiety?
3. The Angel told Mary that it was through her fruitfulness that she would realise the truth of the greeting. New life would come into being through her and it would be through the spirit of God working in her. How and where have you experienced yourself as a source of life for others? Have you at times, had the sense that the spirit of God was at work in you?
4. Mary was taken by surprise by the invitation but she did not tell that Angel she was not ready nor ask him to return later. She was prepared to go with the invitation even though it was not the 'right moment'. 'Here I am, Lord'. What invitations have come to you at the wrong time and how have you responded?
5. Mary's response serves as a model for us as one saying 'yes' to what life offers. What is it like for you to say 'yes' to life? Are you being invited to say, 'Here I am, Lord'?

Newsletter Quiz

Several parishioners including Lucy, Tony, Mark and Richard, guessed 'Oliver Cromwell' correctly. Well done! For this week's quiz, in the song 'The Twelve Days of Christmas', what is the original meaning of:- 'a partridge in a pear tree, two turtle doves, three French hens, four calling birds, five gold rings and six geese-a-laying'?

Newsletter

This newsletter includes information for the next two weeks. The next edition will be published for Sunday, 4th January.



Using Your Talents in the Credit Crunch

The date for the return of the talents has finally arrived. The response has been remarkable and well done to all those who rose to the challenge. It was most encouraging to see people interacting in coffee mornings, cake sales and sing-alongs.

William Castle aged 5 made £125 in his cake sale after Mass last week. Mum and Dad helped but many congratulations to Will.

The choir's sing-along realised £250 - no member of the choir received a talent as they were all in the balcony. N.B. They are not without many talents!

David Corps' £1 talent became £83. Several other parishioners have returned handsome dividends. One person who wishes to remain anonymous, had his 5 talents become £300. All have avoided the clutches of Bernie Madoff! The total returns for everybody's talent is expected to be £2,200 plus.

Parish Diary

Sunday, 21st - 4.00p.m. Final Preparation for Christmas.

Monday, 22nd - 7.30p.m. Parish Reconciliation Service at St. Joseph's.

Canon Harry Murphy RIP

Canon Harry was parish priest of Southbourne in the New Forest for many years and was ordained in 1939 at All Hallows in Dublin. He was due to celebrate a significant anniversary next summer. His funeral was last Wednesday. May he rest in peace.

The Justice and Peace Group

The Justice and Peace Group will be collecting cleaning materials for the Medaille Trust at Masses over the weekend 27-28th. December. All donations of materials such as Flash, Cif will be gratefully received, as will luxuries such as bubble bath.

Keeping in Contact

One can keep in contact with parish life by receiving the weekly electronic newsletter. To do so, please e-mail newsletter_havant_emsforth@fsmail.net or register on the parish web site's home page www.rchavant.org.uk

Mail Drop

The people in the following roads will receive a letter from the parish saying they are in our thoughts and prayers - Japonica Way, Spindle Warren, Spindle Close and Wisteria Gardens.