

# PARISH OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

St Teresa's  
Weldon Way,  
Merstham, RH1 3QA

St Joseph's  
122 Ladbroke Road,  
Redhill, RH1 1LF

Holy Family  
Yorke Road,  
Reigate, RH2 9HF

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## The First Sunday of Advent (Year C) - 28th November 2021

### Churches and lockdown easing Step 4

On Monday 19<sup>th</sup> July we entered Step 4 of the Government's Covid-19 Response Roadmap. The Bishops' Conference (CBCEW) has prepared new guidance for parishes accordingly, following discussions with officials from Public Health England and HM Government Places of Worship Task Force. They advise that care must be taken to ensure that churches continue to be places where people feel safe to gather to worship. A key element of the new guidance involves moving away from centralised detailed regulation to prudent local judgements, adopting a continuing cautious approach to easements. The key watchwords for the future steps are discernment of local prevailing conditions and careful consideration of what mitigations are needed in light of these, with a strong emphasis on common sense risk averse activities to continue to mitigate against the transmission of the virus.

After a meeting with our own Covid Response team the following guidance has been agreed for the parish:

- We are still asked to ensure the use of face coverings and also sanitization on entry and exit from Church.
- Track and trace is encouraged and people can continue to use the QR points or sign in themselves.
- Stewards are no longer required to manage movement of the congregation, on entry or for Communion
- There is no longer a requirement for social distancing within the Churches and all seating is available.
- Should people wish to socially distant we will maintain the use of the halls to ensure this.
- The physical sign of peace remains suspended and Communion continues to be under one kind only.
- We are able to re-introduce congregational singing gradually.
- The use of our PNL centres is still heavily restricted by our Diocesan requirements for Covid and so for the time being remain 'out of action' except for Mass overflow and our Sacramental programmes.
- We have returned to the normal weekday schedule for Mass to which all are welcome.
- St Joseph's Church will be open daily for visits and private prayer.

We will review these measures as necessary in the light of local conditions.

**SYNOD process Update** - ten questions have been posed for the Universal Church to answer in groups or individually. Our Diocese has arranged them into three sessions and the booklet containing them can be found on the diocesan website using this link: <https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/synod>. It is possible to answer these via the online booklet but we will also be organising a group discussion for those interested - watch this space and check our diocesan link

**Visiting Sick and Housebound** as our Extraordinary ministers of Communion are recommencing bringing Communion to our parish's frailer members if you know of anyone who cannot come to Mass please contact the parish office after obtaining their permission.

**School Admission Signings** - St Joseph's School (SIF) For parents who wish to apply for admission for their child under the Catholic Faith Criteria 1-6, Fr Tony at the PNL will probably not be meeting parents this year. Instead, please send your completed SIF (leaving only the Priest's section unfilled) directly to the school before 15th January, and Fr Tony will then view these applications and support as applicable. You will NOT need a face-to-face meeting with Fr Tony this year. For applications outside of the Parish of the Nativity of the Lord, please check with your Parish Priest for details of their local arrangements.

**Book+Circle** Nourishing and developing our faith, our next meeting will be at St Joseph's after the 10am Mass on Friday 10th December. Our chosen book is "Interior Freedom" by Jacques Phillippe. All welcome

**50/50 club winner** for November, £25 no 67! If you would like to join the club or find out a bit more about it then email: [5050club.pnl@gmail.com](mailto:5050club.pnl@gmail.com)

*(The Arundel and Brighton Diocesan Trust is a Registered Charity No. 252878)*

**Honouring Sunday** the Bishops of England and Wales have issued a letter emphasising the importance of Sunday and our call to Mass, '*our primary joy, for which there is no substitute, and from which we draw our strength.*' They remind us that *when the Church speaks of the Sunday obligation, it reminds us that attending Mass is a personal response to the selfless offering of Christ's love. At this time, we recognise that for some people there may be certain factors which hinder attendance at Sunday Mass. The pandemic is clearly not over....As your bishops, we recognise that these prevailing circumstances suggest that not everyone is yet in the position to fulfil the absolute duty to attend freely....We now encourage all Catholics to look again at the patterns which they have formed in recent months with regard to going to Mass on Sundays.... This review, and the decisions which arise from it, fall to every Catholic and we trust this will be done with honesty, motivated by a real love for the Lord whom we encounter in the Mass.* The full letter can be found of the Bishops website and attached to our parish website.

**Parish Volunteers Audit** we are asked to have a complete list of those who help. If you volunteer in the parish in any capacity please email the parish office so we can get 'our house in order'.

