



St. Peter's Church

Bishop's Rise, Hatfield,
Hertfordshire AL10 9HN
Tel: 01707 262121
www.stpetershatfield.org



27 December 2009

Volume 4, No. 5

Mass Times:

Sunday Masses

Sat. : 6.00 pm Vigil Mass
Sun. : 9.15 & 11.00 am &
6.00 pm : Student Mass
(University term-time only)

Weekday Masses

Mon-Wed, Fri: 9.30 am
Thurs : 7.00 pm
Sat : 10.30 am

Holy Days of Obligation

Mass: 9.30 am & 7.30 pm

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:

Sat 11.00 am – 12 noon

Morning Prayer

Mon-Wed, Fri : 9.10 am

Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour

After Mass on Tuesday

Rosary

After Mass on Wednesday
First Friday : 7.30 pm

Confessions

Sat 11-12, 5.15-5.45 pm
or by request

Baptism – See Fr. Mark
Preparation obligatory

Marriage – 6 months notice
Preparation obligatory

Parish Priest: *Fr. Mark Vickers*

E-mail: markvickers@rcdow.org.uk

Holy Family: Year C



Fr. Mark writes: We have just celebrated the birth of the Christ Child and today is the Feast of the Holy Family. God entered in the world in a human family, and the Church has always upheld the importance of family life both for our own society and as the means of getting to heaven. That doesn't mean the Church is unrealistic. Look at today's Gospel : a missing Child, parents who don't understand Him, the anguish caused to a mother's heart. The Holy Family of Nazareth knew our difficulties as well our joys. The Son obeys His human parents, but reminds us there is an even greater obedience due. By keeping God at the centre of everything family life becomes truly blessed.

Thank-you

Fr. Mark thanks all the parishioners for your Christmas cards, gifts and wishes. May you and your families enjoy every blessing of health and happiness in 2010.

Christmas Raffle

There are lists of the prize-winners on the notice boards at the back of church and in the Hall. Many thanks to all those who donated or arranged prizes.

Mass Times

See the other side of the newsletter for the changes to the daily Mass times over the coming week. There is no Mass at St. Peter's on Monday or Wednesday, but there is Mass at Marychurch on those days.

As well as being New Year's Day, Friday is also the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. Mass will be at **12 noon**. 1 January is also a First Friday and the Rosary will be said in church at **7.30 pm**. What better way to start the New Year than in the company of Our Lady.

Gangland to Promised Land

John Pridmore has addressed 1 ½ million young people in the last 12 years. A former East End gangster and drugs dealer, he gives a stark message on the dangers of gangs and drugs. He served two prison sentences in his teens and went on to become a feared enforcer in the London underworld before a dramatic conversion after having almost killed a man. His book, "Gangland to Promised Land," is a best seller. He doesn't preach; he simply shares his story about the amazing things which have happened to him since he found God. He is speaking to young people in Westminster Cathedral Hall at **7.30 pm, Wednesday, 6 January**.

This will be an extremely popular event which I recommend strongly to anyone between their mid-teens and mid-twenties. (Older adults welcome if accompanying a young person.) If you want to join a group travelling down by train, please tell Damian – either at Mass next Sunday or at damianryan12000@yahoo.co.uk

Pilgrimage : Rome & Assisi, October 2010

We have a parish pilgrimage to Rome & Umbria 23-30 October 2010. We plan to have Mass at the Tomb of St. Peter and an audience with the Pope. We spend four days in Rome, then three in the beautiful Umbrian countryside visiting Assisi and other places associated with St. Francis. A pilgrimage is a wonderful way of deepening our faith, making new friends and thoroughly enjoying ourselves in the process. Please pick up a brochure from the back of the church, and ask me for an application form.

There will be a meeting for those going on the pilgrimage – and those interested in coming – in the Hall at **7 pm on Tuesday, 19 January**. Philip Dean of Pax Travel, the company making the arrangements will be attending to answer any questions you might have.

