

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS

(Diocese of Portsmouth – Registered Charity No.246871)

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Chairman of PPC	Mrs Margaret Corless	Tel: 01252 515625	Parish Website:	http://www.olhcfarnborough.org.uk
Child Protection	Mrs Cathy Raggett	Tel: 01252 513475	Hall Bookings: Frank Panther	01252 515270

Christmas Day 2011

Christmas thoughts

This night is the long night when those who listen await His cry. This night is the eve of the great nativity when those who are longing await his appearing.

Wait with watchful heart.

Listen carefully, through the stillness;

listen, hear the telling of the waves upon the shore.

Listen, hear the song of the angels glorious –

e're long it will be heard that His foot has reached the earth: news – that the glory is come!

Truly His salvation is near for those who fear Him, and His glory shall dwell in our land.

This night is born Jesus, Son of the King of glory.

This night is born to us the root of our joy.

This night gleamed sea and shore together.

This night was born Christ, the King of greatness.

Christmas Blessings

Christmas is a time of gratitude. There is nothing more wonderful than a grateful heart. And when we think of it we have much to be grateful for – our families, friends, the food we share, the time we spend together and the many other things that make Christmas special.

We celebrate Christmas because we believe that God sent his only Son among us to bring us back to the Father. Christmas means 'Christ's Mass' and so the time we spend in Church is a special time. After all it is His birthday that we are celebrating and not our own. We can get so preoccupied with 'doing things' that we have little or no time to thank God or our families

It is a time of thanksgiving. How often do we actually thank God and other people in our lives for all they do for us? Make a special effort this Christmas to say 'Thank you' to God and the people who make our lives special.

Notice to all Altar Servers

There will be a ceremony of Enrolment of the Altar Servers into the Guild of St Stephen on **Monday 26th December**.

Parents/Guardians of servers are requested to contact **Cameron/Gill Lamond on 01252 549617** to confirm their attendance.

Farnborough Food Bank

Our Parish organisers of the Farnborough Food Bank wish to thank all those who donated food to the Bank during the year and particularly at Christmas. The response from the Parish has been magnificent and those who manage the Food Bank at St Christopher's are very grateful for the donations received so far. This year the need is even greater for those who face real hardship as the economic situation in this area becomes far worse.

(Phillip Hanson and Cathy Raggett)

Mass intentions for the Week Beginning

Sunday 25 December 2011

Sat' day 4.00pm Baby Amelia Hodgetts (Very Sick)

Midnight Mass Special Intention

9.30am CHRISTMAS DAY
Audrey Phoenix.

Feast of St Stephen

Monday 10.00am The Sick of the Parish.

Tuesday 10.00am	Gillian Leakey (Intention)
Wed' day 10.00am	Richard Searson (Intention)
Thu' day 10.00am	Anne McClure RIP.
Friday 10.00am	Connie Fannon RIP.
Saturday	No morning Services today.
6.00pm Vigil Mass	James Merdell RIP.
Sunday 8.30am	Baby Amelia Hodgetts (Sick)
10.30am	People of the Parish

Christmas Week

Prayer of the Church (Proper)

Monday Feast of St Stephen (Protomartyr)

Tuesday Feast of St John the Evangelist.

Wednesday Feast of the Holy Innocents.

Thursday Feast of St Thomas of Canterbury.

Friday **Feast of the Holy Family.**

Saturday: 6.00pm Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God.

Sunday: Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God.

[End of the Christmas Octave]

Next Sunday is the transferred Feast of the **Epiphany of the Lord.**

Dates to remember

7 January	10 – 2pm Meeting of First Communion children
8 January	The Epiphany of the Lord. Enrolement of First Communion children.
10 January	7.30 pm. Meeting of Confirmation parents.
11 January	8-9pm Meeting of First Communion parents.
14 January	Salesian Study day at Chertsey.
22 January	Parish Annual General Meeting.
22 February	Ash Wednesday.
8 April	Easter Sunday.

We remember the sick in our Prayers

Fr Bill Carroll (Abercorn House), Bridgette Timmins, Maria Fraser, Dominic Clark, Nick Mills, Debbie de Bono, Matt Murphy, Elizabeth Pearce, Claire Hilder, Audrey Phoenix, Anthony Leakey, Ellen Hack, Ruth Taylor, Grace Bilyard, Bernard Shiels, Grace May, Mary O'Connor, Delphine Lannon, Jack Pollicutt, Ann Croombs and all the names in the Petition Book.

We pray for the deceased members of our Parish

Mary Corbett, Gerald O'Brien, Arthur Lewis, Josephine Newman, Tomie Morley, Charles Geraghty, Rosanna Bunker, Cecilia Pearce, Hanna Chapple, Frank Martin, Kathleen Hartnett, May Hickling, Charles Harding, Mrs Devaney, Christine Hopkins.

May they Rest in Peace.

Christmas Greetings

May I wish you all a very Happy and Peaceful Christmas and a New Year full of blessings.