



A shoot shall spring from the stock of Jesse

The Catholic Parish of Our Lady & St John, Goring-on-Thames & Christ the King, Woodcote

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SUNDAY 4 DECEMBER 2022 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Monday 5 ST BIRINUS
Tuesday 6 St Nicolas
Wednesday 7 St Ambrose
Thursday 8 IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
OF OUR LADY
Friday 9 Feria
Saturday 10 St Edmund Jennings
Sunday 11 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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| Goring | Sat 6pm Canon Philip Ursell (birthday) |
| Goring (Latin) | 8.00am George Wallis RIP |
| Goring | 10.00am Parish & people |
| Woodcote | 11.30am St Birinus' Parish, Dorchester |
| Goring | 7.30am David Macnab (anniv.) |
| Goring | 6.00pm Thanksgiving after an operation |
| Goring | 9.30am A parishioner's hospital treatment |
| Goring | 7.30am Garry Bennett (anniv.) |
| Woodcote | 12.00pm Mary Letitia Sammons (anniv.) |
| Goring | 6.00pm Parish & people |
| Goring | 9.00am <i>Holy Hour</i> |
| Goring | 10.00am Peggy Allaway (1st anniv.) |
| Goring | 5.00pm <i>Confessions</i> |
| Goring | 6.00pm Mgr Anthony Wilcox |
| Goring (Latin) | 8.00am Parish & people |
| Goring | 10.00am Private intention |
| Woodcote | 11.30am Private intention |

The priests are always delighted to receive requests for Mass intentions. Please let us know about the ill, the housebound and those who need the Sacraments at home. The Rosary is prayed 15 minutes before Mass. Mass is streamed on the Goring and Woodcote Catholic Parish page on Facebook. Thank you for your generosity to the Catholic Church in so many ways, not least financial.

ADVENT

SAFEGUARDING NEWS

MASS IN THE COLD

PLEASE PRAY ...

As I said last week, when Christmas Day falls on a Sunday we have the joy of the longest possible Advent season. The liturgical provision is wonderfully rich and varied. Today we have the image of the shoot springing from Jesse. Dorchester Abbey, just up the road, has one of the great Jesse Windows to survive from mediaeval England. Why not pop in and have a look at some point this week?

WALK WITH ME

I am sorry that all the copies went quite quickly last week and one or two people missed out. I will try to pick up a few extra copies from Archbishop's House during the week. If you would like me to drop one round please have a word.

PRAYER WITH ST TERESA

The talk presented by an enclosed Carmelite on Zoom last Tuesday was really good and it was nice to see a number of our folk supporting it. Full details overleaf.

I am very grateful to Mrs Lucy Bonnett for talking over from Kim Walker as our Safeguarding Representative. The formalities have now been processed by the diocese. This is, of course, an essential part in the life of any parish. Full details of Lucy's role and her contact details will be posted very soon. I am more grateful that I can say to Kim for all she has done for us for so many years on this front. As many of you know, she has moved from Elvendon Road to Bix.

READERS AT MASS

6pm: Simon Enright; 10am: the Roberts family; 11.30: Chris Gregory, Anna Griffiths.

REFRESHMENTS AFTER MASS

Please stay if you can for a cup of coffee after the 10am Mass to warm yourself up and meet fellow parishioners. This was one of Fr Antony's thoughts when planning the Galilee project.

We will experiment for a few weeks with saying the Goring midweek Masses in the Galilee. This will save considerable amounts on heating the church and also save hot air pumping out into the Oxfordshire skies. I need to move the wooden altar which used to stand by St Joseph and then in the nave from the garage. It is buried behind huge amounts of furniture.

C.T.K. HEATING

I am sorry that last Sunday was so chilly. We have had a smart meter fitted which has changed the circuitry. Our friend Jonathan Hart is on the case. I have invested in an industrial heater which should help until things are sorted out. Jonathan will also be looking at one or two lighting issues at Goring.

VOTIVE LAMPS

These burn during December for the Beckett and Brown families, for David and Lindsay Goddard and for Tina Rapinet.

... among the sick for William, Margaret, Jeanie, Rosemary, Anne-Marie, Elizabeth, Mary, John, Gill, Joan, Lavinia, Lyall, Tony, Kevin, John, Linda, Patsy, baby Annabelle, John, Emily, Rose, Ilene, Richard, Catherine, Patrick, Anne, Malcolm, Ida, Charlotte, Denis, Henry, Teresa, Peter, Paul, Jemima, Barry, Oliver, Crispin, Cordelia, Peter, Monica, John, Eva Maria, Tom, Charlie, Sophie, Bob, Paul, Bob, Jacob, Justin, Victoria & 10 others.

... for those who have died recently, among them Nicola Flannery, Fr Ian Ker, John Walsh and George Wallis.

... for those whose anniversaries fall about this time, including Hilda Walsh, David Macnab, Michael McMahan, Mary Letitia Sammons, Patrick Walsh, Margaret Allaway.

... for Monsignor Anthony Wilcox who is moving to Lichfield this week after 30 years in Henley. He has been a fine Dean and a great friend to many.

