



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

3rd December 2017
 1st Sunday in Advent

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

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

Sat 2 Dec	5.00pm		Advent Vespers (Evening Prayer)	
	5.30pm	HA	Vigil Mass	
Sun 3 Dec	9.15am	HF	First Sunday in Advent	<i>First Holy Communion Children</i>
	11.00am	HA		<i>Missa Pro Populo</i>
Mon 4 Dec			No Mass	
Tue 5 Dec	9.30am	HF	Mass	<i>Intentions of Caroline Farrow</i>
Wed 6 Dec	9.15am	HA	Rosary	
	9.30am		Mass St Nicholas	
Thur 7 Dec	6.15pm		Adoration	
	7.30pm	HF	Mass St Ambrose	
Fri 8 Dec	9.30am	HA	Mass The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	
Sat 9 Dec	5.00pm	HA	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction	
	5.30pm		Vigil Mass	
Sun 10 Dec	9.15am	HF	Second Sunday of Advent	<i>Missa Pro Populo</i>
	11.00am	HA	Mass	

Offertory

Holy Angels	
26 November	£216.39
Holy Family	
26 November	£117.00
A second collection for Christmas flowers will be taken after Masses next week	

After all masses his weekend: toy and cake sale fundraising for the orphanage in Tanzania.

News from Karibu Nyumbani

Fund raising for Karibu Nyumbani , Dates for diaries.: Saturday 9th Dec, mince pies and mulled wine, at Hilary's house , drop in between 3 and 7pm .
 Valentines supper 10th Feb.

Hilary's address is 23 Copse Avenue, Farnham, GU9 9ED

Bible Timeline

Following on from our Big Picture course we will run another course.. The Big Picture course picked out themes from the Bible in order to build a 'big picture' of the scriptures. This time we are planning to look at the *Quick Journey Through the Bible* a course that helps us get a better overview of the books of the bible and the way they relate to each other. It should work well as a follow up for those who participated in last years course and be accessible to everyone else as well.

We have decided to run these sessions over two Saturdays in the new year 27 January and 10 February, from 9.30am - 1.30pm finishing with a shared lunch. information. Please sign up as we need to order course material.

Christmas Social

We are holding a Christmas Social in the Alma Pub opposite Holy Family Church.

This is to be a buffet meal on Friday 8th December at 7.00pm with a raffle. Tickets will be £10 a head and we are asked to bring a raffle prize as well. Any money raised will go to the Karibu Nyumbani orphanage.

If you have any ideas for parish events - especially if you are willing to help put them on please do bring them to Fr Robin or Dcn John.

CAFOD - Holy Angels

Foodbank For the next few weeks please place items in cardboard box in St Mary's room.

World Gifts. As a parish we may wish to buy a 'World Gift' to help transform the lives of people in the poorest areas of the world. We are asking for individual donations which, added together, will enable our parish to buy a gift from the World Gift brochure (available from the Fairtrade stall). This may be a chicken, or a goat, a water pump, a mosquito net, a tent...depending on how much we collect. There is a donation jar at the Fairtrade stall.

'Tip for the week' Buy loose fruit and veg, etc. to avoid disposable packaging. It's often cheaper, too.

A success: "After a long battle, the Mauá community in Brazil celebrates as a forced eviction is suspended. Thanks to CAFOD support, hundreds of families will have a roof over their heads this Christmas."

Forthcoming dates

Friday 15th December Christmas carol service at Holy Family 7.00pm It would be lovely to have the children lead us in Away in a manger. Could those with children old enough to sing bring them along for 9.00am at Holy Family next week for a practice.

100 club winners

The 100 club is now back up and running following the return of funds mistakenly debited by the bank.

Tim Flesher oversaw the draw and we are pleased to announce the following winners, (in no particular order) just in time for Christmas: **Marion Grannell, Mrs C Gray, Jo Russell, Anne Berger, Mike Slater, Kay Day, John Smith, Maryla Vinson, Christina Allgood, Auriel Rankmore, Lorraine Brown, Colleen Gray, June Jamieson, Colleen Rutter, Chris Mann, Gloria Benson**

Please see Caroline for your cheque. Prizes range from £25 - £300

Next year the monthly draw will resume as per usual. Please consider joining - just a small monthly contribution (tickets cost £1 each) raises money for the parish and gives you a chance of a top monthly prize of £50. See Caroline for details.

Advent Groups

Ann Martindale (01252 681752) is running an Advent study group every Thursday.

Father Robin will be running an Advent group in St Mary's Room after the Mass on Wednesday morning.

Gloria Benson is also running an Advent group at her house (15 Derry Close, Ash Vale) on the following Tuesday evenings at 7pm: 28th November, 5th December, 12 December and 19 December.

Christmas Toy appeal

This year we will be supporting Eagle Radio's Christmas Toy appeal to help disadvantaged children in Surrey and North Hampshire. Please think about buying an extra present for a disadvantaged child or teenager when you are doing your Christmas shopping. A list of drop off points are available on the website, or alternatively, please leave your presents in the box at the back of church and we will undertake the drop-off. Presents should be unwrapped so they can be sorted into the correct age category.

A Diocesan Vision for Mission

Over the past few months you will be aware that we have been alluding to the year of 2030 by which time we expect to have just over half the number of active priests we have now, and of those half will be within ten years of retirement. Bishop Richard is rightly concerned that we approach this reality with careful prayer and planning (in that order). We cannot simply shuffle the priests and continue with exactly the same pattern of ministry we have at the moment, nor does he want to close swathes of churches as has happened in some dioceses. Instead he is engaging in a process of consultation with the diocese to help us focus on our mission as the church in our diocese and to how we can see this situation as a challenge to all of us to be more deeply committed in our faith and to reflect on how best to serve the people of God with the resources we have. This is not just to be a paperwork exercise to make the best of having fewer priests.

He has already visited each deanery and spoken to clergy, parish chairpersons and some representative laypeople. Now he is asking for parishes to also respond to this consultation, and he refers to this in his pastoral letter this weekend. Next week we will share the content of a presentation he has made, and issue some questionnaires. Following this we will be holding a meeting in each parish to help us feedback to the bishop. These meetings will be on Friday 19 Jan at Holy Family, and Saturday 20 January at Holy Angels. Both meetings will include a fish and chip supper.

Bishop Richard is very aware we have been through such exercises before and is straightforward about the fact that we cannot simply *keep sailing around the Isle of Wight*. He will have to make real decisions and if we are to have a voice we must accept the challenge to be involved in the conversation.