

**CATHOLIC PARISH OF OUR LADY & ST JOHN, Goring on  
Thames and CHRIST THE KING, Woodcote**  
[www.ourladyandstjohngoring.org.uk](http://www.ourladyandstjohngoring.org.uk)

Tel. 01491 872181      Email: [ourladyandstjohn@btinternet.com](mailto:ourladyandstjohn@btinternet.com)

Parish Priest: Rev Antony Conlon HEL PhD  
Assistant Priest (retired): Fr Jacob Lewis (tel. 01635 578714)

**PARISH BULLETIN** 27 Dec. 2015. THE HOLY FAMILY (C) Ps. Wk 1

SUNDAY MASS TIMES -	6.00pm (Sat)	10.00am	11.30am (Woodcote)
READERS 26-27 Dec	O'Donohue Family	J Vilc/K Harding	E Hupé/F Preston
" 2-3 Jan 2016	Lewis Family	J & M Shinkwin	Mrs Griffiths/C Gregory
CLEANING/FLOWERS	2 Jan - Group E (G)	2 Jan - Hupé Family (W)	////////////////////
COUNTERS (Next 3 weeks)	28 Dec- W. O'Connell	4 Jan - C. Gregory	11 Jan - C. Holliday

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION 20.12.15 = £533.** Many thanks to all contributors & Gift Aid supporters.

**FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK – The Holy Innocents** – the children of Bethlehem massacred at the orders of King Herod. **St Thomas Becket** – (1118-1170) Murdered in Canterbury Cathedral on this day in 1170 at the behest of King Henry II. **Pope St Sylvester** (d. 335AD). The only Pope of that name, he lived to see the end of persecution and the first public buildings in Rome as Primate of the Universal Church. **The Motherhood of the Blessed Virgin Mary** - a celebration of Mary as the chosen one of God, who provided the human ancestry and nature of Jesus, the Second Person of the Most Blessed Trinity.

**THANK YOU** - to all who helped in every way with the preparation & decoration of the church for Christmas and with the music, readings and serving on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

**GRATEFUL THANKS** to so many of you for all the cards, gifts and the Christmas Offerings received. May God bless you.

**THE HOLY FAMILY** – A famous painting by the Spanish artist Bartolomé Murillo depicts the Holy Family of Nazareth with, above them, the Most Blessed Trinity. It is, as it were, a comparison of the secret of unity of human love, fidelity and intimacy manifested in the relationship of Jesus, Mary and Joseph with that mysterious divine intimacy and creative love that exists in the communion of Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Genuine love always radiates outwards and embraces everything that is intended for the welfare and good of the beloved. It is never satisfied with half-measures or tires of seeking to extend its capacity to give and to receive whatever will benefit and support the other. The Holy Family held a unique and precious secret that perhaps could never be spoken of without risk or threat of exposure to blasphemy and its consequent punishment. While all three lived together and until Jesus emerged with his true identity of God in human form it had to remain unspoken and within the family unit. Nazareth in Galilee, distant from Jerusalem and Bethlehem was anonymous and safer in which to live and for Jesus to grow up securely, under the human guidance of two people, who, because of their singular virtues and piety were ideally chosen for the task by God. They were not a typical family in that sense. But they have many lessons to teach us. The lessons of domestic piety, humility, silence, perfect love, total obedience, practical fidelity and the value of human craftsmanship and artistry. Of all the relics that may exist, connected with the life and death of Jesus, it has always surprised me that no one has ever produced something made by his hands. Now that would be a most precious item of inestimable value and interest, to be venerated, exhibited and cherished.

Sun 27 Dec- THE HOLY FAMILY  
Sat 6.00pm – Tina Rapinet RIP  
Sun 10.00am –  
11.30am – Holy Souls  
Mon 28 – The Holy Innocents  
10.00am – Holy Souls  
Tue 29- St Thomas Becket  
9.30am – Holy Souls  
Wed 30 Octave of Christmas  
9.30am – Holy Souls  
Thu 31 – Pope St Sylvester  
9.30am –  
12.00 – Holy Souls

**HYMNS**  
53  
605  
648  
753

Fri 1 Jan 2016 – The Motherhood of Our Lady  
9.00am – Holy Hour & Benediction  
10.00- Holy Souls  
Sat 2 – SS Basil & Gregory Nazianzen  
9.30am – Holy Souls  
6.00pm –  
Sun 3 – EPIPHANY OF THE LORD  
10.00 – Holy Souls  
11.30am –  
**Confession** – Saturdays: 10.30–11.00am and after 6pm Mass (Goring). Confession at Woodcote: 12-12.30pm, **3rd Saturday of the month**. At other times on call at Goring.