

LET US PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND

Please keep all the sick and housebound in your prayers. We pray also for all whose work is serving our needs and that of the emergency services.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Let us pray for all those who have died recently, and those whose Anniversaries occur at this time. May they Rest in Peace. Please keep their families in your prayers.



Every life is unique and special especially at its passing. If you would like a 'paragraph eulogy' included in the bulletin, please contact Father Pat.

ROTAS FOR 25/26th NOVEMBER 2023

Readers:	Sat 25	6.30pm Mass:	Phil Ogden
	Sun 26	8.30am Mass:	Peter Bee
	Sun 26	10.00am Mass:	Helen Holt-Davies, Catherine Wilson
Eucharistic Ministers:	Sat 25	6.30pm Mass:	C. Vincent Cugnet, Jane Cugnet, Jos Murphy
	Sun 26	8.30am Mass:	C. Christina Morris, Barry Canning, Yvonne Alexander
	Sun 26	10.00am Mass:	C. Ally Warren, John Davies, Maureen Banks
Flowers:	Sat 25		Denise Williams
Counters:	Sun 26		Vanessa & Daryl Wilkins
Bulletin:	Sat 25		Linda Purple
Photocopying:	Sat 25		Catherine Buxton

Please email any new rotas to:
lindajpurple@yahoo.co.uk
Many thanks.

REFRESHMENTS

Teas and coffees are served on Sundays after 10 o'clock Mass. It is not necessary to pay but if you feel you can this will cover expenses. Any money over goes to the parish SVP.

PLEASE NOTE OUR BULLETIN DEADLINE

The deadline for notices to be included in the weekly bulletin is **Tuesday evening** at the latest. All notices should be sent by email to: ourladysthugh@sky.com or given to Father Pat. Thank you.

PLEASE TAKE THE BULLETIN HOME WITH YOU.

The Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham, Reg. Charity No: 234216

UPDATED COVID MEASURES 2023

Dear Parishioners, Please sanitise on entering and leaving the church. Please let me know if you have any concerns. email: ourladysthugh@sky.com or telephone 01993 702661. God Bless, Fr Pat

Entrance Antiphon

Jeremiah 29:11,12,14

The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place

First Reading

31:10-13,19-20,30-31

A reading from the book of Proverbs

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 1: 27:-1-5 RV 1

R. O blessed are those who fear the Lord

1 O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways!
By the labour of your hands you shall eat.
You will be happy and prosper. (R.)

2 Your wife like a fruitful vine in the heart of your house;
your children like shoots of the olive, around your table. (R.)

3 Indeed thus shall be blessed the man who fears the Lord.
May the Lord bless you from Zion in a happy Jerusalem
all the days of your life! (R.)

Second Reading

5:1-6

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians.

Gospel Acclamation

Apocalypse 2:10

Alleluia, alleluia!
Even if you have to die, says the Lord,
keep faithful, and I will give you the crown of life.
Alleluia!

Gospel

25:14-30

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Communion Antiphon

Ps 72:28

To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord.

CAFOD CAKE STALLS

There will be cake and home produce stalls after all masses this weekend, 18th/19th November. All contributions will be gratefully received. Thank you for supporting CAFOD.

Second collection for this weekend is for Parish Church Maintenance

Catholic Church of Our Lady and St Hugh
Moorland Road, Witney OX28 5YA Tel:01993 702661
Parish Priest: Fr. Patrick Broun
fr.patrick.broun@rcaob.org.uk
Email: ourladysthugh@sky.com



SUNDAY 19th NOVEMBER – 26th NOVEMBER 2023

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY

TIME – YEAR A

- Sat 18** **EXPOSITION 10.00am – 11.00am**
MASS 6.30pm People of the Parish
- Sun 19** **MASS 8.30am** Deceased relatives & friends of the Wallcraft Family R.I.P
MASS 10.00am Deceased relatives & friends of the Pimm Family R.I.P
- Mon 20** **NO MORNING MASS 9.30am**
12.00PM REQUIEM MASS for David Price RIP

Tue 21 Memorial of the presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
NO MASS 6.00pm

Wed 22 Memorial of the St Cecilia, Virgin. Martyr
NO MASS

Thurs 23 **MASS 6.00pm** Birthday Intention (SH)

Fri 24 Memorial of St Andrew Dung-Lac, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs
MASS 9.30am Holy Souls

Sat 25 **EXPOSITION 10.00am – 11.00am**
MASS 6.30pm Mary Hart & Josephat Kamonde RIP

Sun 26 **MASS 8.30am** Mary Costello RIP
MASS 10.00am Birthday Intention (SH)

CONFESSIONS: SATURDAY 10.30-11.00am & 5.30- 6.00pm or by appointment

Your Safeguarding representative is: Helen Holt-Davies. Please contact: sg.olash.witney@rcaob.org.uk

REFLECTION

Today's Gospel is often understood as Jesus explaining how we must use the talents we have been given. However, I feel there is another way of seeing this parable. The clue is in the first reading when the wife is described as wise. In the Hebrew scriptures one of the most important aspects of wisdom is the fear of God. However, not the craven fear of someone who can harm us but understood as awe and respect. This is the opposite of craven fear. It is the recognition of God's wisdom and His love for us. The man who received the ten talents and the man who received the five talents had that sort of fear. It made them use their talents and move forward knowing that, so long as they had done their best, if they made mistakes God would be there for them. They did not need to fear Him. The man with the one talent had the timid fearfulness of God. As he says: "I was afraid." He stayed where he was afraid to move forward. His fear prevented him from growing. What is my fear of God? Am I like the first two men prepared to grow spiritually and let God use me, following His will? Or am I like the third man. My fear of God prevents me from growing spiritually and actually hinders my relationship with Him. In other words, how do I see God? God Bless. Fr Pat.

