



Mary, The Holy Mother of God (p109)



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

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]

Sat 31 Dec	5.30pm	HA	Vigil Mass	<i>Rosina Prendiville (RIP)</i>
Sun 1 Jan	9.15am 11.00pm	HF HA	MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD	<i>Deceased friends & family of the McGuckin family Missa Pro Populo</i>
Mon 2 Jan				
Tue 3 Jan	9.45am	HF	Mass (The Most Holy Name of Jesus)	<i>Deceased friends and family of the Taylor family</i>
Wed 4 Jan	9.10am 9.30am	HA	Rosary Mass	<i>Pixie Daly (RIP)</i>
Thurs 5 Jan	6.15pm 7.30pm	HF HF	Adoration Mass	<i>Terry Stark (RIP)</i>
Fri 6 Jan	9.30am	HA	Mass	
Sat 7 Jan	5.30pm	HA	Vigil Mass	<i>Intentions of the Abrew family</i>
Sun 8 Jan	9.15am 11.00am	HF HA	The Epiphany of the Lord	<i>Missa Pro Populo Elizabeth Morris (RIP)</i>

Offertory	
Holy Family	£1,100
Holy Angels	£710.65

FR ROBIN AND DEACON JOHN WISH ALL OUR PARISHIONERS AND VISITORS A VERY HAPPY AND HOLY NEW YEAR

And a special thank you to everyone who worked so hard to prepare our churches for Christmas and also in the way you have supported our parishes over the last year.

Father Robin is extremely grateful for the Christmas offerings which he donates to the parish in order to support the cost of a married priest and he and Deacon John are also very grateful for the cards and personal gifts given to them and their families by so many kind members of our extended parish family.

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.

Sacred Heart Candle: You may have noticed that there is now a seven-day votive offering candle permanently alight before the statute of the Sacred Heart at Holy Angels. Anyone who wishes to offer that votive candle for a particular private intention for a week, needs to speak to the office. The cost of the candles are £3.

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.

Karmelin Adams: The Revd David Adams and family are most grateful to Fr Robin and parishioners at Holy Family for their support when Karmelin was ill and following her death. Many of my Anglican colleagues have since commented on the beauty of the Requiem Mass liturgy and the friendly welcome. With best wishes and prayers for 2017. David

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2017. The **Unity Service**, which is the centrepiece of the week, will be hosted this year by **Farnham Methodist Church**, South St at **6 pm on Sunday, January 22nd, 2017.** It will be followed by light refreshments. David Ashby will be leading the service and we are most grateful to Farnham Methodists for agreeing to host it, and for their hospitality. **All are most welcome to attend.**

The Week of Prayer runs from Weds 18th January 2017 to Weds 25th January inclusive. Daily prayers for Christian Unity will be held in a variety of town-centre churches, starting at 10.30 and concluding, after refreshments, by 11.30 at the latest. Please do join us for one or more of these, praying that we may work together in presenting the love of Jesus to our town.

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.

Parish office

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: holyofficesurrey@gmail.com Please update your contacts accordingly. **The old email is completely defunct and email sent to that address is no longer reaching us.**

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 motherteresainsurrey.org

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!

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

On New Year's Day, the octave day of Christmas, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Holy Mother of God, the divine and virginal motherhood of the Blessed Virgin. It is the highest title of the Blessed Virgin Mary: Theotokos, Mother of God. This title was given to Mary at the Council of Ephesus 431 AD. The Council taught, however, that the humanity and divinity of Jesus could not be separated and that they exist in one person, with the momentous implication that we can rightly give Mary the title of Mother of God. Mothers bring life, a gift from God, into the world. That's why you sometimes hear the Church referred to as Mother. The Evangelist, Luke, describes her as the silent virgin who listens constantly to the Eternal Word, who lives in the Word of God.

This feast is the celebration of Mary's Motherhood of Jesus and is the oldest feast of Mary celebrated by the Catholic Church. Mary has an important role to play in the incarnation of the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity. She consents to God's invitation conveyed by the Angel (Luke 1: 26-38).

Elizabeth proclaims: 'Most blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb. How does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the infant in my womb leapt for joy. Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled.' And Mary said: 'My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour'.

Prayer: *Heavenly Father, you blessed the Virgin Mary with the fullness of grace. She is my model of faith, hope and love. I give this New Year to her intercession and ask for her holy prayers. Place my needs into the protection of her Motherly Love. With her help, I want my faith to grow. Give me an increase in the virtue of hope when troubles tempt me to despair. Guide me in understanding your infinite love. And join my heart, dear Lord, to the Holy Mother's Immaculate Heart, so that I may improve in loving everyone unconditionally, in imitation of my Saviour Jesus, Amen.*