

### **MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS**

**N.B. All Masses will be livestreamed unless otherwise stated**

**Saturday 25th December - Christmas Day**  
**10am** Christina and Boniface Orduh 50th Wedding Anniversary - in Thanksgiving

**Sunday 26th December**  
**The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, Feast**  
**9am** Our Lady of Nazareth School Community, Nairobi  
**11am** Our Lady of Nazareth School Community, Nairobi

**Monday 27th December - St John, Apostle, Evangelist, Feast**  
**10am** Chidinma and Nickson Nwahiri 18th Wedding Anniversary - in Thanksgiving

**Tuesday 28th December - The Holy Innocents, Feast**  
**7pm** Tom Cossar RIP and Michael and Elizabeth Carroll RIP

**Wednesday 29th December - St Thomas of Canterbury, Feast**  
**10am** Tom McGuinness RIP

**Thursday 30th December - Liturgy of the Day**  
**10am** Theresa Vincent RIP

**Friday 31st December - Liturgy of the Day**  
**10am** Deceased Dents and Sellens RIP

**Saturday 1st January - Mary, The Holy Mother of God, Solemnity**  
**10am** For a healthier and happier New Year  
**5pm - 5.20pm** Sacrament of Reconciliation  
**5.30pm** Nora Noone RIP

**Sunday 2nd January**  
**2nd Sunday after Christmas**  
**9am** Marshall Family Intentions  
**11am** People of the Parish



## **Corpus Christi** **Wokingham**

**South Berkshire Pastoral Area**  
**Roman Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth**



Parish Priest: Canon Simon Thomson  
Assistant Priest: Father Anthony Ikhenoba  
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Link for live streamed Masses:  
<https://www.facebook.com/Corpus-Christi-Wokingham-100445488273222/>

### **26th December 2021: Feast of the Holy Family - Year C**



When we hear stories about the Holy Family we are struck by the normality of Jesus' upbringing. Mary and Joseph behave like any parents of today. Secondly we are struck by the love and tenderness that surrounds Jesus in his early years. The fact that he was born in a stable and grew up with no great wealth doesn't seem to matter. What matters is that Jesus grew up knowing that Mary and Joseph loved and cared for him.

Jesus would have been brought up in a Jewish tradition, and he would not have been expected to challenge this tradition. What is interesting for us to learn is, that by the tender age of twelve Jesus was developing a sense of who he really was. When Jesus causes his parents much distress by becoming separated from them to stay in the temple listening to the teachers, he tells Mary and Joseph, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be busy with my Father's affairs?" Mary and Joseph don't quite understand what he means, but we are told, "Mary stored all these things in her heart." She had faith in her son, and she allowed him to become the individual she always knew he was.

Sounds easy doesn't it, yet thousands of parents today must be shaking their heads. It's not easy to let go and allow your child to be his or her own person, especially if you see them making all sorts of mistakes. Today's gospel is a lesson in parenting. Surround your children with love and caring. Pass down all the good Christian traditions you yourself have learned, then have faith and allow your child to be the person they need to be.

**Mass Intentions** - If you would like a Mass to be offered for a particular intention then please contact the parish office.

#### **Important Contacts**

Other Priests of the Pastoral Area:  
Fr Marcus Brisley  
(Crowthorne & Sandhurst) - 01252 876820  
Fr. Danny Mc Avoy  
(Bracknell) - 01344 425729  
Fr Kevin Bidgood (Ascot) - 01344 620591

**Safeguarding Team:** Claire & Jordana  
Email: [safeguarding.wok@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding.wok@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)  
**SVP:** David Thomas 07786 492948 ;  
[davidrthomas@sky.com](mailto:davidrthomas@sky.com)

Parish Office Opening Times :- Wednesday and Friday, 10.00 to 14.00  
Parish Administrator, Hannah Procter, can be contacted on Tel: 0118 978 0348 or email [wokingham@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:wokingham@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)  
Corpus Christi Church, 60 Sturges Road, Wokingham, Berkshire RG40 2HE



Please remember all who are sick, especially, Joyce Unwin, Hugh Dwan, Mary Ann Froude, Daniel Sutton, Joseph Nemeth, Sarah White, John Butterworth, Pat Hall, Joy Phillips and Sr Veronica.