NOVEMBER—THE MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

If you would like your deceased relatives and friends remembered during Mass during November please put their names in an envelope marked "**Holy Souls**" and place in the basket under the ambo. Mass will be offered weekly for those on the November Dead list. You are welcome to add an offering if you wish. **May the souls of the faithful departed Through the mercy of God rest in peace Amen**

BLESSING OF THE GRAVES

There will be a gathering at the church for a short service before the Blessing of the Graves for Tower Hill Cemetery on **Sunday 19th November** at 3pm. The following week Sunday 26th November grave Blessing for Oxford Hill (Windrush cemetery). **May the souls of the faithful departed rest in Peace.**

PRE-ADVENT RETREAT DAY

LED BY RT REV PAUL GUNTER OSB. ABBOTT OF DOUAI

ST JOSEPH'S CARTERTON, Arkell Avenue, Carterton, Oxon OX18 3BS

SATURDAY DECEMBER 2ND 10.00AM-3.30PM

**You are warmly invited to attend this special Advent preparation retreat day.
Please add your name to the list in the porch.**

BAPTISM

Parents wishing to have their child Baptised are required to attend a course of preparation.

TURN YOUR CONCERN INTO ACTION - ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY (SVP)

The **St Vincent De Paul Society** helps tackle poverty in all its forms through practical assistance. The essence of our work is person to person and telephone contact to reach out to those in need. **More than 6 million adults live in absolute poverty in Britain.** There are many local neighbours who face poverty, loneliness, and isolation. Cardinal Vincent Nichols, Archbishop of Westminster, recently said "The SVP provides much needed support to those living in poverty. More members are needed to ensure that this work continues and flourishes. I urge anyone who has time to offer to work with the SVP by becoming a volunteer". Please contact the parish office at 01993 702661 if you need or know anyone who needs assistance, or if you would like to help.

PARISH CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME 2024

Our Enrolment Mass for Confirmation will be held at **10am on Sunday 26th November 2023.** We ask that all confirmation candidates and their parents attend this Mass and bring their baptism candles with them.

Confirmation will take place in April 2024 next year. Workshops - these will start in January (not in November as previously stated). Further information will follow in January once we have discussed workshop times with parents and families.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

We would love to welcome more little ones ages 0-7 or pre-first communion. Every week we do songs, prayers, bible lessons and crafts related to the gospel readings.

THE WILD GOOSE STUDY

A journey into a deeper relationship with the Holy Spirit

Continuing from where we left off in the summer, we return for the last of 2 sessions of the video series by Fr. Dave Pivonka TOR, President of the Franciscan University of Steubenville, where we will dwell on the person of the Holy Spirit and explore His work in our lives.

Friday, 24th November - Session 14 - The Spirit remembers

Session timings: 6.45pm to 8.10pm. **Session timings:** 06:45 pm to 08:10 pm

CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE 10TH DECEMBER 2023 AT 6PM



We are delighted to announce that we will be resuming our Carol Service on Sunday 10th December at 6pm. **Please save the date.**

We look forward, after an absence, to welcoming everyone to this long awaited event, during which the Nativity story will be presented, alongside well-known and new carols, readings and poems for everyone to enjoy. Of course following this, mulled wine and mince pies will be served after our usual rendition of 'The 12 days of Christmas'

WITNEY & WEST OXFORDSHIRE FOODBANK APPEAL

It's that time of year again where we are sending out our Reverse Advent Calendars to everyone! If you're not sure what that is, then let me tell you! A reverse advent calendar works in the same way that a Christmas Advent calendar does, but instead of getting a chocolate or present each day, you put an item into a box that we can use in one of our food parcels, and then at the end of the 25 days, you donate the box to the Foodbank! To get your donations to the families in need in time for Christmas, we need to receive them in good time, which is why we do the advent calendar in November instead. Winter is the hardest time for people and families facing poverty, as often they have to choose between staying warm and buying food. Last year, from October 1st to February 28th, we fed 2609 people. That's 1521 adults and 1088 children. Please, help us to help those in need this Christmas season, and spread the spirit of giving! Thank you.

LUNCH CLUB

The next Lunch Club will be held in the Parish Room on **Tuesday, 5th December from 12.30 to 2pm.** Cost will be £5 for two courses, followed by tea or coffee. Please book by **Thursday 30th November.** Everyone is welcome.