

Holy Angels, Ash GU12 6LU www.holyangelsash.org

# The Nativity of the Lord

Midnight Mass (p98) Holy Family Mass (p101) Holy Angels Mass (p103)





Holy Family, Farnham GU9 0LH www.holyfamilyfarnham.org

Confessions: 5.00pm Saturday (HA), after masses on the 1st Sunday of the month, Thursdays (usually) during adoration. [HA= Holy Angels, Ash and HF= Holy Family, Farnham]

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Sat 24 Dec	5.00pm	HF	First Mass of Christmas/Children's crib service	Deceased relatives and friends of the Power family.
	11.00pm		Carols and Lessons	
	11.30pm		Midnight Mass	Intentions of the Lambert family
Sun 25 Dec	9.15am	HF	NATIVITY OF THE LORD	Brendan & Dominic Carberry
	11.00pm	HA		Father Jim Martin (RIP)
Mon 26 Dec	8.00am	HA	Mass (St Stephen)	Thomas McDonagh RIP
Tue 27 Dec			No Mass	
Wed 28 Dec			No Mass	
Thur 29 Dec			No Mass	
Fri 30 Dec	9.30am	HA	No Mass	
Sat 31 Dec	5.30pm	HA	Vigil Mass	Rosina Prendiville (RIP)
Sun 1 Jan	9.15am	HF	MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD	Deceased friends & family of the McGuckin family
	11.00am	HA		Missa Pro Populo

	Offertory
Holy Family	£271.00
Holy Angels	£275.51

#### FR ROBIN AND DEACON JOHN WISH ALL OUR PARISHIONERS AND VISITORS A VERY HAPPY AND A HOLY CHRISTMAS.

And a special thank you to everyone who has worked so hard both to prepare our churches for this wonderful feast, but also in the way you have supported our parishes over the last year.

It hardly seems possible that I am about to celebrate my second Christmas with you as your parish priest, or that 2 years ago to the day as I write this I was moving into the Priest's House as a newly ordained deacon before rushing back to Hayward's Heath to finish my diaconal placement there. It wasn't in many ways the most ideal time to be moving house, but at the same time that experience of being a bit rootless and adrift at Christmas, of not quite being settled and at home, is a gift that I continue to reflect on each time I celebrate the feast. It can be too easy if we are fortunate to be celebrating Christmas in a settled and full family home to gloss over the reality of Jesus' birth in the stable, and to forget those who find this time of year a harder time to bear.

Each Christmas we are faced with the challenge of appreciating once again the extraordinary fact that God chose to become human, and not simply glossing over this wonderful statement, or allowing it be lost in the midst of our secular festivities. In a strange way being put out of our comfort zone can help us to do that just as much as the familiar sights and sounds we associate with Christmas can excite us and put us in the right frame of mind.

However you are celebrating this Christmas this year, allow Jesus his rightful place at its heart, and welcome him again with a renewed fervour as we prepare to begin the new year together.

Parish Office: 65 Ash Church Road, Ash, Surrey, GU12 6LU Parish Office Tel: 01252 321422 E-mail: holyofficesurrey@gmail.com Father Robin Farrow Tel: 01252 321422 Deacon – John Edwards Tel: 01252 405453 (home number)

## **Holy Angels**

**Singing:** We are having regular singing practice for the choir and anyone else who is interested in upcoming music, for a brief period after mass, before staying for a beverage! Please think about staying on briefly after mass for this - or for a coffee so you can listen to the singing! This will help us to consolidate what we are already able to sing and increase our repertoire of new church music.

**Christmas Raffle:** There is a list up on the back of Church detailing the names of all those who won raffle prizes. Please collect your prize from the kitchen after church. There are still a few prizes which have yet to be collected. Thanks to Chris Michie for organising this.

## Holy Family

Holy Family Film Nights: The 2017 film night dates have been released and are as follows. Fri 27 Jan, Fri 10 Mar, Fri 12 May, Fri 7 Jul, Fri 22 Sep, Fri 17 Nov

Don't forget to put them in your diary. 7.30 - 7:45 pm.

Please bring a suggested donation of £5 which will cover licensing, snacks and a generous provision of wine. All welcome.

### **Christmas Collections**

**Crib donations** are going to Friends of the Holy Land, which helps the poorest Christians in the Holy Land, especially in and around Bethlehem, the West Bank, Gaza, Israel and Jordan. It has been a particularly difficult year for Christians in the Middle East, please be generous.

Please do also keep in mind, the needs of the local and national homeless charities at this time.

#### Christmas offering

The Christmas offering collection is traditionally a personal gift to the priest and forms a significant part of his income. However, as a married priest, Father Robin donates these collections back to the parishes, to help the parishes provide a more regular income for him and his family throughout the year as per the diocesan policy. Thank you in advance for your usual generosity in helping your parish to support your priest in this way. This collection can be gift-aided.

### **Parish office**

The office will be closed between Christmas and New Year and there will be no masses from the 27th December, until the Vigil Mass on Saturday 31st December.

You will need to make an appointment if you need Father Robin to sign your school supplementary forms. Please ring or email the office. Fr Robin will be available in the first two weeks of the year.

Please remember that the office has a new email address: <u>holyofficesurrey@gmail.com</u> Please update your contacts accordingly. <u>The old email is completely</u> <u>defunct and email sent to that address is no longer</u> <u>reaching us.</u>

# **Big Picture course**

The Big Picture Course will resume in January: Weeks 7-12: 9th January 2017 to 17th February 2017

Don't forget that you can still join in with this course and participate at home if you are unable to make the meetings of the regular groups.

If you were enthused by the writings and ministry of Saint Teresa of Calcutta which formed part of our Advent reflection why not have a look at the website <u>motherteresainsurrey.org</u>

### Quinquennial Parish Property Survey

As reported to the AGM, we have recently had an independent review of the fabric of the church, the presbytery and the grounds, known as a quinquennial. This did not reveal any major issues other than a recommendation for a modernised kitchen, which the AGM endorsed and for which we have now obtained architect's drawings. There are however a very large number of relatively small recommendations like renewing the lines for the front car park bays and removing trip hazards. If there is anyone in the congregation which the kind of practical skills which your priest and finance committee lack and who would be prepared to give up a bit of time to help out with some of the tasks, Father Robin or Tim Flesher would be delighted to hear from you!



The history of salvation is not a small event, on a poor planet, in the immensity of the universe. It is not a minimal thing which happens by chance on a lost planet. It is the motive for everything, the motive for creation. Everything is created so that this story can exist, the encounter between God and his creature.

Pope Benedict XVI