

LET US PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND

Please keep all the sick and housebound in your prayers.



RECENTLY DECEASED

Let us pray for all those who have died recently. We also pray for all 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 their passing. If you would like a 'paragraph eulogy' included in the bulletin, please contact Father Pat.

ROTAS FOR (25) 27/28 December 2025: (Christmas Day) THE HOLY FAMILY. Yr:A

Readers: Sat 27 6.30pm Ellen O'Hare

Sun 28 8.30am Peter Bee

Sun 28 10.00am Maia Johnson, Anne Tester

Eucharistic Ministers: Midnight Mass (C) Denise Williams, Vincent Cugnet, Janina Kalinowska

8.30am (C) Jacques Honore, Funmi Amusu, Barbara Chodkiewicz

10.00am (C) Carlton Rose, Janina Kalinowska, Maureen Banks

Sat 27 6.30pm (C) Sue Collins, Jane Cugnet, Louise Barr

Sun 28 8.30am (C) Akin Amusu, Paul Bennett, Barry Canning

Sun 28 10.00am (C) Michelle Rose, Helen Holt-Davies, John Davies

Flowers: Christmas period **Counters:** Sun 28 Philip Ogden & Jennie Dolphin

Tea & Coffee: Sun 28 Paddy/Catherine **Bulletin:** Fri 26 Ruth, Church Office

DONA CARD READER

Remember to use our contactless card reader for all your donations. Donations can also be made by scanning the QR code so you could donate from home when you are having a cup of coffee or tea. With grateful thanks.



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: olash.witney@rcaob.org.uk or given to Father Pat.

SAFEGUARDING WEEKLY NOTICE

"The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocese's policies & procedures at all times. **Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is Helen Holt-Davies.** She can be contacted at: sg.olash.witney@rcaob.org.uk or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240/safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concerns."

PLEASE TAKE THIS BULLETIN HOME WITH YOU

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

Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Is 45:8

Drop down dew from above, you heavens,
and let the clouds rain down the Just one;
let the earth be opened and bring forth a
Saviour

First reading

Isaiah 7:10-14

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 24(23):1-2. 3-4b. 5-6.

(R) cf. 6

(R) Let the Lord enter; he is the king of glory.

1. The Lord's is the earth and its fullness,
the world, and those who dwell in it.
It is he who set it on the seas;
on the rivers he made it firm. (R)

2. Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?
Who shall stand in his holy place?
The clean of hands and pure of heart,
whose soul is not set on vain things. (R)

3. Blessings from the Lord shall he receive,
and right reward from the God who saves him.
Such are the people who seek him,
who seek the face of the God of Jacob. (R)

Second reading

Romans 1:1-7

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 1:23

Alleluia, alleluia.

Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall call his name Emmanuel — which
means, God with us.

Alleluia.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 1:18-24

Communion Antiphon

Is 7: 14

Behold, a Virgin will conceive and bear a son;
and his name will be called Emmanuel

CONFESSION TIMES OVER CHRISTMAS

Sat 20th Dec 10.30am-11am & 5.30pm-6pm

Mon 22nd Dec 12.00pm-12.30pm

Tues 23rd Dec Confessions following Mass

Weds 24th Dec Confessions following Mass
and 6.00pm-7.00pm

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: olash.witney@rcaob.org.uk



SUNDAY 21st – 28th DECEMBER 2025
FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT: YR.A

SAT 20 EXPOSITION from 10am-11.00am
The Marriage of Jessica Weaving & Sattam Saha at 1.00pm
MASS 6.30pm (Joy Smith R.I.P.)

SUN 21 MASS 8.30am (Marie & Tony Sullivan RIP)
MASS 10.00am (People of the Parish)
CHRISTMAS GET-TOGETHER CELEBRATION
Parish Room at 6.00pm

MON 22 NO MASS

TUE 23 MASS 6.00pm (Celebrant's Intention)

WED 24 MASS 9.30am (People of the Parish)
MIDNIGHT MASS 12.00 starting with
Carols from 11.30pm

THU 25 SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

MASS 8.30am (Helen Johnson R.I.P.)

MASS 10.00am (Frank & Dorothy Cope R.I.P.)

FRI 26 Feast of St. Stephen, the first Martyr
MASS 10.00am Servers Mass
(Anne & Ivor Pimm R.I.P.)

