

St Bartholomew's Catholic Church

Father Deodat Msahala, Father Tomasz Margol & Deacon Ged Perkins

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Sunday 15th December 2019

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

(Yr A)

Mass Times and Intentions:

Sunday 15th December 2019

Third Sunday of Advent

Gaudete Sunday

(Parish Mass Book – Page 88)

6.15pm (14th December 2019)

Christopher Nawrat RIP

8.30am Soeur Therese Agius RIP

10am Franco Amato RIP

(Free Coffee Morning after this Mass)

11.30am People of the parish

(Plainchant Choir singing at this Mass)

2.30pm Polyphony Choir

Christmas Celebration

(NB: No Benediction today)

5pm Mary McNally RIP

Third Week of Advent

Monday 16th December 2019

7.30am Intentions of Adam

10am Fr Kevin O'Hanlon RIP

(former Assistant Priest at St Bart's)

Tuesday 17th December 2019

7.30am Maria Nguyen Thi Bay RIP

10am Fr James Patrick Byrne RIP

Wednesday 18th December 2019

7.30am John McMorrow RIP

10am Hervé Yoo Foo RIP

Thursday 19th December 2019

7.30am Intentions of Sr Josephine Flynn

10am Fr Ken Palmer RIP

Friday 20th December 2019

DAY OF PENITENCE

7.30am Josephine Quinn

10am Joyce Pease Fernandes RIP

Then Exposition of the Blessed

Sacrament and Confessions all day

through to Benediction at 7.30pm

8pm Bernard Condon RIP

Saturday 21st December 2019

10am Pietro Mobile RIP

Next Sunday 22nd December 2019

Fourth Sunday of Advent

(Parish Mass Book – Page 90)

6.15pm (21st December 2019)

Mario Rodrigues RIP

8.30am People of the parish

10am Bridgit Joyce RIP

11.30am In thanksgiving -

Mateusz Kozlowski

4pm Benediction

5pm Mai Cummins RIP

Daily Mass & Prayer

*Mass: Monday – Friday @ 7.30am

*Morning Prayer of the Church:

Monday – Saturday @ 9.15am

*Adoration & Benediction:

Monday – Saturday @ 9.30am

*Mass: Monday – Saturday @ 10am

*Mass: Friday @ 8pm

*Rosary: Monday – Saturday @ 10.30am

*Confessions:

Saturdays, after 10am Mass, until

11am; Then from 5pm to 6pm.

(and at call, if a priest is available.)

THANKYOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

Last week's collection came to **£1830.00**

including £650.00 in standing orders.

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Today is Gaudete Sunday, and we light the rose pink candle on our wreath, which is also referred to as the 'Shepherd's Candle', representing the joy that the world experienced at the birth of Jesus, as well as the joy that the faithful have reached the midpoint of Advent.

YOUR CHRISTMAS OFFERING

By tradition, your Christmas Day offering is to your priests, Fr Deo and Fr Tomasz.

You will find special envelopes in the porch areas, which you may use if you wish. Gift Aid givers should use the dedicated light blue envelope in their boxes. However, if you wish to make use of one of the special envelopes, please ensure that you write your Gift Aid number clearly on the front.

FREE COFFEE MORNING TODAY

Organised by the Social Committee, after the 10am Mass, in the hall. Another chance to come and socialise with fellow parishioners before going home for lunch. Raffle tickets on sale in the hall, with the draw today. The next Free Coffee Morning will be on 5th January 2020.

Thankyou for your support.

PARISH CHRISTMAS CARD

Please take one home for your family.

It contains details of all Masses and events over Christmas and New Year.

PARISH DIARY 2020

Still available free from the Repository.

PLEASE PRAY FOR ALL WHO ARE SICK, UNDERGOING TREATMENT, OR ARE HOUSEBOUND:

Jessica Anane,

Margaret Asubonteng-Mensah,

Juliette Blake, Alan Blaquiere,

Anita Blaquiere, Barry Breese,

Erna Breese, Frances Carter, Jean Cowie,

Reeda D'Souza, Audrey Draude,

Teresa Florek-Smail,

Delphine Fernandes, Michael Fogarty,

Raffaella Forte, Raffaele Forte,

Giovanni Franco, Rachel Gadd,

Elaine Gunther, Anna Harris,

Agnes Healy, Jim Hughes,

Evelyn Hyland, Baby Scarlett Kurowski,

Joseph Lunn, Elsie McCleave,

James McDonald, Michael Madigan,

Ajitha Mahatantila, Gerard Mascarenhas,

Ruby Mendez, Mary Meyern,

Sheila Newman, Thomas Pereira,

Parwar Saib, Frederic Saint-Rose,

Alice Scott, Elizabeth Scott,

Charmaine Shali, Christine Shaughnessy,

Ronald Smail, Fr David Standley,

Edythe Thirlwall, Monica Vergara,

Mary White, Ethelda Williams,

Gail Wilson, Carole Winch,

John Windsor, Charmaine Wise,

Margaret Worrell, Georgette Yoo Foo,

Tony Zammit.

