

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



St Joseph's Catholic Church

SHOOTERS HILL

18th & 19th December 2021

The week ahead

Saturday 18 th	6:30pm	Vigil
Sunday 19 th	10:15am 12 noon	Fourth Sunday of Advent
Monday 20 th	10am	Mass
Tuesday 21 st	10am	Mass
Wednesday 22 nd	10am	Mass
Thursday 23 rd	10am	Mass
Friday 24 th	6:30pm 12am	Nativity Christmas Vigil
Saturday 25 th	10:15am	The Nativity of the Lord
Sunday 26 th	10:15am	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Confessions:

Fr Seba is available to hear confessions. Please call the Parish office (020 3105 8577) to book your appointment.



Prayer to St Joseph:

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. To you God entrusted his only Son;

In you Mary placed her trust; with you Christ became man. Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life.

Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage, and defend us from every evil. Amen



Fourth Sunday of Advent

During the 4th week of Advent our attention is on love.

Matthew 22:36-40 says,

'Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?'

He said to him, 'You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second is like it: You shall love your neighbour as yourself. The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments'



Dear God, we have learned to love from being loved by you. And so today, let us enact that love you show us. Let us live that love. We know that what the world needs now is more love. We need to remember how much you love each one of us and we must share that love with others.

Amen.

Liturgy

First Reading: - Micah 5:1-4

Responsorial Psalm: - Ps 79:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 Rv4 – God of hosts bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.

Second Reading: - Hebrews 10:5-10

Gospel Acclamation: - Luke 1:38 – I am the handmaid of the Lord: let what you have said be done to me.

Gospel: - Luke 1:39-44

Notre Dame School News

Bless our school as we learn together. Nourish our lives with love and joy. Let this be a happy school always, where all are welcomed and respected. A place where we can pray, worship and work together. Amen.

This week has been full of Christmas festivities at Notre Dame. The week started with the Christmas Nativity that Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 performed. The children were amazing! Their singing, acting and behaviour were outstanding! They thoroughly enjoyed wearing the costumes and performing, I am sure that you will enjoy it as much as we did! A huge well done to all the children and adults that were involved in the Nativity performance.

On Tuesday, the children had their Christmas dinner with Christmas music, crackers, juice and their Christmas hats. The hall was full of excitement as the children ate their Christmas dinner with their teachers and TAs.

On Wednesday, we had our Christmas Mass that was led by Year 5 and Year 6 in the hall with the other classes participating via zoom. The Prayer Heroes read beautifully, and the singing was lovely. Fr Seba was able to lead the Mass and it was a pleasure to have some of you join us via Zoom.

We finished the week with an awards assembly, which is always my favourite time. The teachers spoke with such pride about their classes, their behaviour, excellence in their work and overall progress this term. We are so proud of the children at Notre Dame and how they follow our values and work so hard every day to better themselves. It has been such a lovely term with the children, and we are looking forward to the Spring term. Have a lovely Christmas, full of love and laughter. We hope you enjoy the rest and time together as a family. Merry Christmas to you all and a Happy New Year.

Message from Notre Dame's Chair of Governors

Dear Parishioners,

This term Notre Dame Catholic School began to return to almost normal. Governors were able to visit school and held our first in-person meeting in November after over a year of meeting virtually. Governors have supported the school in all they have been doing this term to provide children with the best possible learning experience, including returning to having visitors to School and going on trips to support the curriculum.

Thank you for your prayers and support for the staff and children of Notre Dame Catholic School.

We wish you all a peaceful, safe, and holy Christmas and New Year.

Pat Peters

Chair Of Governors



Information

Holy Communion Programme

Last week we talked about reconciliation and prepared for the First Reconciliation. We practised the Act of Contrition and made Christmas cards for our families. It was the last session before Christmas. We will return on Sunday 9th January at 8:50am.