**Carols in the Belfry** - Sunday 12th December 2021 6:30pm - the Belfry Shopping Centre Redhill 6:30pm Belfry Car Park will be FREE after 5:30pm. Please follow current Covid-19 Government Guidelines

**UN International Day for the Abolition of Slavery**, this Thursday (2nd). There are an estimated 40 million slaves in the world today, 136,000 in the United Kingdom, pray for them and for the end of Modern Slavery

**PARISH CLERGY:**  
**Fr Tony Bridson**  
**Dcn Tim Murrill** (07545 175448)

**PARISH OFFICE**  
**MON - FRIDAY 9.30AM - 3.30PM**  
01737 761017  
pnlparish@btconnect.com

**Hall Hire Enquires:**  
pnllhallhire@gmail.com

**PARISH SAFEGUARDING**  
Katie Jones - c/o 01737 761017  
pnlsafeguarding@gmail.com

**SCHOOLS:**  
St Joseph's - 01737 765373  
www.stjosephs-redhill.surrey.sch.uk  
St Bede's - 01737 212108  
www.st-bedes.surrey.sch.uk  
St Joseph's Pre-School - 07847221367  
www.stjosephspreschoolredhill.co.uk

**PARISH WEBSITE:**  
www.thenativityofthelord.org.uk  
webmaster.pnlparish@gmail.com

**St JOSEPH'S 17<sup>TH</sup> REIGATE SCOUTS**  
www.17threigate.org

**EAST SURREY HOSPITAL**  
The hospital does not inform the Catholic chaplain, Fr Albion (01293 431703) of your presence in the hospital unless a specific request is made by either a patient or their family. This needs to be made clear to the staff on admission to the hospital.  
If you are going in hospital as a 'Planned Admission' you are encouraged to contact Fr Tony to receive the Sacrament of the Sick prior to your admission.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR  
THE SICK & HOUSEBOUND**

Margaret Murray, Jean Longley, Bridget Steward, Dilys Purtell, Brian O'Connor, Roland Cambel, Rosaline Liberman, Michael Fife, Mary Steer, Stephanie Remnant, Monica Peters, Anne Moon, Maria Mellone, Brigid Gow, Jaden Sebastian, Anne Grier, Lydia Fagan, Chris Bayley, Bill & Maureen Wasson, Fr Laurence Quin-Morris, Maria Dimaculangan, Michael Scoltock, Marcus Higgins, Marion & Barry Scholefield, Malcolm & Maria Chelvanayagam, Damian Poole, Pat Weller, Chris & Margaret Byrne, Edith Rashbrook, Sarah Healy, Sheilaine Barrientos, John Philmore, Maura Green, Margaret McGettrick, Kathleen Beckey, Claire Chantal, Richard & Meli Greaves, Peter Reade, and all sick and housebound of our parish.

*If you or someone you know is sick & housebound and would like to receive Communion please contact the parish on 01737 761017.*

**The First Sunday of Advent (Year C)**

Jer 33:14-16; Ps 24; 1Thess 3:12-4:2; Lk 21:25-28.34-36

Response: To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul

**Sat 27 Nov**  
**St Joseph's 17.30** Deceased brothers of the Catenians  
**Sun 28 Nov**  
**Holy Family 9.00** John Foxwell RIP  
**St Joseph's 11.00** People of the parish  
**St Teresa's 17.30** Private Intention  
**Mon 29 Nov**  
**St Teresa's 10.00** Justyna & John 7th Wedding Anniversary  
**Tue 30 Nov St Andrew, Apostle**  
No mass  
**Wed 1 Dec**  
**St Joseph's 10.00** Anne Motion RIP  
**Thur 2 Dec**  
**Holy Family 10.00** Special Intention  
**Friday 3 Dec St Francis Xavier**  
**St Joseph's 10.00** Patricia Taffurelli RIP

**The Second Sunday of Advent (Year C)**

Bar 5:1-9; Ps 125; Phil 1:3-6.8-11; Lk 3:1-6

Response: To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul

**Sat 4 Dec**  
**St Joseph's 17.30** Patrick Brady RIP  
**Sun 5 Dec**  
**Holy Family 9.00** John Joseph's wellbeing  
**St Joseph's 11.00** People of the parish  
**St Teresa's 17.30** Private Intention

The Sacrament of Reconciliation can be celebrated by appointment.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS OF:**

**Lorna Rigby RIP** her funeral will take place on Monday 6th December 3.30pm at the Surrey and Sussex crematorium

**Lional Bay RIP** His funeral is to be arranged

**Patricia Cripps RIP** her funeral is to be arranged.

**Please remember them and their families in your prayers.**

**PRAYER FOR A SPIRITUAL COMMUNION** Please use this prayer if you needing to isolate, or are unwell, or unable to come to Mass: *My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen. (St Alphonsus Liguori)*