Christmas Carols & Readings

St. Bartholomew's Polyphony Choir

Wind, Organ, Piano & Reader

A Christmas Celebration

St. Bartholomew's Church

Junction of Ellison/Hepworth Roads SW16 5DE

Directors Tony Price & Bernard Jup

Wind Group from St. Bartholomew's Orchestra

Organist/Pianist: Tony Price Reader: Julie McDonagh

Sunday 15 December 2.30pm

Entry by programme on the door £3

Includes postconcert mulled wine and mince pie

Retiring collection in aid of St. Vincent de Paul Society

www.polychoir.co.uk www.stbartsnorbury.co.uk

www.stbartholomeworchestra.co.uk

PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE

The Parish Office will close on

Thursday 19th December, and reopen

on Tuesday 7th January 2020.

Your patience in awaiting a reply to any

of your calls, letters or emails would be

greatly appreciated.

PLANNED GIVING

Thank you for taking part in our 'Planned Giving' appeal. Many more of you have now handed in your **Commitment** forms and **Time & Talents** inserts, and more are expected.

If you have not yet done so, you can still respond.

Please ask for a leaflet if you cannot find one.

Do please consider joining the Gift Aid scheme.

Remember that you may also Gift Aid your Mass offerings, and indeed any donations you make to the Church.

Standing Orders are the simplest method, whether or not you belong to the Gift Aid scheme.

Please hand your completed forms to one of the priests, or post them, or put them through the Presbytery letterbox.

Once all of your responses have been collated, you will receive a communication from the Parish Office.

Once again, thank you for all that you do.

Please keep our parish in your prayers.

You will find plenty of information on our Parish Web Site: www.stbartsnorbury.co.uk/planned-giving.html

THE BIG CRISIS COFFEE MORNING & RAFFLE

Barts Seniors will be running this event, which will take place next Sunday 22nd December after all morning Masses.

Raffle tickets will be on sale after all Masses today.

This is not to be confused with the Social Committee raffle, which is taking place in the hall at their Coffee Morning.

IN THE COMING WEEK

Church Cleaning – Group 4 please.

CHILDREN'S NATIVITY PLAY

The Children's Liturgy Group will be producing their annual nativity play with carols for the Christmas Eve Mass (starting at 6pm, leading into the 6.15pm Mass).

Rehearsal will be on 23rd December (3pm-4.30pm) in the church, when roles will be allocated, with costumes provided. All children involved must attend the rehearsal.

Please contact Linda Harries on l.harries@gmail.com or call 07770 623230 **by tomorrow at the latest.**

(School nursery age to year 3 for role playing.

Year 4 and upwards as narrators and carol singers.)

ALTAR SERVING AT CHRISTMAS

Midnight Mass: Only two people have signed up so far.

For Christmas Day, there are 3 names for the 8.30am, only 1 server for the 10am, and nobody for the 11.30am.

(NB: No Benediction or 5pm.)

Christmas Eve Practices Next Sunday 22nd December:

Christmas Eve Family Mass practice will be at 6pm.

Midnight Mass practice will be at 6.30pm.

No practices for Christmas Day.

BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE

The next course will take place across two sessions, which will be on Saturdays 18th & 25th January 2020 at 3pm.

If you seek Baptism for your child, you must attend such a course, or else have attended one within the last three years. Please take a form from the porch and return it to the Parish Office. Further courses are planned for April and July 2020.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

If you would like to contribute towards the somewhat high cost of the Christmas flowers, please do so by using the wall box in the main porch which is marked 'Flowers'.

You will find it to the left-hand side when you enter the church by the central doors of the porch.

MASS INTENTIONS

There are now no Masses available until January 2020.

Please always use the Mass Intentions Envelopes provided. Members of the Gift Aid scheme may also Gift Aid their Mass Offerings. There is no fee for Masses. As a guide, most tend to offer £10.00, provided they can afford to do so.

Please do worry if you are unable to make an offering.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2020

Information on our First Holy Communion programme is now available on our Parish Web Site using the following link.

www.stbartsnorbury.co.uk/st-barts-first-holy-communions.html

Please make sure that you note in your diaries the very important meeting to be held in the Retro Chapel of the church on Tuesday 7th January 2020 from 8pm to 9pm. At that meeting, which is for all parents and guardians, your children's First Holy Communion date will be confirmed and the programme details finalised.

Would those parents who have put themselves forward to help, and who were given DBS forms, please contact

Teresa Furtado urgently on 07742 911152.

We really do need **extra** volunteers to help with delivering the programme. Please do get in touch with Teresa if you can help.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Of your charity, please pray for the happy repose of the soul of **John Donovan**, who died on Thursday 21st November, aged 98, after some time in a nursing home in Purley. His funeral will take place on Tuesday 17th December, in the West Chapel of Croydon Crematorium, Croydon, CR9 3AT. at 2.30pm.

Our prayers and condolences as a parish go to the family.

NEXT WEEKEND'S NEWSLETTER

This will run from Sunday 22nd December right through until Saturday 11th January. Please make sure that you take home a copy and keep it handy. You will also find the newsletter on our Parish Web Site, so please do make use of that facility.

CHRISTMAS TREES

You will have noticed our 7 metres high Christmas tree in the front garden of the presbytery. It is always a talking point locally! Thanks to those brave souls who toiled for some hours in wind, rain and cold in order to help put the tree into place and to string up the lights. It looks really marvellous!

As ever, a mystery donor has provided us with a Christmas Tree for the inside of the Church. We are so grateful for this act of kindness, which really adds to the beauty of our building at this time of year. This tree also involved considerable work by a few people to decorate it with all the usual tinsel, baubles and lights.



Picture courtesy of www.reda.org

**“GAUDETE, CHRISTUS NATUS EST
EX MARIA VIRGINE, GAUDETE!”**