

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

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29 DECEMBER 2024

THE HOLY FAMILY (*Christmas I*)



		Goring	Sat 6.00pm	Private intention
		Goring (Latin)	8.00am	Parish & people
		Goring	10.00am	Mary Esther Wigglesworth (newly born)
		Woodcote	11.30am	William O'Connell (1st anniv.)
Monday 30	Of the Christmas Octave	Goring	8.00am	Clive Bosley RIP
Tuesday 31	Of the Christmas Octave (St Silvester)	Goring	6.00pm	Thanksgiving for benefactors & <i>Te Deum</i>
Wednesday 1	MARY, MOTHER OF GOD	Goring	9.30am	God's blessing on the new year
Thursday 2	Ss Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen	Woodcote	12.00pm	Fr David Barnes RIP
Friday 3	The Most Holy Name of Jesus	Goring	9.00am	<i>Holy Hour</i>
		Goring	10.00am	Private intention
Saturday 4	Saturday in Christmastide	Goring	5.00pm	<i>Confessions</i>
		Goring	6.00pm	Private intention
Sunday 5	THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD	Goring (Latin)	8.00am	Parish & people
	(<i>transferred</i>)	Goring	10.00am	& <i>Epiphany ceremonies</i>
	<i>Christmas II</i>	Woodcote	11.30am	& <i>Epiphany ceremonies</i>

The parish is 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. The Parish Priest tries to take Tuesday apart from Mass as a quiet day. Thank you for your generosity to the Catholic Church in so many ways, not least financial. Our Masses are generally streamed on the *Goring and Woodcote Catholic Parish* page on Facebook.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

AND THANKS

I would like to thank you all for the wonderful effort which went into our celebration of the start of the great season of Christmas. Christmas, of course, does not "just happen." Many, many people helped in so many ways, some of them, indeed, not being here on Christmas Day itself as family plans took them elsewhere. It is invidious (and dangerous!) to start singling people out so I hope a big "THANK YOU" from the bottom of my heart will go some way towards saying what needs to be said. Speaking personally, I would also like to thank you all for your generosity in the Christmas Offering, in the many cards and presents which have come to the presbytery, and for your forbearance with my coughs, colds and sniffles. Thank you for being understanding about my contact with some Covid sufferers just before Christmas itself. The remaining Holy Communion visits will be done as soon as it is safe.

JUBILEE YEAR

This was inaugurated on the evening of Christmas Eve by the Pope at St Peter's. There is information about it in the Archbishop's Pastoral Letter this morning. There will be various events at local, national and international levels. Our Lady & St Anne at Caversham is one of the diocesan pilgrimage sites.

CRIB COLLECTION

Thank you to everyone who has given generously already. As you may have heard, we will divide this year's collection at the crib between a very local charity—the churches' drop-in centre in Reading—and something international, namely the charitable work of the Latin Patriarchate in Jerusalem which is supported by organisations such as the Knights of the Holy Sepulchre and Friends of Holy Land. You may have heard Cardinal Nichols on Radio 4 reinforcing the information which James Long passed on about the work of the Holy Family parish in Gaza and other parishes and missions. Thank you all.

DOLLY FITZPATRICK RIP

We send Canon Paul Fitzpatrick, our Dean and friend from Henley, our prayers and sympathy on the death of his mother two days before Christmas. May she rest in peace.

READERS AT MASS

6pm: Monique Wilkinson; 10am: David Browne & Richard Harding; 11.30: Rose Metcalf.

VOTIVE LIGHTS

... burn during December for the Brown family at Woodcote and for the Pacey family, Tina Rapinet and EM at Goring. Two are already sponsored for January. Would you like to dedicate one of the others?

CHRISTMAS 2025!

The present pattern grew out of the lock-down Christmases, not least when Fr Jacob was with us. It may be the case that things will need to be streamlined. On the other hand, 400 people were able to be at Mass which cannot be bad!

THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED Please pray for Dolly Fitzpatrick, Clive Bosley, Fr David Barnes, Jackie Nally, David Symons, Rosemary Samways, Fr Jacob Lewis; & William Hallett, Mary Creamer, William O'Connell, Pat Gaylor, Doris Gregory, Thomas More Eyston, Elfrida Butler & Maurice Molloy.

PLEASE PRAY

... 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, Teresa, Peter, Paul, Jemima, Barry, Oliver, Cordelia, Peter, Monica, Eva Maria, Tom, Charlie, Sophie, Paul, Jacob, Justin, Victoria, Maureen, Eva, Bob, Gail, Tony, Claire, Ann, Tim, Susannah, Anzelika, Bill, Linda, David and Lindsey, Gail, Sr Maria Goretti, Pat, Emma, Paul, Deborah, Christine, Mark, Leon, Charlie, Catherine, Colin, Patricia, Gary, Keith, John, Alice, Philippa, Fr Bruce, Tamsin, Miriam, Adam, David, Rose, Fr Michael, Rosie, Jake, for 9 others & for SG's friends; *We will review this list for next week. Please keep us informed of people's progress. There is no limit to length of time but information is good to have.*

THE NEEDS BOX at the back of church in Goring supports the work of Churches In Reading Drop In Centre (CIRDIC.) Thank you for all your generosity.

The parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocesan policies & procedures at all times. Our Safeguarding Representative may be contacted at sg.ol.stjohnthames@rcaob.org.uk. Until Lucy's successor is officially appointed it may be best to contact the Diocesan Safeguarding team on 0121 230 6240 or safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concern.