

# Our Lady of Lourdes – Parish Newsletter

## Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> December 2016 +THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (CHRISTMAS)

Tel: 020 8992 2014 (office hours Monday – Friday 9am -1pm) email: [acton@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:acton@rcdow.org.uk) website: [www.acton-olol.com](http://www.acton-olol.com)

**Mass TIMES:** Sundays – 9.00am, 10.30am, 12.00pm and 6.00pm  
**Weekdays:** Monday, Tuesday, Thursday – 7.00am and 10.00 am  
Wednesday, Friday, Saturday – 10.00am and 7.00pm  
Saturday – 10.00am, 12.00pm and 7.00pm – Vigil  
**Reconciliation (Confession):** Saturday 10.30am, 12.30pm and 6.00pm

**Acton Homeless Concern** Ian Breen (Manager)  
**Emmaus House:** 020 8992 5768  
**Damien Centre:** 020 8993 6096  
email: [admin@actonhomelessconcern.org](mailto:admin@actonhomelessconcern.org)  
Website: [www.actonhomelessconcern.org](http://www.actonhomelessconcern.org)

### Vigil Mass Saturday 24<sup>TH</sup> December

**6.00pm Children's Mass:** Flynn & Clerkin Family (INT); Partick, Bridget & Family (INT); Margret Molaney & Family (INT); Mary Di'Lullo (Health); Fr John Leahy sssc (Health).

**8.00pm (Vigil):** Ita O'Sullivan(RIP); Connie O'Sullivan(RIP); Hyrie Suraj (RIPO; Patrick Naughton (A-RIP); Paul Goodacre (INT); Anthony Breen (Health).

**Midnight Mass:** See below

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#### **Midnight Mass(Carol service begins at 11.30pm):**

Emedlina Jean Bernard (RIP); Gill Rodrigues & Family (INT); Jerry Canty (INT); Breda Denehy (INT); Tom & Veronica Lenighan (INT); Mary (INT).

**9.00am:** Kieran Sorohan (RIP); John & Mary Doyle (RIP); James O'Donoghue (RIP); Maureen Hennessey (RIP); Pat Brennan (RIP); James Griffin (RIP); Francis Bradley (RIP); Betty Brennan (INT).

**10.30am:** Edward David Flint (RIP); Philp & George Oliver (RIP); Jayawickreme Family (INT);Pathmasiri Family (INT); Jothinath Family (INT).

**12.00pm:** McGillian & Flanagan Families (RIP); Eutiqui Catantan (A-RIP); Bernie Coghlan& Family (INT); Keith & Mary O'Donoghue & Family (INT); Katonyo Korponty Toman (INT).

### Monday 26<sup>th</sup> December (ST Stephen, The First Martyr)

**10.00am:** Joan Francisco (A-RIP); Martha Rodrigues (A-RIP); Mary McLoughlin & Family (INT); Mary Agnes (INT); Mary Di'Lullo (INT).

### Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> December (ST JOHN, Apostle & Evangelist)

**10.00am:** Maggie Simeons (RIP);Dympna & Barney Kelly (RIP); Bridget Hulatt (A-RIP); Millet Gomez (B/day); Flory Pinto (Health).

### Wednesday 28<sup>st</sup> December (THE HOLY INNOCENTS)

**10.00am:** Ita O'Sullivan (RIP); Annette & Gerard Morrison (INT); Betty & Gerry Donlon (INT); Johnny & Josie Crowley (INT); Christine Mary Vincent (B/day).

### Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> December (ST THOMAS BECKET, Bishop)

**10.00am:** Thomas McNerney (RIP); Mollie Tyrrell (RIP); Michael Mullan (INT); Kathleen Campbell (INT); Marie Creighton (INT); Patrick & Kathleen McDonagh (A-RIP)

### Friday 30<sup>th</sup> December (HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH)

**10.00am:** Sr Mary Mel Murphy (RIP); Sr Margaret Vincent (RIP); Sr Monica Breen (RIP); John Daniel Aseervadam (A-RIP); Shirley Essex (INT); Satyabhama Singh (Health).

### Saturday 31<sup>ST</sup> December (7<sup>TH</sup> DAY IN THE OCTAVE OF CHRISTMAS)

**10.00am:** Poor Souls. Janina & Oscar Olizar (A-RIP); Francis Flynn (INT).

**12:00pm:** Mary Feldbrugge (1<sup>ST</sup> A-RIP); Margaret Sackey (A-RIP); Gerald Gerard (INT).

**We pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, including:** Patrick Naughton, Eutiqui Catantan, Joan Francisco, Martha Rodrigues, Bridget Hulatt, Patrick McDonagh, Kathleen McDonagh, Janina & Oscar Olizar, Mary Feldbrugge, John Daniel Aseervadam, and Margaret Sackey.

**We pray for those who have died recently:** John 'Connie' O'Sullivan, James Ryan, Gavin Wood. Henry Porter (Baby), Fr Stan Kolosa sssc, Joyce Stark, Ellen Powell, Annette Greenwood, Ita O'Sullivan, Joseph Ryan Michael 'Noel' Curley and Lauriston Reece.

