

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Sunday 17th Dec 2017.

Envelopes: £559.10

Loose: £414.25

Standing Orders £1,001 (Oct/week)

Your generosity enables us to pay the parish bills. Thank you!

Text Giving- is quick and easy way to make donation towards the upkeep and running costs at Sacred Heart. Just text "PARISH HOLLO" to this number: 70800, to donate £5 automatically. This amount will be added to your phone bill.

For online giving, please go to:
www.sacredheartchurchholloway.org.uk
and click **support**. Thank you.

STANDING ORDER

It is not always possible to attend Mass in your own parish every week, like when you're on holiday. The most effective way to give is via a standing order from your bank account. All you need to do is fill in our Planned Giving Form, sign it, and return it to the office.

Are you on our GIFT AID list yet?

It is *important* to gift aid your offering to the church (whether Sunday envelopes or through standing order). This means that the government will top up your offering by **25p for every £1** at no extra cost to you, the giver. You have to be a UK taxpayer to qualify and you have to fill in a declaration form. For more information, please call Elizabeth in the office.

CHURCH OF THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS, HOLLOWAY

A parish of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Westminster

62 Eden Grove, Holloway London N7 8EN

Phone: 020 7607 3594

Email: holloway@rcdow.org.uk

www.sacredheartchurchholloway.org.uk

Parish Priest: Fr. Gideon Wagay

Mrs. Elizabeth Ocampo- Admin Assistant

Parish Office opening times for Admin

Tuesday, Thursday & Friday: 9:30am- 3:00pm.



MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

24th December Forth Sunday of Advent	6:00 pm Sat. <i>Vigil Mass</i> 8:30 am Mass 11:00 am Mass	Michael Costin R.I.P- Anniv. For the Parish Gilberto Ero -R.I.P- Anniv
24th December Christmas Eve	6:00 pm Mass Children's Christmas Mass 12:00 Midnight Mass	Michael Costin R.I.P - Anniv (11:30pm Carol Service and Readings) For the Parish
25th December Monday The Nativity of The Lord	8:30 am Mass 11:00 am Mass	Beryl & Rudie Genovese R.I.P Monica & Ricardo - Ints
26 th December Tuesday St. Stephen, 1 st Martyr	10:00am Mass	Brian Mpunga (sick)
27 th December Wed. St John, Apostle	9:15 am Mass	Kathleen McDermott - Intentions
28 th December Thur. The Holy Innocents	9:15 am Mass	Mpunga Family - Intentions
29 th December Friday St Thomas Becket	9:15 am Mass	Christou Family - Intentions
30th December Sat. Sixth Day in Octave of Christmas	11:00 – 12:00 am 6:00 pm <i>Vigil Mass</i>	<i>Confessions</i> Maureen Watkinson – R.I.P
31st December The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph	8:30 am Mass 11:00 am Mas	Pascal Anthony – Intentions Rosa Nicholas – R.I.P Anniv.

Fourth Sunday of Advent - The Nativity of The Lord 24th & 25th December 2017

The Deep End – 'Glory to God in the highest heaven!' @Intercom

Tonight we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, our Lord. This account of his birth from Luke show Jesus being born into a situation of total oppression. Luke reminds us of the political regime which controls the land and the effect this has on the people. Mary must still travel to Bethlehem even though she is about to give birth. The shepherds, found only in Luke's account, are social outcasts due to their profession. It is not a romantic or tranquil setting as the shepherds would have suffered all kinds of deprivations and dangers. Everything about this story is provocative and uneasy. Into this 'mess' God is born; this Saviour, the Lord, a homeless child, is one who will turn the situation of people upside down, who promises release to captives and sight to the blind. The angels rejoice with the shepherds, the 'highest' and the 'lowest'. The poor and marginalised will be the first to experience the abundance of God's hospitality and the shepherds come in their name.

