

ST BONIFACE CATHOLIC PARISH, TOOTING



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Priests: Fr Shaju Varkey and Fr Peter Audu

St George's Hospital Chaplaincy
Fr Mark Higgins
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St Boniface R.C. School
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Head Teacher: Mrs L. Platts

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT SUNDAY 20TH DECEMBER 2020– YEAR (B)

Our gospel reading is the story traditionally called 'the Annunciation'.



Luke in fact begins his gospel with two annunciations, the first to Zechariah about the coming birth of his son John the Baptist, and the second to Mary. In both passages the angel announces a birth and speaks of the greatness of the one who is to be born. In the case of Jesus: 'He will be called Son of the Most High.' What lies at the very heart of this passage is the request of God to Mary and her generous response, by which she allows the Son of God to become a human being within her. Mary hears the word of God and accepts the gift of the child, who is the Word, the Son of God. Paintings of the Annunciation often show Mary at prayer with the book of the Scriptures close by. She has come to know God through prayerful engagement with the Scriptures, and, at this crucial moment in the history of salvation, she responds generously to the call of God in her heart. Mary was not aware where this would lead her. The words 'I am the handmaid of the Lord' are filled with trust that, whatever lies ahead, God will give her the grace to remain faithful. This willingness to do God's will makes her the first of the disciples of Jesus, and the Mother of the Church. How can I be a faithful servant of the Lord, as Mary was? What does this moment of the Incarnation mean to me? Let us pray for trust and perseverance amid the trials which face us. Let us always be grateful for the wonderful deeds of God.



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ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

CONFITEOR / I CONFESS

I confess to almighty God
and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have greatly sinned
In my thoughts and in my words,
In what I have done
And in what I have failed to do,
Through my fault
Through my fault
through my most grievous fault;
Therefore I asked blessed Mary ever-Virgin,
All the Angels and Saints,
And you my brothers and sisters,
To pray for me to the Lord our God.

THE GLORIA: NO GLORIA DURING ADVENT

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

A reading from the second book of Samuel 7:1-5,8-12,14,16

Once David had settled into his house and the Lord had given him rest from all the enemies surrounding him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'Look, I am living in a house of cedar while the ark of God dwells in a tent.' Nathan said to the king, 'Go and do all that is in your mind, for the Lord is with you.' But that very night the word of the Lord came to Nathan:

'Go and tell my servant David, "Thus the Lord speaks: Are you the man to build me a house to dwell in? I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be leader of my people Israel; I have been with you on all your expeditions; I have cut off all your enemies before you. I will give you fame as great as the fame of the greatest on earth. I will provide a place for my people Israel; I will plant them there and they shall dwell in that place and never be disturbed again; nor shall the wicked continue to oppress them as they did, in the days when I appointed judges over my people Israel; I will give them rest from all their enemies. The Lord will make you great; the Lord will make you a House. And when your days are ended and you are laid to rest with your ancestors, I will preserve the offspring of your body after you and make his sovereignty secure. I will be a father to him and he a son to me; if he does evil, I will punish him with the rod such as men use, with strokes such as mankind gives. Your House and your sovereignty will always stand secure before me and your throne be established for ever.'"



The word of the Lord. *R. Thanks be to God.*

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Psalm 88(89):2-5,27,29*

R. I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord.

I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord;
through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth.
Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever,
that your truth is firmly established as the heavens. **R**

'I have made a covenant with my chosen one;
I have sworn to David my servant:
I will establish your dynasty for ever
and set up your throne through all ages. **R**

'He will say to me: "You are my father,
my God, the rock who saves me."
I will keep my love for him always;
with him my covenant shall last.' **R**

SECOND READING

A Reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Romans 16:25-27

Glory to him who is able to give you the strength to live according to the Good News I preach, and in which I proclaim Jesus Christ, the revelation of a mystery kept secret for endless ages, but now so clear that it must be broadcast to pagans everywhere to bring them to the obedience of faith. This is only what scripture has predicted, and it is all part of the way the eternal God wants things to be. He alone is wisdom; give glory therefore to him through Jesus Christ for ever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the handmaid of the Lord:

let what you have said be done to me.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John 1:26-38

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. He went in and said to her, 'Rejoice, so highly

favoured! The Lord is with you.' She was deeply disturbed by these words and asked herself what this greeting could mean, but the angel said to her, 'Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God's favour. Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David; he will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will have no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'But how can this come about, since I am a virgin?' 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you' the angel answered 'and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow. And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Know this too: your kinswoman Elizabeth has, in her old age, herself conceived a son, and she whom people called barren is now in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible to God.' 'I am the handmaid of the Lord,' said Mary 'let what you have said be done to me.' And the angel left her.

