

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

Tel: 01737 761017 - Email: pnlparish@btconnect.com - Website: www.thenativityofthelord.org.uk

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (year C) - 6th February 2022

Churches and Covid - Update

The Prime Minister has confirmed that England has moved away from 'Plan B'. Whilst caution is still expressed, many restrictions have been lifted as we try to move from 'pandemic' to 'endemic', both nationally and globally. In this area numbers still remain high, for instance on Thursday the number of children absent from our primary school due to confirmed Covid-19 positive tests was 53, i.e. 9% of the school. In this parish, within the context of our comparatively large congregations, we have tried to maintain a measured steady approach to changes we have introduced as the pandemic seemed to ease. For some this has been very frustrating, for many of the more vulnerable and anxious this has meant they have felt able to return and participate in the Mass feeling safe. Over the next few weeks we aim to introduce the changes which the Bishops conference has directed for us. These include a return to holy water at the entrance of our Churches, a reduced use of sanitization, and exchanging a sign of peace, though this does not have to be shaking of hands. Other measures now permitted such as the prayers of the faithful and the use of hymn books we have already re-introduced. Bishop Richard has issued some guidelines which he strongly urges us to continue:

- The wearing of face coverings for the protection of others and particularly during 'congregational singing'.
- A provision for social distancing for those who prefer this option.
- The use of sanitization on entry and exit from Church buildings.
- A good ventilation of the buildings
- Communion under one kind only

The Bishops of England and Wales have not restored 'The Sunday Obligation' but have issued a rich reflection on 'The Day of the Lord' which they urge everyone to reflect on. Their letter emphasizes 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.... 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 on the Bishops website and attached to our parish website.

30th World Day of the Sick Friday 11 Feb, Pope Francis writes: *Your service alongside the sick, carried out with love and competence, transcends the bounds of your profession and becomes a mission. Your hands, which touch the suffering flesh of Christ, can be a sign of the merciful hands of the Father. Be mindful of the great dignity of your profession, as well as the responsibility that it entails.*"

Visiting Sick and Housebound Our Extraordinary ministers of Communion are bringing Communion to our parish's frailer members. If you know of anyone who cannot come to Mass please contact the parish office

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'. So far we have had 70+ replies

St Joseph's School children have been thinking about volunteers and have prepared some thank you cards for the parishes to share out as a token of their appreciation.

The Lourdes Office are very pleased to announce that online applications for the 2022 diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes, 29 July - 4 August, are now open. See the website for details <https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/lourdes/home>

The Bartimaeus Project 'Speak, Lord, your servant is listening' with Fr Stephen Dingley, Tuesday, 1 March at 7.30pm, online & in person. The first in a series of engaging talks, delivered by Arundel & Brighton parish priests. For more details visit <https://bartimaeus-project.org/>

Our parish SVP groups are reaching out to those in need of any kind and have a mobile phone for this purpose, please ring 07918980330 and they will call back.

THE GATTON PASSION July 2022 - performers and back stage helpers wanted anyone interested in joining in is invited to come to drama workshops and to meet the team on Saturday 6th and/or Sunday 7th March at 2.30pm at All Saints Church, Battlebridge Lane, South Merstham More details: info@gattontheatre.org.uk

Thinking about becoming a Catholic? An informal group is meeting and you would be very welcome to come along with no commitment: contact the parish office for details

Confirmation Programme we are planning to start a preparation programme for current year 10 and older students with an initial meeting in March. The Bishop is planning to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation in the parish on 15th July in the evening. Please pass the word around to anyone concerned and email confpnl@gmail.com to register to join the programme!

BeCome: Young Adults 18-35, Saturday 12 March, A Day of Lenten Reflection at the House of Prayer, East Molesey. Our Youth Adviser has arranged a series of Connect Days across the Diocese offering an opportunity for young people to gather in person and strengthen faith-filled friendships. Contact the parish office for details

Parish J&P Newsletter is available here: <https://thenativityofthelord.org.uk/news/newsletters/justice-peace>

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:
pnlhallhire@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 17TH REIGATE SCOUTS
www.17threigate.org

EAST SURREY HOSPITAL
The hospital does not inform the Catholic chaplain, Fr Alban (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**

Jean Longley, Bridget Steward, Dily's Purtell, Roland Cambel, Rosaline Liberman, Michael Fife, Mary Steer, Stephanie Remnant, Monica Peters, Maria Mellone, Brigid Gow, Anne Grier, Lydia Fagan, 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, Sheilanine Barrientos, John Philmore, 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.

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (year C)

Is 6:1-8; Ps 137; 1Cor 15:1-11; Lk 5:1-11

Response: Before the angels I will bless you, O Lord.

Sat 5 Feb
St Joseph's 17.30 Farhana's int
Sun 6 Feb
Holy Family 09.00 Maura Green RIP
St Joseph's 11.00 People of the Parish
St Teresa's 17.30 Private Intention
Mon 7 Feb
St Joseph's 10.30 Funeral Mass for Carola Penruddock R.I.P.
Tue 8 Feb
St Joseph's No Mass
Wed 9 Feb
St Joseph's 10.00 Lionel Bay RIP
Thur 10 Feb **St Scholastica**
Holy Family 10.00 Farhana's int
Friday 11 Feb
Holy Family 10.30 Funeral Mass for Josephine Seymour RIP

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (year C)

Jer 17:5-8; Ps 1; !Cor 15:12.16-20; Lk 6:17.20-36

Response: Happy the man who has placed his trust in the Lord.

Sat 12 Feb
St Joseph's 17.30 Anna, Mark & families
Sun 13 Feb
Holy Family 09.00 Grace Ayi Aniagekwu
St Joseph's 11.00 People of the Parish
St Teresa's 17.30 Richard Franklin RIP

The Sacrament of Reconciliation can be celebrated by appointment

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS OF:

Carola Penruddock RIP her funeral will take place on Monday 7th February at 10.30am at St Joseph's followed at Redstone cemetery

Josephine Seymour RIP her funeral will take place on Friday 11th February at 10.30am at Holy Family followed at Redstone cemetery

Nyakallo (Nina) Taole RIP her funeral will take place on Wednesday 16th February at 10.30am at St Teresa's followed at Redstone cemetery

Margaret Kirkaldy RIP her funeral will take place on Thursday 17th February at 3pm at the Sussex and Surrey Crematorium

Marjorie Flanagan RIP her funeral will take place on Monday 21st February at 10.30am at St Joseph's followed at Redstone cemetery

Sami Halata RIP his funeral will take place on Wednesday 23rd February at 10.00am at St Joseph's followed at the Sussex and Surrey Crematorium

Maura Green RIP her funeral will take place on Friday 25th February at 10.00am at Holy Family Church, followed at Redstone Cemetery

Martin Davies RIP (former parishioner) his funeral is to be arranged

Please remember them and their families in your prayers.