SAT 27 Feast of St. John, Apostle, Evangelist
NO EXPOSITION 10am-11am
MASS 6.30pm (For the Kitto family)

SUN 28 FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH
MASS 8.30pm (For the Norris family)
MASS 10.00am (People of the Parish)

CHRISTMAS COLLECTIONS FOR FR. PAT

Your Christmas donations are one of two collections
Fr Pat can have personally, (the other being Easter).
Please give as generously as you can. Thank you.



GOSPEL REFLECTION 4th Sunday in Advent: Year A

It is said that today's Gospel is about how Jesus came to be born according to Matthew. I, however, believe it is about Joseph. He was just a carpenter. He had no special insight into what God was asking of Mary. He thought she had been unfaithful to him. It was only because of a dream that he was told by the Lord to accept Mary as his wife.

He would have made sure he was the husband to Mary and adopted Father to Jesus that God wanted him to be. He is only a carpenter, he is hardly mentioned in the scriptures and he died in obscurity. Yet he must have been strong and generous in doing God's will, protecting Mary when she was pregnant and leading Mary and Jesus to safety when Herod was after them. For me, the fact that he is almost invisible makes him stand out as an example to follow.

God Bless. Fr Pat



A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM FR. PAT

I pray that through all the frantic activities leading up to Christmas you may experience the beauty of our faith That God himself took on our human nature and shared our weaknesses, hopes and fears. So, whether you are looking forward to Christmas with excitement or with trepidation because someone you love will not be there, remember, that because of this season not only will God know how you feel, He will actually, in Jesus, be sharing it with you. I look forward to seeing you and your families over the Christmas period. Mass times and Confessions are available also on the website www.ourladyandsthugh.org.uk

May you have a Happy and Holy Christmas and a wonderful New Year, *God bless. Fr. Pat*

A CHRISTMAS BLESSING



"Loving Father, In this busy period of Christmastime, help us to remember the birth of Jesus, that we may share in the song of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds, and worship of the wise men. Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world. Let kindness come with every gift and good wishes with every greeting. Deliver us we pray from every evil by the blessing which the birth of Christ brings, and teach us to be merry with clear hearts. Amen"



OUR PARISH YOUTH GROUP



In order to encourage our parish of Our Lady & St. Hugh and St. Joseph's in Carterton's to work more closely together, we are forming a cluster community with St. Joseph's young people by warmly inviting them to come here to Witney **every second Sunday of each month** for fun, fellowship and a wonderful opportunity for the young people to grow in their faith while building friendships. Please keep all the young people in your prayers and thank you for your continued support.

THE ARCHBISHOP'S VISIT - IMPORTANT ADVANCE NOTICE



The Oxford North Deanery is having a visitation process as the Diocese goes through the practice of planning for the future. Every parish in the Deanery will have a visit over the next couple of months from either Bishop Richard or the Archbishop Bernard. The Archbishop is visiting three parishes of which we are one. He is coming on the **10th January** and staying overnight.

After the 6.30pm Mass on Saturday the 10th of January he would like the opportunity to **meet as many parishioners as possible either in the Parish Room** or if numbers dictate, in the church. **Can I please urge you to come.** It is very important that the Archbishop hears your views and ideas for our church.



CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION GET-TOGETHER

Christmas is always a busy time of year, but we are spending a short time away from the High Street (or on line shopping!) to meet up and celebrate the reality of Christmas, at our **Christmas Celebration Get together this Sunday** in the **Parish room at 6pm**. You still have time to vote for your 5 favourite carols but your form **must be in by the end of 10.00am Mass.. It promises to be a lovely time, so please come and let's celebrate together.**

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Please note that there will be **no Children's Liturgy** from **21st December 2025 to 4th January 2026**. Sessions will resume on **11th January 2026**. We extend our sincere thanks to all parents and volunteers for their continued support and commitment throughout the year. We wish everyone a **Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year**.

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL (SVP)

Christmastide and the New Year is especially difficult for many people. If you, or someone you know needs some confidential and non judgemental support, or if you have friends or relatives who would like a visit, you can contact us by phoning the parish office 01993 702661. We all need help sometimes and we want everyone to know – **you're not alone.**



LUNCH CLUB

Unfortunately the lunch club on the **6th January** has had to be cancelled. The next lunch club will be on **Tuesday 3rd February 2026**.