The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God,
the Father Almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
He descended into hell;
on the third day He rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from there He will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Holy Catholic Church,
the communion of Saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting.**

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Pray brothers and sisters that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the Almighty Father.

May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

SANCTUS: *Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.*

THE MYSTERY OF FAITH

*We proclaim your Death, O Lord,
and profess your Resurrection,
until you come again.*

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and his name will be called Emmanuel .

PARISH INFORMATION, FAITH NEWS & MISSION

CHRISTMAS CARDS: There is a Christmas card for all of you from Fr Peter and Fr Shaju. Please collect from the Church porch. It has the details of all the major services and Masses of Advent, Christmas and the New Year. The Parish requests you to please take few extra cards and invite your loved ones and the neighbours to our Church at Christmas & New Year celebrations.

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR PROGRAMME: Because of the Covid-19 restriction, this year's Christmas Masses will be different from other years. We have five Masses on 24th and four Masses on 25th December. There will be Carols singing before 8pm, 10pm and midnight masses on 24th December.



First Mass of Christmas: 24th at 4pm

Christmas Vigil Masses: 24th at 6pm, 8pm & 10pm
(thirty minutes carols before 8pm & 10pm Masses)

Midnight Mass: Carols at 11.30pm followed by Solemn Mass of the Christmas at midnight.

Christmas Day: 25th 9am, 10.30am, 12 Noon & 1pm

CHRISTMAS MIDNIGHT MASS: All the seats are booked. Those who have already booked a place, please collect a entrance card which is available after all the weekend Masses 19/20 December. **You don't need a ticket for all other Masses.**

NEW YEAR THANKSGIVING SERVICE & MASS: We, as a parish will come together and spend time in thanksgiving to God for all the blessing each one us & our families have received in 2020. **There will be two thanksgiving services this year: the first one - thanksgiving service at 8pm & Mass at 9pm and the second one - thanksgiving services at 11pm & Mass at midnight followed by New Year's celebration in the hall.**

SUNDAY OFFERINGS: Please drop your envelops/offering in the offering boxes which can be found at the entrance and exits or use the card machines at the back of the Church.

CONTACTLESS OFFERINGS & GIFT AID: We have two card terminals to make your offering. **YOU CAN FIND THE TERMINALS ON EITHER SIDE IN THE PORCH AS YOU ENTER THROUGH THE FRONT DOORS.** You can Gift Aid all the offering you make by card. If you wish to use your card for your offering/ donation, please follow the instructions at the terminals. Thanks for using the facility.

CHRISTMAS OFFERING FOR YOUR PRIESTS: If you wish to use a Christmas Offering Envelope, please collect one form the Porch. **Please Note:** Christmas offering is your personal offering to your priests, not to the Church.

READERS FOR CHRISTMAS MASSES: If you can read at any of the Christmas Masses, please put down your name in the sheet which can be found in the Porch.

SERVING AT THE ALTAR AT CHRISTMAS: We need one Altar Server per Mass (Christmas). If you can, please put down your name in the sheet which can be found in the Porch.

SIMBANG GABI: (Filipino for “Night Mass”) is a devotional nine-day series of Masses practised by Roman Catholics in the Philippines in anticipation of Christmas. There will be Simbang Gabi Masses in our church from the 16th-24th DEC at 6.30pm.

LAST WEEKDAY MASS IN 2020: The last weekday Mass in 2020 at 9.30am on Thursday 31st December will be a special Mass for all the faithful departed in 2020 in our family and amongst our friends. During the Mass the names of your loved ones who died this year will be read out. If you wish to their name(s) to be included please write on the labelled sheet in the Church porch.

LIVE STREAMING OF MASS: 9.30am Mon– Sat and Sun 12:00.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: Programme will start on Saturday 24th April at 9.50am in the Parish Hall. All the parents (ONLY) are requested to attend a meeting on Saturday 20th March at 9.50am in the Parish Hall.

CONFIRMATION: Programme starts on Saturday 6th February at 11.15am in the Parish Hall. Parents meeting is on 16th January.

PARISH OPEN HOUSE: The next Open House is on Friday 8th January 2020, 4-6pm.

RCIA: Next session is on Monday 21st December at 7.15pm

WE PRAY: for all staff who works in hospitals and care homes especially for our chaplains at George's Hospital.

CONFESSIONS: On Saturdays 10.30am-11.30am. Unfortunately, regulation wont allow us to have confessions in the confessional. So the confessions will be at the Our Lady Chapel area. **Please note the time change.**

NEED TO SEE A PRIEST: If you need to see a priest to sign a school supplementary form, discuss about baptism or wedding or a private matter, please come for a parish open house which is every Friday 4pm-6pm.