**We remember those that are sick in hospital, undergoing treatment or convalescing, including:** Shirley Clark, Mary Hannon, Ronan Green, Sean Holland Nuala griffin, John McCann and Chris O'Leary.

### Collections

The collection on the 11<sup>th</sup> December was £1,839.84 with approximately £800 in standing orders.

**Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary**



**Many thanks for your generous contributions**

**Presbytery:** 5 Berrymead Gardens Acton|London|W3 8AA

**Parish Team:** Fr John Leahy SSSC, Fr Fintan Crotty SSSC, Fr Bala Singh SSSC, Fr Ultan Naughton SSSC & Rev Tito Pereira (Deacon)

## +THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (CHRISTMAS)

The first reading -The prophet Isaiah rejoices in the



saving revelation of God's presence and power with its message of peace and happiness for his people.

The second reading- continues the theme of

joy and points to the coming of God's son as the fruit of all the prophecies and the fulfilment of God's plan.

The Gospel - St John reflects with wonder upon the Incarnation, the coming of the eternal Word in human form which he himself had witnessed. (Synopsis Intercom)

### Announcements

#### Play your part in keeping Christ in Christmas

We hope you have heard the recent remarks of The Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) about Christmas. The Commission has said that employers should 'stop worrying about offending people of other religious beliefs and **allow** their staff to celebrate Christmas'.

The EHRC said everyone had the right to freedom of religion and people's faiths should not be suppressed through fear of offending. With these remarks it seems that it is perfectly reasonable to wish people a Happy Christmas, to ask about putting up a crib, and also not to be afraid to expect that prayer rooms are multi-faith prayer rooms, and not limited to any one group. The EHRC chairman David Isaac said: "*Freedom of religion is a fundamental human right and shouldn't be suppressed through fear of offending. Lots of employers have now become really worried about doing anything discriminatory regarding their Muslim or Jewish staff,*" he said. Isaac said laws had been misinterpreted as bosses became over-sensitive about political correctness. Isaac added: "*It is OK to hold a party and send Christmas cards. Most Muslims and Jews that I know adhere to their own religious beliefs of course, but to some extent acknowledge that Christmas happens and to some extent, with a small 'c', celebrate it.*" Isaac warned that some employers were driven to "*extreme and disproportionate behaviour*" which "*could produce some sort of resentment about special treatment.*" Some workplaces in the UK refer to the Christmas period as "*winter holidays*" out of fear that linking the season to Christianity could offend people. Isaac's comments come after the government's own integration Tzar Dame Louise Casey also made similar remarks in September. Remember it's up to all of us to keep **Christ in Christmas** and ask businesses we may use why they

are afraid to put up Christmas decorations!

**Christmas Schedule 2016:** Please note that Mass is at 10am during the weeks **Monday 26<sup>th</sup> December to Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> January. Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> December:** Masses 10am, 12noon 7pm and Midnight Mass starting at 11.30pm to welcome in the New Year. **Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> January:** Masses as normal 9am, 10.30am, 12noon & 6pm. **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> January:** 1<sup>st</sup> Friday all-night Vigil starting after 7pm Mass and concluding with mass at 4am. **Giving Tree** – Thank you to everyone who has kindly donated food. We have made up hampers from the donations for those in need at Christmas. If there is any family or elderly person you consider to be in need please ask them to contact us. Thank you once again for your generosity.

**Thankyou-** To the Goan Community for the decorating of our delightful Christmas tree. Thank you to Jim, Agnes and Agnello for helping with the crib. Thank you to the church cleaners and to everyone in advance who will participate in our Christmas ceremonies. On behalf of the Parish team we wish you all a very happy and holy Christmas.

**Foreign currency** - Although the parish is grateful for your financial contributions, could we ask you to please not put any foreign currency (apart from euro notes) into the collection. Unfortunately we are unable to process the coins and notes. This means will not be able to use the donation. Thank you.

**Baptism** - The next preparation dates are 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> January with the welcoming ceremony on 15<sup>th</sup> January and baptisms taking place on 29<sup>th</sup> January. Baptism Information available at the back of the Church.

**Cardinal Nichols sends his Christmas message for 2016:** We have just finished the Year of Mercy in which I believe the Church has grown greatly in its appreciation of God's mercy and of God reaching out to us that we may walk tall. Of course God's mercy literally takes flesh in the person of Jesus and in that incarnation we learn that God dwells among us - especially in the poor and in those who are most on the margins of society. So as we come to receive again the word of God and his mercy, our hearts need to be overflowing with compassion; for those nearest to us who we love, for those who will probably spend Christmas alone, for those who are suffering in mind and body and for the so many people without homes who are keenly aware of being virtually abandoned at this time of the year. Let us rejoice mightily but also be generous, mightily generous, so that we might in our lives reflect the great generosity of God and that others may reflect in theirs the joy that we feel. A very Happy Christmas to you all and may God bless you.