Confirmation 2022

We will be Confirming our young people at the 6.30pm Mass on **Saturday 4th June 2022** - Pentecost weekend. Any young people (or not so young) of school Year 8 and above are most welcome to join us. **We will need to see a CATHOLIC Baptism Certificate along with proof of receiving 1st Holy Communion.** Details of the course and registration will be available throughout **December** after 10.15am Mass or contact Father Seba for a registration form. Dates of the programme will be available soon. The first session will be on **Wednesday 5th January 2022** in the parish hall at 7.00 for **Confirmandi only**. It is vitally important that all the programme is completed. The sessions will not be every week so there will be plenty of time to fit it in between exams and schoolwork. As normal, we are asking people for help to enable us to provide this programme. Pray in front of the Blessed Sacrament and listen to see if the Lord is calling you for help, if so please contact Mary 07985 360960 or Fr Seba. Whilst recognising the important of parents and relations on a young person faith journey it is not suitable for them to be engaged as catechists in the programme. Their role is to journey with their young people and to continue their calling as the first educators of the faith. There will be 3 sessions for parents/guardians during the programme.

Guidance from CBCEW – Monday 13th December 2021

Dear Reverend Clergy,
Dear Parish Administrators,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I hope this email finds you well.

Further to my email of yesterday morning following the Prime Minister's announcement on Wednesday evening, Canon Chris Thomas, General Secretary of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, has prepared further guidance for churches – [see attached](#).

There is little change from last week's guidance note from the Bishops' Conference, apart from the wearing of face coverings, which is now mandatory in churches. There is also a clarification on singing, where the recommendation from the Bishops Conference goes beyond what the Government is saying, in that the Catholic Church in England and Wales recommends that congregational singing takes place *with* an applied face covering. Please note, as before, and clarified in this guidance, *scholae cantorum* and choirs are not obliged to wear face masks when singing during the Sacred Liturgy.

Kind regards
Fr Phil

Saint of the day

Blessed William of
Fenoli



Hermit in the Torre Mondovi region. Carthusian lay-brother at the Charterhouse of Casularum, Lombardy, Italy where he managed the house's external affairs. He was wholly un-learned in theology, philosophy or the ways of the world aside from his assigned duties, but in spiritual life and good works he was considered a saint in life. One day when coming in from the fields, William was attacked by thieves, and defended himself by tearing the leg off his donkey and using it as a club to drive off the attackers; afterwards he re-attached the leg, and the pair continued home.

General Information

Sick, Housebound, Anniversaries and Funeral Services

Please continue to keep the sick of our parish family in your daily prayers. We continue to remember those who have died and those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

May all the souls of the faithful departed, rest in peace. Amen.

Mass Intentions

If you would like to have a Mass offered for a particular intention, please write your intention down with all the details, together with the Mass stipend, and put it through the Presbytery door. Alternatively, you can contact the parish office on 020 3105 8577 or email shootershill@rcaos.org.uk – Mass intention envelopes are available at the back of the church.

Request

Please can you bring in your used stamps from your letters and Christmas cards. Please pop them in the box at the back of the church. They will be collected by a charity.

Collections

12 th December 2021	
First Collection	£515.90
Second Collection (Hall Fund)	£155.12
Total	£671.02

This week's second collection is for the Hall Fund.

If you cannot attend mass, please visit our [website](#), and click the **Donate** button. If you are a taxpayer, please remember to tick the 'Gift Aid' box. God bless, Ave Maria.

HOLY MICHAEL PRAYER



St Michael the Archangel. Defend us in the day of our battle. Be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of Heavenly Hosts, by the power of God, cast into hell satan, and all the evil spirits who wander around the world seeking the ruins of souls.

Hiring our hall

If you would like to hire our hall, on Paget Rise, SE18 3QQ, please contact Maggie Rea:
Tel: - 07885 353 105
Email: -
maggie.rea@talktalk.net

Parish School

NOTRE DAME CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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