HOSPITAL VISITS: A Catholic Priest is available for patients, staff & Visitors to St. George's Hospital, Fr. Mark Higgins, on 0208 725 3069. Messages can be left. In emergencies phone the switchboard on 020 8672 1255 to page the Catholic Priest, who can be reached 24/7.

For all those who are celebrating their birthday this week the Parish wishes you a Happy Birthday and we join you to give thanks to God for the wonderful gift of life to you & you a special gift to us. The Parish also wishes every blessing to all the couples who are celebrating their wedding anniversary this week.



PARISH PRAYER LIST

Please remember in your prayers all those on our parish prayer list.

The Sick: Dessy, Helena O'Connor, Pat Nolan, Norah Bolger, Anne Scanlon, Fortunata D'Souza, Nigel Searle, Gordon King, Beverley King, Maria Fatima, Fernando, Michael Andrade, Rosaria Alfonso, Rosalie Hickey, Anastasia Ogbonna, Nilojan Mariyathas, Tony Hardy, Esther Daley, Norman Mendonca, Irene Mendonca, Julianna Hayfron, Nino Abel, Albert Folvi, Marciana Tangcay, Geoff Blwyddin, Christina Grogan, Matilda Addison, Elizabeth Bosley, Janet Adams, Frances Brady, Maureen Connelly & Eli Lee Roberts.

Death Anniversaries: Joseph Johnson, Sherrie O'Mahoney, Anne Kelly, Ian Hurst, Michael O'Malley, Selwyn Williams, Don Revell, Waclaw Lach, David Leggatt, Luigi Cristiano, Madelaine Joyce, Thomas Dunleavy, Kirian Lopes, Raymond Ashley, Oliver Murray, Stephen Kinsella, Ray Nieslony, Karl Jackson, Nora Doherty, Mary Prospere, Sandra Moore, Raymond D'Souza, Gloria Guillen and Marlo Luna. **May they rest in peace – Amen.**

	19th & 20th December	26th & 27th December
LITURGICAL READERS (please collect a copy of the rota)		
Sat 18.30	Jim Russell	Doris Cubero
09.00	Ansshakila Manoharadas	Pat Willis
10.30	Mary Sagoe	Ada Ikpoh
12.00	Callum Fernandes	Mikheala Dayaday
13:00	Christy Anoop	Ian Johnson
18.30	Susan Daniel	Angel Babu

Cleaning Rota:	Wk3: Mon 21st Dec @10am	Wk4: Mon 28th Dec @ 7pm
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<u>Sunday 20th December</u> 4th Sunday of Advent Year B Day of Prayer for Expectant Mothers	09:00 10:30 12:00 13:00 15:00 18:30	Kathleen Allen Bridget McDonagh Ints Theodore & Domingue Fly John McNamara RIP Baptism G. Button Ints
Monday 21st December Feria	09:30 18:30	Pro Populo Ashlene & Allan Ints
Tuesday 22nd December Feria	09:30 18:30	Mary Molloy RIP George Cassar Ints
Wednesday 23rd December Feria	09:30 18:30	Marie Valentine Ints Francis Valadares RIP
Thursday 24th December Vigil of the Nativity	09:30 16:00 18:00 20:00 22:00 00:00	James Brown Thanksgiving Emelda Lum Wai RIP David Hartiga Ints Rosemary Birthday Ints John Anthony O'Sullivan RIP Hazel & Denis Lockwood, RIP
Friday 25th December The Nativity of the Lord	09:00 10:30 12:00 13:00	Deceased of Moloney Fly Birch Family Ints Wladislaw RIP Birdie & Danny Harkin
Saturday 26th December Saint Stephen	09:30 18:30	Thanksgiving Bennett Family Tommy & Pauline Madden
<u>Sunday 27th December</u> The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph Year B	09:00 10:30 12:00 13:00 18:30	Dr. Leo Emordi Ints Pat Michell RIP Mr & Mrs. Zerafa RIP Rapu Family Thanksgiving Zenaida Madamba

All the Group meeting & Prayer Groups are closed until further notice.
Friday 8th January 2021: Parish Open House 4pm – 6pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation
Sat: 10.30am – 11.30pm

Holy Hour
First Friday 5:15 – 6:15pm

Adoration & Morning Prayer
Monday - Saturday: 9am
Holy Hour on First Friday
5.15pm – 6.15 pm

Novena to St Anthony
Tuesday: 10am & 7pm
Divine Mercy Chaplet
Friday: 10am

Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour
Saturday: 10am