Diary Dates – 9 December 2022







Prayer

God of hope, you sent your Son Jesus to bring good news to people who are poor. Help us to be that good news, so that all people around the world can make a better life for themselves and their families. Amen.

Carol service

The Key Stage 2 carol service will be on Monday 12 November at 5pm in St Mary's church. Children in Key Stage 2 should return to school at **4.40pm** in their school uniform. They should be dropped at their classroom doors and collected from their classroom door following the end of the service. The PTA will be serving hot drinks and mince pies in the hall following the carol service. All our families are welcome to come.

Changes to uniform next week

- Children in Year 3 and Year 4 should come to school in normal uniform on Monday, not PE kits.
- There is no swimming on Tuesday for Year 4 but children should still come to school in their PE kits.
- Friday is non uniform as a thank you for the charity donations.

Lateness

We have a number of children who are coming to school late on a regular basis. Whilst we understand that there are one off occasions when you may be delayed, this is causing significant issues for safeguarding as we need to ensure the gate is closed and significant increase in workload for the office staff. Please leave additional time on these frosty mornings to ensure your child is in the school playground when the bell goes at 8:50am.

Reconciliation

We keep our Year 4 children in our prayers this weekend as they make their first reconciliation.

Staffing news

Mrs Charles will be leaving St Mary's at the end of term, after 19 years at the school. We thank her for her hard work and dedication to the school, she has supported huge amounts of children over the years and I am sure you will join with me in wishing her well for the future.

Miss Hughes will also be leaving St Mary's at the end of term to join the SENSAP team in Leeds to follow her passion for working with children with SEND. We wish her the best of luck in her new role and thank her all her hard work at the school.

Mr Waddington will be joining St Mary's as the Year 1 teacher in January. He comes to us from Holy Name and brings with him many years of experience. We are sure you will welcome him into the St Mary's community.

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Headteacher Awards

Virtue Awards - Generosity

Reception – All of Reception

Year 1 - Fionn S & all of Year 1

Year 2 - All of Year 2

Year 3 - Ben W & Amelia S

Year 4 – Genevieve D'A & Delia P

Year 5 - Seth H & Phoebe B

Year 6 - Chloe V & Jessica Mc

Reception – Sienna B

Year 1 - Hugo H

Year 2 - Eva J

Year 3 - Thomas R

Year 4 - Isobel S

Year 5 - Zachary J

Year 6 - Anna Maria C

Diary Dates

Please note changes or additions in red.

*denotes parents welcome

December

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 – come to school in party clothes
Friday	16		Non uniform day – free to say thank you for charity donations
Friday	16	9.30am	Whole School Mass led by Year 4*
Friday	16	2.30pm	Carols in the hall
Friday	16		School closes

Parish News

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

OLK CHRISTMAS CAROLS & MASSES

There will be a 30-minute Carol Service, beginning at 5.30pm, at the Assumption church before their Vigil Mass of Christmas and at 9.30am, at Holy Name before the 10am Mass on Christmas Day. From 5.30pm, preceding the 6.00pm Mass at Holy Name on Christmas Eve, there will be carols and veneration of the crib. All children are welcome to arrive dressed as a character from the nativity story.

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CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Everyone is welcome to donate towards the Christmas flowers in any of our churches. Offerings can be placed in the collection baskets or poinsettias, plants/flowers can be left in all 3 churches from Monday 19th Dec

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS FOR REFUGEES

Rose McCarthy is collecting wrapped presents for the refugee men at the hotel, she suggests they could include chocolate, a toiletry item, and socks. Please contact Rose@horsforthchaplaincy.org for collection.

APPEAL FROM OLK FRIENDS OF MIGRANTS

There are 120 men seeking Asylum housed in a local hotel some of them are Christian. They arrive with limited personal belongings. We are appealing for spare Bibles and rosary beads. Some of the men are from French speaking African countries so if anyone has a bible written in French that would be greatly appreciated. A box will be left at the back of each church. Thank you in anticipation.

PRAYER VIGIL

Monday 12th December 8pm-10pm in St Mary's Church. Come and spend some time with Jesus. Vigil of reparation with **Eucharistic Adoration**, **periods of silence**, **hymns**, **scripture and rosary**

LEEDS CATHEDRAL DAY OF RECONCILIATION

Tuesday 20th December, 7am to 7pm. There will be priests available to hear confessions and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament throughout the day

ADVENT RECONCILIATION

In addition to the usual Saturday morning confessions at 10.00 - 11.30am in Holy Name and St Mary's, there will be three evenings available in each of our churches between 6.00pm - 7.30pm Wed 14th Dec at Holy Name, Thurs 15th Dec at Assumption and Fri 16th Dec St Mary's. This is your opportunity to make peace with Our Lord. Don't be put off by fear, anxiety, uncertainty about what to say, or overlong anxiety.