We are invited to Bethlehem today, to open up our hearts to the One who has come. We return, like the shepherds *'glorifying and praising God for all they have seen and heard'*. May we welcome all as God does, with compassion and love. Shalom.

'O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, come forth from deep within me with Christmas luminous beauty. For my heart has become the sacred crib, the birthing place of God-among-us.' – Edward Hays

Christmas Blessings To All

Once again we rejoice this year in the opportunity to celebrate the birth of Christ among us. We are aware that in the midst of this season of joy and hope, we continue to find ourselves in a world beset by violence and turmoil. But our Catholic faith beckons us to rejoice, to feel our worth and to fall on our knees.

May you and your loved ones know the joy that comes from the mystery of Christ's birth among us. May we continue to be witnesses of Christ's mercy to one another. I wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Fr. Gideon

We ask for your charitable prayers for those who are sick, recently deceased and those whose anniversaries are at this time...

For the sick and the housebound:

Brian Mpunga, Elisabetta Zeno, Edgar and Josefina Losa, Keith Hunt, Maria Louis, Crystal Green, Dolores Crowley, Helena Bolotny, Ludvinia King, Justino Villegas, Patrick Doolan, Margaret Toolan, John Regan, Rosa Santos, Tom Kelly, Mary Wong, Michael Bailey, Ada Bacarini, Eillen Graham, Martine Rainsford, Christopher Fradley, Edwina Toson, Charlie Crane Nora Harkin, Eileen Ely, Barbara Baptiste, Margaret Mulroy, Alison Mc Goff, Martin & Margaret Cooke, Ben & Margaret Deignan, Mary Morrissey, Stephanie Enepi, Chris Eisen *and all who are sick and housebound in the parish.*

Anniversaries: Rosa Nicholas Gilbert Ero, Michael Costin, Eddie and Bridie Gorman, John O'Roarke Josefina Miller Clifford Price, John Danqua, Bill Devereux, Ann and Kathleen Rainsford Josie O'Brien, Josefina Miller, Conrado Espejo, Janusz Suliga, Sarah Toolan.

Please Pray for the Recently Dead:

Ellen Howard, Margaret Kinsella, Sheila Connolly, Sheila Lasok, Grace Ann Lewis, Lee Turnbull, Lucy Ugoala.

Eternal rest grant unto them Lord, and let your light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

Active Membership of the Parish is determined by the following criteria: being properly registered for a sufficient period of time; faithful attendance at Mass on Sundays and Holy Days; use of the planned giving system (envelope or bank standing order) in regular support of the parish.

CHOIR PRACTICE is usually on **Thursdays @ 8:00pm** at the Parish house. The day however, is movable depending on the availability of most members. Please ask Peggy for more details. Everyone welcome

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISM

Babies are usually baptised in the first **6 months** after birth. To book a baptism for your child, please contact the parish office. Parents of the child must practice their faith and registered members of the parish. At least one parent of the child and the godparent must supply us with their **Catholic baptismal certificate** and the **child's birth certificate**. Parents and godparents **must** attend a baptismal preparation meeting beforehand.

The next preparation course for Baptism will take place in the parish at 7:00 pm on Monday 8th and Friday 12th January 2018. Parents and godparents need to attend both days.

In order to make the most of the meeting, we would like to recommend, leave the children at home, having them might be distracting for you and other attendants

MARRIAGE

Six months' notice must be given, even if you're marrying elsewhere to gather and process the paper work. Please contact Fr. Gideon. To make an appointment email: holloway@rcdow.org.uk

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME 2017-2018

If you are not taking part in our Christmas play, your next Session will be on Sunday 14th January 2018. Have a blessed and prayerful Christmas.

CONFIRMATION 2018

The application to join the Confirmation Programme is still ongoing. If you are in Year 9 and above or 14 years old or older, and would like to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation please take a form from the priest or from Nalini or Elizabeth in the office. All forms must be handed in by 7th January 2018.

OUR JOURNEY OF FAITH –RCIA (RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS).