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New parish forms are available, now GDPR compliant. Our records are a little eccentric; please fill one in so we are up to date and legal.
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VILLAGE CHRISTMAS CARDS

We thank Jill and Wendy from St Thomas's for all the hard work which has gone into this year's ecumenical Christmas card for Goring. These have been placed in folders which will be in the church after the early service today. If you can take a road and drop them through the letter boxes that would be a work very well done. Spares at the back of the church next week.

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

As usual we are looking for volunteers to make up a window decoration at Goring. There is a common colour scheme and, as in past years, Chris Gregory will bring oasis, container and candles. Can you help?

LOOKING FORWARD: OLSJ AT 125

Pentecost 2023 marks the 125th anniversary of the opening of the church in Goring. To mark the occasion, the Archbishop will be with us on Trinity Sunday, 4 June, which will also be our traditional First Communion Mass. There will be other celebrations.

LIVE ON THE GALILEE WEBSITE

Friday 10 February: the tenor David De Winter and baroque specialists *The Brook Street Band* present a concert of music by Heinrich Schutz in his 350th anniversary year featuring virtuoso music from Venice which the German master visited twice. David is a member of the choir of Westminster Cathedral and Opus Anglicanum, among many other groups, and sang here last year. The next edition of Round & About will have an advertisement. Is there a generous soul who might be willing to sponsor that?

FOR YOUR 2023 DIARY

Posting Letters to the Moon—a dramatized presentation of the wartime letters of Celia Johnson and her husband Peter Fleming on 21 April. An evening of great charm with Lucy Fleming and her husband Simon Williams reading from her parents' wartime letters, the author Peter being in India and the great actress Celia being at home in Nettlebed. In addition, our friend Julian McNamara, now at Downside School but for many years a parishioner here, will give an organ recital in the spring. Date tbc.

MAGNIFICAT & BENEDICTUS

Many of us already use the *Magnificat* publication which comes monthly and contains the prayers and reading not only for Mass but for large parts of the Daily Office and other meditations. I recommend it highly. Why not subscribe for 2023? Details are available through the Catholic Herald website: catholicherald.co.uk/magnificat There is a parallel publication called *Benedictus* which gives similar provision for the older use and the Latin Mass. Details are at praybenedictus.com

HAVING A PARTY?

The Galilee kitchen has hundreds of glasses, lots of china, cutlery, table linen and other things, available to borrow if you wish. And as a bonus, the parish commercial dishwasher makes slight work of the washing-up. Do ask. The service is free but donations are always welcome, particularly to cover the cost of firing up the Hobart dishwasher.

ADVENT COURSE

Our friend Fr John Osman and his parish at Dorchester have developed a fascinating looking course looking at — and doing! — prayer through the lens of St Teresa of Avila, one of the greatest saints of the mystical tradition. This will take place on Tuesday nights at 7pm via Zoom led by a Carmelite sister from an enclosed community.

1. Introduction to St Teresa
2. Finding Christ in prayer
3. Transformation in prayer
4. Prayer and the Church

ZOOM ID code: 5017884510 Passcode: 734516

Last week I suggested that I would preach on the same themes. Having thought about this, I will stick to preaching on the Mass readings but Sister has a huge amount to teach us. We wish our friends at Dorchester well for their feast day on Monday.

ADVENT: A BUSY DAY

Wednesday 21 December: the Rorate Mass at 7.00am, offered by candle-light before dawn. Please note that this is half an hour earlier than advertised last week. GORING.

Wednesday 21 December: Penitential Service at 7pm with visiting priests from across the Deanery. A perfect opportunity to make your confession to someone other than the parish priests! WOODCOTE.

A CONFIRMATION CHANGE

Owing to a combination of circumstances, not just in our own parish, we have taken the decision to postpone the Confirmation to next year. A nice sunny day next summer may well be easier to get everyone together and may even give others the opportunity to join the confirmands.

THE NEEDS BOX

... has been very busy recently. Many of the things which are donated make their way down to the ecumenical Churches Drop-in Centre in Reading where they are put to very good use with people who can give them a good home. With the weather turning much colder and the financial situation really beginning to bite for so many the needs certainly will not be going away. Thank you for everything you do and are able to give.

NOVEMBER MASS ATTENDANCE

| | | |
|--------|-----|------|
| 6 Nov | 131 | (18) |
| 13 Nov | 126 | (26) |
| 20 Nov | 100 | (8) |
| 27 Nov | 134 | (28) |

(Parishioners under 16 in brackets)

CHRISTMAS IN THE PARISH

Christ must be at the heart of any Christian's celebration. This may help you plan these few days. I hope that there is sufficient opportunity for everyone to fulfil our Obligation. Please let me know of friends who will require the sacraments at home.

23 DECEMBER

Confessions:

12pm at Woodcote; 6pm at Goring

24 DECEMBER

Vigil Mass & carols: 5pm at Goring

Mass of Christmas Night & carols:

8pm at Woodcote; 10pm at Goring

25 DECEMBER

Mass of the Dawn:

7am (Latin); 8am (English) both at Goring

Mass of Christmas Day & carols:

10am at Goring; 11.30am at Woodcote