



Reflection

Happy 2nd week of Advent!



This Sunday, the second Sunday of Advent, we hear a story about John the Baptist. John told everybody that Jesus was coming and that they needed to get ready. John warns the people coming to be baptised that they need to say sorry for the things that they have done wrong and change their lives for the better. This will help them to be ready for Jesus.

Do you think there are things in your life you could do better? Are you always helpful? Do you always share? Do you listen when someone is upset and try to cheer them up? Do you let everyone join in your games?

When we say sorry, it means that we will try to do better next time. If we change our lives for the better and try to do the right things, we can help to make the world a happier place for other people too.

How are you going to change your life for the better this Advent?

Prayer: God of love, help us always to try to do the right thing, even when we find it hard, so that we are ready when Jesus comes. Amen.

Family Mass

It was wonderful to see so many families at Family Mass last Sunday. The church was full, the children read beautifully and sang wonderfully in the liturgical choir. They joined in Father Henry's homily and really thought about Advent and what it meant. Thank you for coming, it was a lovely start to this special time.

Nativity

Reception will be presenting, "We don't know what to buy" on **Thursday 8 December at 2.15pm**. Additional tickets are now on sale until Tuesday 6 December at 12pm. A link to a recording will also be sent after the performance. Each ticket is £2, to pay for the cost of the production and costumes. Reception tickets can be purchased through Eventbrite using this link. <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/reception-nativity-2022-tickets-469818047427>

Year 1 and Year 2 are presenting, "It's a Miracle" on **Tuesday 6 December at 2.15pm**. Additional tickets are now on sale until Monday 5 December at 12pm. A link to a recording will also be sent after the performance. Each ticket is £2 to pay for the cost of the production and costumes. Key Stage 1 tickets can be purchased through Event Brite using this link. <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/key-stage-1-christmas-nativity-2022-tickets-469810023427>

NEWSLETTER – 2 December 2022

Advent charity work

Advent is a time of alms giving. We appreciate this year everybody has been hit by the cost of living crisis so please give if you are able but we do understand some people will not be able to.

Apostleship of the Sea is a registered charity and agency of the Catholic Bishops' Conferences of England & Wales and Scotland that provides pastoral, emotional and practical support, information and a listening ear to seafarers regardless of race and religion who arrive at ports in the Diocese. Each year we have the woolly hat campaign which will launch on 25 November. Please donate items to be packed into the hats such as: Men's socks, men's gloves, shower gel, shaving gel, deodorant, toothbrush, toothpaste, lip balm, disposable razors, small comb, small notepad, pens, chocolate (either a small bar or handful of small chocolates)

Christmas jumper day is on Friday 9 December and children are invited to wear their Christmas jumpers and non-uniform and donate £1 to Save the Children.

Each year we work with a charity to provide refugee children with Christmas presents. Good quality presents can be regifted from your bookshelves or toy cupboards or can be new. Each present should be wrapped with a label suggesting the age and gender of the child it would be appropriate for. Donations of presents are asked for from 1 – 9 December.

At the nativities and carol service, we will be asking for donations for a chosen charity. Father Michael has asked us to collect donations for Mary's Meals.

Advent workshops



Reception started off our Advent Workshops this week and it was lovely to see so many family members able to join us.

The Advent workshops continue next week:

Monday @ 2.00pm Year 5 and Year 6 Advent workshop*

Wednesday @ 2.00pm Year 1 and Year 2 Advent workshop*

Friday @ 2.00pm Year 3 and Year 4 Advent workshop*

Additional Bank Holiday

The school will be closed on Monday 8 May as an additional bank holiday for the coronation of King Charles. This is the Key Stage 2 SATs week and the DfE have announced the children will still complete their SATs that week but do them Tuesday – Friday.

Christmas Fair

Thank you to all our families for coming to our Christmas fair and spending their hard earned money. It was lovely to see you all.



Headteacher Awards

Virtue Awards – Generosity

Reception – Rita B & Noah H

Year 1 – Jack Y & Pearl W

Year 2 – Harry E & Georgie M

Year 3 – Ernie P & Lucas C

Year 4 – Martha V & Freya W

Year 5 – Lauren S & Alex G

Year 6 – Olivia M & William W

Reception – Orla D

Year 1 – Jack H

Year 2 – Joshua F

Year 3 – Leo P

Year 4 – Isla S

Year 5 – Evie I

Year 6 – Naia G

Diary Dates

Please note changes or additions in red.

*denotes parents welcome

December

Monday	5	2.00pm	Year 5 and Year 6 Advent workshop*
Tuesday	6		Year 1 Class Saint Day – St Nicholas
Tuesday	6	2.15pm	Year 1 and Year 2 nativity*
Thursday	6		Year 4 Rewind to Christmas
Wednesday	7	9.30am	Pantomime
Wednesday	7	2.00pm	Year 1 and Year 2 Advent workshop*
Thursday	8	9.15am	Year 4 lead Jesse Tree worship*
Thursday	8	2.15pm	Reception nativity*
Friday	9		Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Dinner Day
Friday	9	2.00pm	Year 3 and Year 4 Advent workshop*



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Friday	9		Donations for Refugee presents close
Monday	12	5.00pm	Key Stage 2 Carol Service led by Year 5*
Thursday	15	9.15am	Year 3 lead Jesse Tree worship*
Thursday	15		Christmas party day – party clothes
Friday	16	9.30am	Whole School Mass led by Year 4*
Friday	16		Non Uniform – free – thank you for all donations
Friday	16	2.30pm	Carols in the hall
Friday	16		School closes

Parish News

CONTACTLESS OFFERTORY MACHINES

Thank you to all those using the DONA machines in all 3 churches. You can make an offertory donation with a bank card by following the simple instructions on the device. A Gift Aid option is also available and once you have given the information it will remember it for your next donation.

DIOCESAN DIRECTORIES

These are now available in all 3 churches. Priced £4 please leave any money in the “papers” box.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

These are now available in all 3 churches.

COFFEE MORNINGS

Every Sunday in Holy Name hall after the 9am Mass and in the Assumption hall after the 9.45am Mass. The next one after the 8.15am Mass at St Mary's is Sunday 11th December and there will be some mince pies and Christmas cake as well as the normal biscuits! Everyone welcome.

SENIOR STROLLERS

Are taking a break during Advent but will resume walks in January 2023.

HELP WITH CHRISTMAS!

If anyone would like to help with assembling the traditional crib scenes in HN & SM this year, please let one of our priests or Amanda know. The figures are on the heavy side and need retrieving using ladders, so you need to be nibble! We also need volunteers to help with decorating the Christmas tree at SM. The tree will arrive the week commencing the 19th Dec. Again, please let the priest or Amanda know if you can help.

SUNDAY MASSES (Saturday Vigil)

Holy Name	6.30pm
St. Mary's	8.15am
Holy Name	9.00am
Assumption	9.45am
St Mary's	11.00am
Holy Name	11.15am