If you are interested in becoming a Catholic or completing your initiation by celebrating Confirmation and/or First Communion as an adult. You are still on time to join in on Tuesday 9th January at 7:00pm in the parish.



NEW YEAR'S CELEBRATION MASS

"Lift Jesus High"

Venue: St. Aloysius RC Church, 20 Phoenix Road Euston, London NW1 1TA nearest Tube Euston. Buses 10, 18, 30, 73, 205, 390. Principal Celebrant – Archbishop Kevin McDonald. Doors Open 8:30pm. At 9:00pm-Praise and Worship followed by Mass. At midnight we will be praising before the Blessed Sacrament. Time of Celebration with shared food just after midnight. Please bring some to share (no alcohol). Eucharistic Adoration through the night.

Prayer for our nation and the world. All are welcome!

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE DRAW WINNERS CONGRATULATIONS:

Thank you to everyone who helped out and supported this year's Raffle Draw last Sunday. We thank our organiser, Mrs. Ross and to all our donors who donated prizes. The grand total raised was £

The Raffle ticket winners are below:

Main Prize: 2 tickets to HAMILTON SHOW
1st Prize - £300 – A Reilly-Ripley No.07438
2nd Prize - £100 –Lindsay Newbold No.06706
3rd Prize –£50 –Samira Datu No.04517
4th Prize–£50–Caroleyn Davidson- No. 01852
Consolation Prizes: Jack Roche, Dehab, Phillip Punter, Rupert Davis.

Thank you to everyone who helped out and supported this year's Raffle Draw last Sunday. We thank our organiser, Mrs. Ross and to all our donors who donated prizes. **The grand total raised was £ 2,078**

A POST TRUTH WORLD

Are we losing our Minds?

Building a culture of encounter in an age of fake news; 9th January 2018. Speaker: Austen Ivereigh-

The HURTADO Jesuit Centre.

2 Chandler Street, E1W 2QT

Doors open 7:00pm. Talks at 7:30pm-9:00. Suggested donation £10.00. For more information: Take a leaflet available at porch.

SOUL FOOD: Life in the Spirit Seminar

St. Charles Borromeo, 8, Ogle Street, W1W 6HS nearest tube: (Warren St., Goodge Street). Experience God's love in a personal way. Every Thursday 7pm-9pm, 18th January-22nd February 2018. Come and See. All are welcome. To register and for more details visit: www.soulfoodgroup.org/links

MUSINGS @Intercom

SEEING YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPELS Luke1:26-38

1. We are all favoured ones and God is with us. Sometimes we are more aware of this than others. How have you experienced being a favoured person, one blessed by God? How have you experienced God's presence? Who has been Gabriel to you-a messenger of Good news?

2. 'Do not be afraid'. Mary was perplexed by the words of the angel. Perhaps you too have sometimes been perplexed by life's path and wondered what it all meant. Perhaps at times you have doubted if God was really with you. In your troubled moments who has been an 'angel' helping to lower your anxiety?

3. Mary was taken by surprise by the invitation, but she did not tell the angel she was not ready, nor ask him to return later. She was prepared to go with the invitation even though it was not the 'right moment'. 'Here I am Lord' What invitations have come to you at the 'wrong time' and how have you responded?

4. Mary's response serves as a model for us-she is one who says 'yes' to what life offers. What is it like for you to say 'yes' to life? Perhaps at this moment in your life you are being invited to say 'Here I am Lord'?

CHRISTMAS OFFERING

The Offertory Collections at Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses are a significant contribution to the support of the parish Clergy. Priests do not receive a salary or payment from the Diocese or anywhere else but depend entirely on the generosity of parishioners for their income. Special envelopes are attached for your contributions. Thank you for your support.

PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED DURING CHRISTMAS PERIOD.

Parish office will be closed from Friday 22nd December to 9th January 2018. For any urgent matters, please call and leave a message on 0207 607 3594 or email your question to holloway@rcdow.org.uk