

ST. BONAVENTURE'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Registered Charity 233699

Parish Priest: Father Bill McConalogue

Parish Secretary: Mrs Kathryn Hubbard

(Father Bill can also be contacted on 01707 327434)

The Holy Family 30th December 2007

Today's readings are filled with all kinds of images for family life. From the ideals set forth in the first and second readings to the story of the Holy Family's moment of crisis in the Gospel, we are given much to ponder. As the holy word is proclaimed, let us pray that our families will be strengthened and inspired by the examples of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph,

RESPONSE TO THE PSALM

O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways!

Psalm 127

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the peace of Christ reign in your hearts;
let the message of Christ find a home with you.
Alleluia!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Our God has appeared on earth,
and lived among men.



My dear Parishioners and Visitors,

WELCOME I extend a very warm welcome to everyone. If you have recently moved into the parish, or have started coming to Mass here, please do introduce yourselves to me or Father Joe after Mass.

FEASTS THIS WEEK

Tuesday	1st	Mary, Mother of God
Wednesday	2nd	SS Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors
Thursday	3rd	Most Holy Name of Jesus

PLEASE NOTE For this week there is a Eucharistic Service (no Mass) at 9am on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Then back to normal.

PARISH DIARIES These have arrived at last, please take one. As we have waited so long for them they are free!

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2008 The Sacrament of Confirmation will be administered on Saturday 19th April 2008 at 7pm. Our first meeting for candidates will be on Friday 25th January at 8pm. Details will be sent out to each candidate before that date. There are green forms at the back of the church for those who have yet to apply. It is not too late, but please have your application in by Sunday 20th January.

TAMALE NEWS Thank you to all who support the fundraising for Tamale, especially the tea and coffee after 10.30am Mass. You will be pleased to know that a further cheque for £500 has recently been sent to the Sisters of St. Gilda to help the Street Children.

CAN WE MAKE THIS A FAIR TRADE PARISH? Many parishes in the Westminster Diocese have already signed up. To qualify we need to: serve Fair Trade tea and coffee at all parish events and meetings; agree to promote Fair Trade more via posters, a stall or regular event; organise an event once a year in Fair Trade fortnight. The future of many countries depends on their getting a fair deal for their produce. It is not just about cups of tea and coffee, it is about trade justice. An example: non-Fair Trade cocoa is produced with the help of illiterate child labour, while on the Fair Trade plantations the children go to school. We shall make more enquiries about making this a Fair Trade parish from the Diocese but in the meantime your comments/views would be very welcome.

A REMINDER You are asked not to double park in front of the church as this is very dangerous. It restricts motorists vision especially when coming out from Birdcroft.

THANK YOU Father Joe would like to thank everyone for their cards, good wishes and gifts this Christmas, and for making this such a wonderful Christmas in every way.

CHRISTMAS CRIB Donations at the crib go to the Catholic Children's Society. The Society believes that every child has the right to a secure upbringing in a loving family. Their services aim to support disadvantaged families and families in crisis to strengthen the family bond and to prevent family breakdown. Their concern is to enable children to have a positive experience of childhood and to prevent long-term emotional and behavioural problems caused by poor experiences of family life. They also aim to create strong new family relationships through adoption and to give children 'in care' and others the chance to be valued and loved by adoptive parents. Please be generous.

MOTHER AND TODDLER This group takes a break now until Wednesday 16th January.

CHILDREN'S TUESDAY GROUPS We also have a break now and meet again for all groups on Tuesday 15th January 3.45pm to 4.45pm. All welcome to come and enjoy learning a little more about their faith. Bring some food on this day.

WESTMINSTER YEAR BOOK There are some copies available at the back of church, £4. Please put your money in the Catholic Papers box.

NATIVITY COSTUMES Parents are reminded to return any costumes to the parish hall as soon as possible. We will then arrange a morning for sorting and storing them.

'Father, bless the family of the church. May we accept one another as brothers and sisters, finding strength and joy in our life together. May we be a family open to all the families of mankind that, in the church, they may overcome all the hostilities and prejudices that might otherwise drive them apart.' *More Everyday Prayers*

As this year draws to a close I should again like to offer my sincere thanks to Father John McCoy and to Father Joe Boward for their generous ministry to the parish during the past year, their commitment and dedication helps to make this a very vibrant community. I also thank you most sincerely for your good wishes, cards, gifts, and offerings this Christmas. May I wish you a very happy and peaceful New Year.

May God bless you all,

Father Bill

SERVICES FOR THE WEEK BEGINNING 30TH DECEMBER

30 Sunday 8am Beatrice Sharkey (R.I.P.)
 10.30am Peter Lancina (anniversary)

Weekdays

31 Monday 9am Eucharistic Service
01 Tuesday 9am Eucharistic Service
02 Wednesday 9am Eucharistic Service
03 Thursday 9am Eucharistic Service
04 Friday 9am Eucharistic Service
05 Saturday 10am Fr. Reynaldo (intentions)

06 Sunday 8am Thanksgiving (M. Albuquerque)
 10.30am Winefride Gismondi (anniversary)

Please note: There is Mass at 7pm every Sunday in Holy Family Church

Morning Prayer of the Church begins 15 minutes before Mass on each weekday.
The Rosary is recited on Wednesdays and Fridays after Mass.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT First Friday of the month
from 9.30am concluding with **BENEDICTION** at 12noon. Not January.

CONFESSIONS Saturdays 10.30am - 11am.

READINGS FOR TODAY'S MASS are on a page 41 of the Mass Book.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND: John Saunders, Nicola Coles, Catherine Conroy, Debrae Betts, Colin Wright, Susan Hughes, Kathleen Campbell, Teresa Mitchell, Charlie Botwright, Maureen Botwright, Phyllis Coughlan, Meg Ansell, Marjorie Davis, Peter Conroy, Nora O'Loughlin, Pat Wells, Ted Evans, Ruth Bauer-Flynn, Mollie Brennan, Patrick Burke, Ruth Williams, James May, Keith Kerrison, Mrs Power, Peter Ferguson, Kitty Stephens, and all the sick amongst our personal friends and relations, those in the Q.E. II hospital and all who are in need of our prayers.

LATELY DEAD Please pray for the repose of the soul of Mark Tomlinson R.I.P.

ANNIVERSARIES Please remember Nula Kevin, Jane O'Callaghan, Ann and William McManus, David Matthews, Maureen Box-McEvoy, Jerry O'Mahoney, Denis McConlough, Florence Levack, and all those who have no one to pray for them.

<p>CHAPLAIN TO THE Q.E.II HOSPITAL: If you are going into hospital you can contact the R.C. Chaplain, Mrs Bernadette Cassidy, on 07623 897178.</p>
