



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

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31 DECEMBER 2023

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY (*Christmas I*)

|             |  |                            |            |                                     |
|-------------|--|----------------------------|------------|-------------------------------------|
|             |  | Goring                     | Sat 6.00pm | Heather Vockings (per AMH)          |
|             |  | Goring (Latin)             | 8.00am     | Parish & people                     |
|             |  | Goring                     | 10.00am    | Those who have died in 2023         |
|             |  | Woodcote                   | 11.30am    | Thanksgiving for blessings received |
| Monday 1    | MARY MOTHER OF GOD   | Goring                     | NB 9.30am  | Elizabeth Livingstone (1st anniv.)  |
| Tuesday 2   | Ss. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen  | Goring                     | 6.00pm     | Leon Carberry                       |
| Wednesday 3 | The Most Holy Name of Jesus  | Goring                     | 9.30am     | Pope Benedict XVI (1st anniv.)      |
| Thursday 4  | Feria in Christmastide   | Woodcote                   | 12.00pm    | William O'Connell RIP               |
|             |  | Goring                     | 7.00pm     | Confirmation candidates             |
| Friday 5    | Feria in Christmastide   | Goring                     | 9.00am     | <i>Holy Hour for peace</i>          |
|             |  | <i>First Friday</i> Goring | 10.00am    | Private intention                   |
| Saturday 6  | The Epiphany ( <i>older calendar</i> )   | Goring                     | 5.00pm     | <i>Confessions</i>                  |
|             |  | Goring                     | 6.00pm     | Private intention                   |
| Sunday 7    | THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD<br>( <i>transferred</i> ) ( <i>Sunday in the Octave</i> ) | Goring (Latin)             | 8.00am     | Parish & people                     |
|             |  | Goring                     | 10.00am    | Private intention                   |
|             |  | Oratory School             | NB 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 the daily Mass. Mass is streamed on the parish page on Facebook. Thank you for your generosity to the Catholic Church in so many ways, not least financial.

A BLESSED CHRISTMAS THE NEXT TWO SUNDAYS

Fr Kenneth and Fr Jacob wish all parishioners, friends and families the greatest possible joy and every blessing of Christmastide. Thank you for all your greetings expressed in so many ways. It has been simply overwhelming.

Thank you in particular for your generosity with the Christmas Offering. As I have said before, this is one of the two main sources of an income for parish priests, Easter being the other. It is an eccentric, strange, some might even say mediaeval, system although the modern HMRC knows all about it when priests come to fill in their tax returns. Thank you again.

And thank you to everyone, young and not quite so young who worked so hard getting both churches ready for Christmas season. They look absolutely terrific.

SUN 7 JAN: the 11.30am Mass will be celebrated, as in recent years, in the St Joseph's Chapel at the Oratory School. I am very grateful to the school for their welcome. The Woodcote 10K run means that the roads around Christ the King are shut. Please enter by the gate on Greenmore, park in the car park immediately on your right.

SAT 13 / SUN 14 JAN: as I will be away on my post-Christmas break the weekend pattern will be different. Fr David Rocks will offer Mass at GORING AT 6pm ON SATURDAY and WOODCOTE AT 11.30AM ON SUNDAY. Thus *each church will have a Mass of the Sunday*. However, it has proved impossible to find cover for the 10am Mass. Or you might care to try our neighbouring parishes!

PLEASE PRAY

... for the souls of Diana Coley, Heather Vockings, Sheila English and Brook Ward who have died recently and for Pat Gaynor, Maurice Molloy and Paul Evershad (annivs.)

READERS AT MASS

6pm: John O'Donohue; 10am: the Roberts family; 11.30am: the Hart family

THE CRIB COLLECTION

... will be divided this year between *Friends of the Holy Land* helping our brothers and sisters particularly in Gaza and *Let the Children Live*, a charity run by Fr Peter Walters, a British priest, helping the street children of Colombia. Thank you for your kindness and generosity already. The contactless machine at Goring is set up with a separate account for this. Please tap.

PLEASE PRAY

... for two parishioners being Confirmed by Canon Fitzpatrick ... among the sick for Margaret, Jeanie, Anne-Marie, Elizabeth, Mary, John, Gill, Joan, Lavinia, Kevin, John, Patsy, Annabelle, John, Emily, Rose, Ilene, Catherine, Patrick, Anne, Charlotte, Denis, Teresa, Peter, Paul, Jemima, Barry, Oliver, Cordelia, Peter, Monica, Eva Maria, Tom, Charlie, Sophie, Paul, Jacob, Justin, Victoria, Maureen, Eva, Bob, Gail, Tony, Francis, Claire, Ann, Tim, Susannah, Anzelika, Bill, Lucy, Linda, David and Lindsey, Heather, Gail, Sr Maria Goretti, Pat, Conty, Emma, Paul, Deborah, Christine, Mark, Leon & 12 more.

VOTIVE LIGHTS

... burn during January for the Brown family. Three are still available to sponsor.

2023 average attendances (under 16s in brackets): Jan 131(24); Feb 112(19); Mar 115(23); Apr 140(29); May 126(28); Jun 127(31); Jul 111(16); Aug 103(14); Sep 125(28); Oct 110(20); Nov 123(31); Dec 122(22); year avge 120(24); Easter 240; Christmas 359(88)

*The parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocesan policies & procedures at all times. Our Safeguarding Representative is Lucy Bonnett who may be contacted at sg.ol.stjohngothames@rcaob.org.uk. Alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team may be contacted on 0121 230 6240 / safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concern.*