



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

Fr Kenneth Macnab 01491 872181
fr.kenneth.macnab@rcaob.org.uk www.ourladyandstjohn.org.uk

2 FEBRUARY 2025

PRESENTATION OF THE LORD (*Candlemas*)

Monday 3	St Blaise
Tuesday 4	Feria
Wednesday 5	St Agatha
Thursday 6	Ss. Paul Miki & companions
Friday 7	Feria
Saturday 8	St Jerome Emilian
Sunday 9	SUNDAY V OF THE YEAR (<i>Epiphany V</i>)

Goring	Sat 6.00pm	Walsingham
Goring (Latin)	8.00am	Parish & people
Goring	10.00am	Private intention
Woodcote	11.30am	Roger Markwick RIP
Goring	8.00am	Private intention
Goring		<i>No Mass today</i>
Goring	9.30am	Private intention
Woodcote	12.00pm	Fr Eric Smith (anniv.)
Goring	9.00am	<i>Holy Hour for vocations</i>
Goring	10.00am	For vocations
Woodcote	5.00pm	<i>Confessions</i>
Goring	6.00pm	Private intention
Goring (Latin)	8.00am	Parish & people
Goring	10.00am	Private intention
Woodcote	11.30am	Ignatius Pereira

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 streamed when possible on the *Goring and Woodcote Catholic Parish* page on Facebook.

TODAY'S FEAST

Being Candlemas—one of relatively few feast days which the present calendar keeps when they fall on a Sunday—at the sung Masses we have the usual blessing of candles and processions at the two sung Masses. It is always a wonderful occasion.

After the 10am Mass we will have one of our Coffee-and-Cake sessions. Thank to everyone who has baked and to those who have organised this and who will help this morning. We will have another one on Lent IV (Mothering Sunday) when our younger parishioners can have a go at cooking something.

CRIB COLLECTION

Today is the last day for the Crib and it will be packed away this evening until next Christmas. Thank you for your generosity. We banked £760 this week and today is a last opportunity if you would still like to contribute. This will be divided between the drop-in centre in Reading and the church's emergency work in the Holy Land.

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.

FEBRUARY FOR VOCATIONS

The Archbishop has asked our Deanery to take responsibility for praying for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life during the month of February. Our regular Holy Hour on Fridays (and the Friday Masses where there is no other specific intention) will be particularly focussed on this essential work of prayer. Overleaf you will find more meditations from Luke Theobald from Sonning Common who is now at seminary in Rome.

PILGRIMS OF HOPE

This Jubilee Year is focussed on the idea of pilgrimage. We have had a number of good suggestions and will try to arrange some or all of these ...
spring: Saturday walking pilgrimage to Our Lady of Caversham
10 May: Saturday pilgrimage to Walsingham with the diocese
24-30 May: diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes
summer: parish trip to Harvington
November: joint trip to Rome with Our Lady & St Anne, Caversham.
See overleaf for more details.

READERS AT MASS

6pm: Maggie Shinkwin; 10am: the Singleton family; 11.30: tbc.

VOTIVE LAMPS

These burn during February for the Brown family at Woodcote and for Jonathan Smith at Goring. Two remain. Would you like to dedicate one to someone or some intention?

FIRST AID & OTHER THINGS

These may be found at the back of the church at Woodcote and in the Galilee kitchen at Goring. There are bio-hazard cleaning boxes as well. At Goring there is a defibrillator in the kitchen in the green box on the wall. OLSJ has baby-changing facilities..

ULTRA LOW GLUTEN HOSTS

These are available at both churches and in the chapel at the Prep School. Please ask if you need one.

HAVING A PARTY?

The Galilee kitchen has lots of restaurant glass, china, cutlery, table linen and other things. If it would ever help to borrow them, please do not hesitate to ask. There is no charge (but donations are never unwelcome!)

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, Rosie, Jake, Ignatius, for 10 others & for SG's friends;
We are reviewing this list. There is no limit to length of time but information is always good to have.

THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED Please pray for Roger Markwick who has died recently and also for Fr Eric Smith, Bernadette Tierney and Marcin Wierzkicki (anniversaries this week.)

MEDIATIONS FROM A SEMINARIAN

Hello, my name is Luke Theobald, a seminarian for the Archdiocese of Birmingham from Sonning Common, South Oxfordshire. I am in my fifth year of formation to the priesthood and currently on a pastoral year in Coventry. This month of February, the South Oxfordshire deanery, which includes your parish, is invited to pray for priestly vocations.

Currently in our diocese there are six seminarians: two in Rome, two in Birmingham and two at Valladolid in Spain. While it is a privilege to be among such devoted people, the Church always needs more good and faithful people to respond to his call. The parish priest where I am attached for this year ministers to two parishes, St Thomas More (300-400 attendees) and St Joseph the Worker (100-150 attendees) with their housebound parishioners, funerals and hospital visits as well as a primary school, a secondary school and the chaplaincy at the University of Warwick (100-150 attendees). It is inspiring and very encouraging to see so much going on in each of these communities. However, with an expected 50% decline in active priests in the next decade, there is a pressing need for vocations. As Christ said, "The harvest is rich, but the labourers are few." Please pray for vocations this month, using the suggested prayer below, perhaps before your main family meal.

"Heavenly Father, we ask you to send labourers into your harvest.

Inspire, in the hearts of your people, vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life.

Bless our families with a spirit of generosity,

so that those whom you call have the courage to give themselves to your Church in faith.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen."

ROME PILGRIMAGE 2025

A message from Our Lady and St Anne, Caversham

Fr Joseph McLoughlin is leading a pilgrimage to Rome in November 2025. We have 17 pilgrims going at the moment and if anyone else would like to join us then you would be most welcome. Details are attached and then please contact the parish office as soon as possible on ol.stanne.caversham@rcaob.org.uk if you would like to know anything more or to make a booking.

Provisional Itinerary

Monday 24th November

Fly to Rome. Transfer to Hotel Emmaus for 4 nights stay on half board basis – evening meal will be taken at a local restaurant. Celebrate Mass locally

Tuesday 25th, Wednesday 26th & Thursday 27th November

A full programme will be organized including:

Early morning Mass at St Peter's Basilica, attendance at Papal Audience, a half day guided tour of the City with coach – this would usually be used to visit St Paul's Outside the Walls Basilica, then on to St John Lateran and from there the group would walk to St Mary Major and return to the hotel on foot or by taxi if required. We can apply for the group to Process through the Holy Doors. Walking tours will also be undertaken with your courier.

Friday 28th November

Transfer to Rome for return flight to the UK.

Costs: Payable to Tangney Tours

£1150 for double/twin room and £1276 for single room. Some triples available.

Covers return flights, transfers in Rome, half board accommodation, tour guide. Personal Insurance is included; £20 reduction if you have your own cover. Not included are lunches, tips and donations to the Churches.

Costs: Payable to St. Anne's Church

£60 (max) to cover transfer to and from UK airport.