Last week's collection

£525.62

Thank-you

Parish Office

Fridays : 9.00 am-1.00 pm

St Philip Howard Primary & Pre-School – 01707 263969**Nicholas Breakspear Senior Mixed** – 01727 860079**Loreto College Senior Girls** 01727 856206**QEII Hospital Catholic Chaplaincy**
Bernadette Cassidy
07884 187463**Youth Group**
Jemma Emmans
01707 880703**Ignatian Prayer Group** –
alternate Tuesdays
David Barham 01707 266551**Planned giving envelopes**
Pat Malsher – 01707 265530**APF Mission Boxes**
Heather Coakley 01707
269153**Hall Bookings**
Heather Coakley 01707
269153**St Peter's Power Running and Walking Group**
Mondays in term time
Michael & Linda Blissett
01707 885933**Crib Offerings**

Crib offerings go to the Westminster Catholic Children's Society who help children and families in need. They do excellent work in difficult circumstances. Please support them if you can by placing money in the basket by the crib.

Marriage Preparation

Catholics should marry in church, and undertake marriage preparation for what is obviously one of the most important and joyful steps in their life. We will be offering a marriage preparation course here at St. Peter's on **Saturday, 23 January**. Please let me know if you would like to attend the course.

Readings at Sunday Mass

Samuel 1: 20-22 1 John 3: 1-2. 21-24 Luke 2: 41-52

Psalm 83 Response: **They are happy who dwell in your house, O Lord.**Gospel Acclamation: **Open our heart, O Lord,
To accept the words of your Son.****Prayer of the Church** : Psalter Week 1 (from 2nd January)**Weekly Rotas**

Flowers: Jacqui & Kath **Church cleaning :** Fionnuala Sheldrake & Caron Fisher
Shop: 18.00 Frances Nicholas 9.15 Patricia Martin 11.00 Heather Coakley
Welcome: 9.15 Rosemary Curran 11.00 Pauline Keohane & Kath Hogan

Mass Intentions for the Week 27 Dec 2009 – 3 Jan 2010

Saturday, 26 December	18.00	Agnes Goodwin, RIP
Sunday, 27 December	9.15	John Moran, Anniv
<i>Holy Family</i>	11.00	Pro Populo
Monday, 28 December	[9.30	Marychurch]
<i>Holy Innocents</i>		
Tuesday, 29 December	9.30	Mary Beretta, RIP
<i>St Thomas Becket</i>		
Wednesday, 30 December	[19.30	Marchchurch]
Thursday, 31 December	9.30	Rose Greham, Int
Friday, 1 January 2010	12.00	Margaret Barnard, Int
<i>Mary, Mother of God</i>		
Saturday, 2 January	10.30	Mary Beretta, RIP
<i>Ss Basil & Gregory</i>	18.00	Pro populo
Sunday, 3 January	9.15	Henry Curran, Anniv
<i>Epiphany of the Lord</i>	11.00	James McCann & family, RIP

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND:

Carmel Burton, Mike Faithfull, Hugh McGrath, Margaret Lovatt Dugan, Josephine Koomson, Joe McKenna, Christina Newman, Peggy O'Connor, Anne Smith

Receiving Holy Communion

This is something I have been asked to raise. There are two ways to receive Holy Communion. The traditional and universal way is on the tongue. In England and some other countries it is also allowed to receive Holy Communion in the hand.

Intinction is not permitted – this is dipping the Sacred Host yourself in the Precious Blood. (In those countries where intinction is allowed the priest places the Host directly on the communicant's tongue whilst an altar server holds a communion plate below.)

There are two reasons. Firstly, we talk rightly about receiving Holy Communion. This is pure gift we receive. Our actions must avoid the impression that we are simply helping ourselves to ordinary food.

Secondly, we must avoid any risk of drops of the Precious Blood being spilt.

Where offered, it is the choice of the individual as to whether they receive both the Host and the Precious Blood – but, if you do, please respect the norms and receive them separately.

Pantomime

This year's professionally-produced pantomime, Aladdin, is at **12.30 pm, Saturday, 9 January**, followed by a children's party **2.30-3.30 pm**. Tickets are proving to be very popular. If you would like to come, please buy your ticket from Tony Dodd after the 11 am Mass or on 01707 646383 : £5 for every person occupying a seat.