

St Thomas à Becket Catholic Church

Parish Priest: Father Alex McAllister SDS
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Parish Office: 9.30-14.30 Monday to Friday



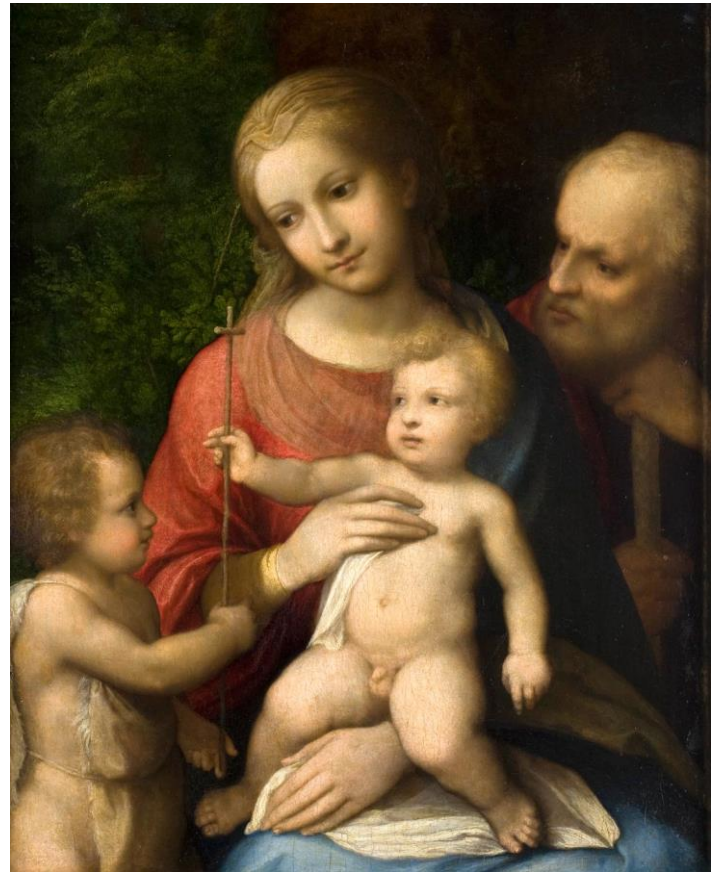
Feast of the Holy Family

31st December 2017

My eyes have seen your salvation

Mass Times

- 30th Sat Sixth Day within the Octave of Christmas**
9.30
17.30
- 31st Sun Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**
10.00 *Margaret McAllister +*
15.00 (Royal Hospital) *People of the Parish*
- 1st Mon Mary the Mother of God World Day of Prayer for Peace**
12.00
- 2nd Tue Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen**
9.30
- 3rd Wed Feria**
9.30
- 4th Thu Feria**
9.30
- 5th Fri Feria**
9.30
- 6th Sat Feria**
9.30
17.30 (Vigil Mass)
- 7th Sun The Epiphany of the Lord**
10.00 *Deceased members of Devlin Family +*
15.00 (Royal Hospital) *People of the Parish*



The Holy Family, Correggio (1489-1534)
The infant John the Baptist is also shown presenting Jesus with a cross of reeds, as a sign of his future Passion.

A Prayer for Families

We bless your name, O Lord,
for sending your own incarnate Son,
to become part of a human family,
so that, as he lived its life,
he would experience its worries and its joys.

We ask you, Lord,
to protect and watch over our own family,
so that in the strength of your grace
its members may enjoy prosperity,
possess the priceless gift of your peace,
and, as the Church present in the home,
bear witness in this world to your glory.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Confessions:

Saturday 10.15-11.00 and at call

Sunday Readings: Year A **Weekday Readings:** Year 1

This Sunday's Readings: Page 105 in Mass Book

Cycle of Prayer Autumn: The Harvest, Fruits of Human Work, Reverent Use of Creation, Students & Teachers, Spread of the Gospel, Justice & Peace, Prisoners & their Families, Victims of War, Young People

Next Week's Liturgy Group: Matthew

Baptisms & Marriages: Please contact the Parish Priest

Happy New Year for 2018

You don't choose your family
They are God's gift to you,
as you are to them

Desmond Tutu

Feast of Mary, the Mother of God & World Day of Prayer for Peace

Please note that on New Year's Day the morning mass will be at 12.00 to give people the opportunity to attend after the New Year celebrations.

Monday 1st January is also the World Day of Prayer for Peace. The Holy Father's theme for this special day is: 'Migrants and refugees: men and women in search of peace.' The full text is available on the Vatican website.

Thank You

Christmas at St Thomas à Becket is a very busy and lively time; it is a real celebration of the love of God made manifest in the birth of his Son, Jesus Christ. Our grateful thanks go to those who cleaned and decorated the Church so beautifully, to our singers and musicians, to the Altar Servers and to all those who are involved in so many ways.

A special thanks to those who helped with the very beautiful Carol Service and also at the special mass held on our patronal feast. Also I'd like to thank you very much for your very generous Christmas offerings, cards and gifts.

Father Alex

New Rotas

The new rotas are ready and available at the back of the church. Thank you very much for your service to the parish. If you are unable to help on any particular day please swap with someone else.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

This year the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is from 18th to the 25th January 2018. The Week of Prayer always concludes with the Feast of St Paul.

A family altar
will alter a family

Upcoming Dates

Seniors Meeting3rd January
Wandsworth Deanery Meeting..... 13th February
Marriage Preparation Course..... 24th February
Parish Council 6th March
Parish Council 5th June

Christmas Crib

As usual at this Season, all gifts at the Crib are given to the Catholic Children's Society. Please support this work as generously as you can.

Parent and Toddler Group

Our Parent and Toddler Group reopens on Monday 8th January 10.00-12.00.

What the Holy Family shows us at Christmas:

Christmas is for many of us, a time when families get together. We remember friends especially those who are no longer with us and those family and friends who live far away.

Sometimes this brings great joy as we catch up on news. Sometimes it's hard going and we need patience in tolerating familiar bad habits, coping with old hurts and negotiating unrealistic expectations.

Many will be glad when Christmas is over. Nevertheless, there is a deeper point to our family gathering. We instinctively recognise the importance of the bond of flesh and blood.

We know that, in a family, we irrevocably belong to each other, no matter the distances that may separate us, or the rows we have lived through. We still look to our family for recognition, acceptance and love even when that hope is unfulfilled.

So when you see the crib this Christmas, don't see in it an image of a vanishing world of father, mother and child. See, rather, a reminder of the truth about our human nature and a source of new encouragement and determination for us all.

Extract from: The Daily Telegraph 23/12/07 by Cardinal Vincent Nichols

What can you do
to promote world peace?
Go home and love your family

Mother Teresa

Last Week's Finances

Parish Collection £, Bankers Orders £

Upcoming Second Collections

7th January: Society for the Protection of the Unborn Child White Flower Appeal, 14th January: Church Maintenance Fund

Rotas

Sunday Welcome & Coffee: A Oliva, E Falcone n/w F Azevedo, M Figueiredo

Readers: Sat: N Nolan, S Vas, E De Souza Sun: T Brown, A Harris, A Stacey n/w Sat: C Wilkins, I Smith Sun: G Fayers, C McCarthy

Eucharistic Ministers: Sat: J Cato, D McGavin Sun: A Nobis, R Nwodo, P Fahy, R McMullan n/w Sat: D McGavin, K Dolan Sun: G Donaldson, C Kawesi, W Gallagher, R Kuleke

Flowers: A Oliva n/w L Northeast

Royal Hospital: Angela Robbins n/w Sister Pauline