### Christmas Mass Times

- \* Friday 24th - Christmas Eve - 4.00pm, 6.00pm and 9pm
- \* Saturday 25th - Christmas Day - 10.00am
- \* Sunday 26th - The Holy Family - 9.00am and 11.00am

For those of you watching online please see the attached Carol sheet so you can join in!



### IMPORTANT - Covid-19 Reminders

We ask you to remain vigilant and help prevent spreading the virus this Winter.

- ◆ Please do not enter the church if you have COVID symptoms, if you have received a positive Lateral Flow or PCR test result, or if you are waiting for a PCR test/result.
- ◆ Please sanitise your hands when entering
- ◆ Wearing a face covering, in our enclosed space is **mandatory** (unless exempt and/or children under the age of 11)
- ◆ Please be considerate of co-worshippers and respect personal space
- ◆ Maintain 1 metre distance where possible.

Thank you for your cooperation

### Christmas Offering

Our Christmas Collection celebrates and gives thanks to our Parish Priests and all the dedication, guidance and care they give across our Diocese and in each Parish.

If you would like to give a gift to support Canon Simon and Father Anthony in their vocation and mission this Christmas, please use the white collection buckets at the back of the Church at the Christmas Masses, pay online into the Parish account (account details: Sort Code 30-93-04; A/c no. 00891666; A/c name: PRCDT Wokingham Corpus Christi - please mark any payments as 'Christmas offering') or alternatively visit: <https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/wokingham-corpus-christi-catholic-parish-christmas-collection-2022>



### Friends of the Holy Land - Christmas Appeal Giving Hope to Vulnerable Christians

Please support the appeal when you visit the crib. Your Christmas gifts will be used where most needed to meet urgent and ongoing medical needs including birth costs, or to help fund our work providing wider support to vulnerable Holy Land Christians. Alternatively, if you would like to help and donate, please go to <https://www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk/>

### Feast of the Holy Innocents 2021 - 28th December

*"When the wise men had departed, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said 'Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.'"*

**Next Tuesday, 28th December**, is the Feast of the Holy Innocents. These were the children of Bethlehem, two years old and under, who were massacred by Herod the Great. Told by the Magi of the birth of the new king, he tried to eliminate all possible rivals (Mt 2: 1-18). The feast has been kept since the fourth century. The "Holy Babes and Sucklings" (St. Jerome) have been considered to be martyrs because they died not only for Christ but instead of Christ. In honouring them, the Church honours all who die in a state of innocence and seeks to console parents and children with the conviction that these also will share the glory of the infant companions of the infant Jesus in heaven.

### Solemnity of Mary Mother of God - 1st January



On 1st January we observe the solemnity of Mary the Mother of God. This is a natural theme having just celebrated the birth of her son Jesus. The birth of a child is always a sign of hope... hope not just for the parents and immediate family, but also for the whole community. The lives of Mary and Jesus spell a vision of a hope, a vision of justice and peace, a vision of freedom and liberation, a vision of social change and concern for the common good. It spells a vision of God present in the poor child and the holy young woman of Nazareth; a vision of God to be found in all the people and things of our world and especially among the poor.

**St Francis, Ascot, Fatima Devotions** Knights of St Columba, Home Rosary Praying Group: Monday 20th to Friday 31st December at 1.30pm. 30 minutes of praying the rosary as requested by Our Lady. Zoom ID: 71565269619 Password for each day: rosary



### Church Cleaners

We need more volunteers to help sanitise the church. If you are able to swell the number of helpers available it will be greatly appreciated. Please get in touch with the Parish Office if you can help. Thank you



### Office Opening Times

The Parish Office will be open on Friday 31st December 9.30am to 2pm and will reopen as normal on Wednesday 5th January.

*Wishing you all a very Blessed, Holy and Happy Christmas*