



St Hugh of Lincoln Catholic Church

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The Arundel & Brighton Diocesan Trust is a Registered Charity No 252878

OUR PARISH NEWSLETTER 23rd and 30th December 2018

Fourth Sunday of Advent 'O Emmanuel' Year C

1st Reading: Micah 5:1-4 Psalm: 79

Psalm Response: **God of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.**

2nd Reading: Hebrews 10:5-10 Gospel: Luke 1:39-44

30th December - Sunday in the Octave of Christmas - HOLY FAMILY

1st Reading: Ecclesiasticus 3:2-6, 12-14 Psalm: 127

Psalm Response: **O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways!**

2nd Reading: Colossians 3:12-21 Gospel: Luke 2:41-52

"The Twelve Days of Christmas" : an English Christmas Carol.

From 1558 until 1829, Roman Catholics in England were not permitted to practice their faith openly. During that era, someone wrote this carol as a catechism song for young Catholics. It has two levels of meaning: the surface meaning, plus a hidden meaning known only to members of the Church. Each element in the carol has a code word for a religious reality which the children could remember. There are actually *Twelve Fruits of the Holy Spirit, but to fit the number scheme, when reaching Number 9, representing the Fruits of the Holy Spirit, the originator combined 6 of the Fruits that were similar to make 3: the Fruit in each [parenthesis] is the Gift that was not named separately.

The "True Love" one hears in the song is not a smitten boy or girlfriend but Jesus Christ, because True Love was born on Christmas Day.

The Partridge in the pear tree also represents Him because that bird is willing to sacrifice its life if necessary to protect its young by feigning injury to draw away predators.

The Two Turtle Doves were the Old and New Testaments.

The Three French Hens stood for Faith, Hope, and Love.

The Four Calling Birds were the four gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.

The Five Golden Rings represented the Pentateuch, the First Five Books of the Old Testament, which describe Man's fall into sin and the great love of God in sending a Saviour.

The Six Geese A-laying stood for the Six Days of Creation.

The Seven Swans A-swimming represented the Sevenfold Gifts of the Holy Spirit - Prophecy, Serving, Teaching, Exhortation, Contribution, Leadership, and Mercy.

The Eight Maids A-milking were the Eight Beatitudes.

Nine Ladies Dancing were the *Nine Fruits of the Holy Spirit - Love, Joy, Peace, Patience [Forbearance], Goodness [Kindness], Mildness, Fidelity, Modesty, Contineny [Chastity].

The Ten Lords A-leaping were the Ten Commandments.

The Eleven Pipers Piping stood for the Eleven faithful Apostles.

The Twelve Drummers Drumming symbolized the twelve points of belief in The Apostles' Creed.

Original Source: Fr. Calvin Goodwin, FSSP, Nebraska. With permission from Catholic Tradition.

Christmas Crib Offering 2018: This year our Christmas Crib Offering will be donated to the Catholic Children's Society's A&B Fund. This fund provides emergency grants for children and families in our Diocese who are facing a crisis in their lives.

Giving Tree - A huge 'Thank you' to all who supported the Giving Tree. All the gifts have been delivered and received with grateful thanks. Your generosity was evident by the number of gifts on the sanctuary. Thank you.

Christmas Gift to Coldingly Prisoners: Once again, thank you to all the those who sent your Christmas greetings and chocolates to the prisoners of Coldingly.

'Tea & Talents' - Thank you to all the performers and to the audience at our afternoon of entertainment last Sunday. What talent we have in the parish! £55 was raised for the Lourdes Fund and tea and cakes were enjoyed by all.

Swim22 Challenge: Swim 22 miles – the width of the English Channel – in 12 weeks, in your local pool i.e. 1404 lengths of a 25 metre swimming pool between 22nd February and 22nd May, taking on the swimming challenge of the year as a team effort or on your own. Not only will you be keeping fit, but also will be supporting Diabetes UK. For further details https://www.diabetes.org.uk/get_involved/fundraising-events/swim22 or contact Charlotte on 07793 744038.

New Name for DABCEC: The Diocese of Arundel & Brighton Christian Education Centre, 4 Southgate Drive, Crawley, RH10 6RP; is now known as the **St Philip Howard Centre for Education, Formation & Mission.**

Retreat for Doctors: At Worth Abbey from Friday 1st March 2019. The Spiritual Director is Fr. Stephen Ortiger. Theme "Love thy Neighbour as Yourself". £150 full board. For details and booking, please email the organizer Dr Joe O'Dwyer, adding Doctors' Retreat in subject at jodwyer@doctors.org.uk.

Prayers and Help for the Sick and the Housebound

We offer our prayers for all the sick and the housebound who are unable to participate with us during this Advent and Christmas Season. Additionally, many people are in desperate need of food, clothing and shelter. Please remember in your prayers all these people, especially during this Christmas Season, and assist by your generous contributions to all our Parish charity events throughout the coming year.

In Memoriam: Pray for the repose of the soul of Terry Duff who died on Tuesday.

Christmas Collection for the Support of Clergy

The Offertory collection at Christmas Masses provides income to the Parish for the support of its priest and may be Gift Aided. Any cheques should ideally be made payable to 'St Hugh of Lincoln' as those made out personally to Fr Gerard are direct gifts and cannot be Gift Aided. You will find a supply of Yellow Gift Aid envelopes for this collection in the Narthex.

Decorate our Church for Christmas: Please bring from your garden greenery such as ivy, holly, conifers for decorating our church for Christmas.

Brass and Silver Cleaning for Christmas: On Monday 24th December, after 10am Mass, please join Fr Gerard to clean the brass and silverware, and prepare our church for Christmas celebration.

Fr Gerard and Deacon Rob wish you all very happy and holy Christmas.

New Year's Eve Celebrations

On Monday 31st December, there will be Mass at 11pm, followed by drinks in the Presbytery

IMPORTANT DATES

Mon	31	Dec	Mass at Noon with Te Deum; and Mass at 11pm
Tue	1	Jan	Mass at Noon - Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God
Wed	2	Jan	The Ecumenical Prayer and Share Meeting at The Vyne has been cancelled.
Thu	10	Jan	RCIA meeting in the Church hall at 8pm

Parish New Website

We are launching our New Parish Website this week. Web address: <https://sthughoflincoln.com>. Menu of the Website includes; Home, Services, Discipleship, Children, Teams, Young Adults, Devotions, Newsletter and Contacts. Please explore the Menu and provide us your feedback via the Parish email: sthugh.secretary@ntlworld.com with your views to further improve and enhance the needs of our Parish, especially when we are in pursuit of Divine Renovation.

Parish Maintenance Projects

St Hugh of Lincoln Parish is our spiritual home and, as with all homes, there are a number of maintenance projects that need to be undertaken in the church, the Presbytery, and the Hall. The sound system in the church is deteriorating and requires attention, and the loop system for those with hearing aids is not working. Many people are thus unable to fully hear the Sacred Liturgy which is vital for maintaining a spiritual life, enabling people to be fed on the Word of God and the language of our Ritual. A new sound system will cost in the region of £18,000 and the generosity of parishioners towards this and the general maintenance costs which have been prioritised will benefit all our parish family.

ROSARY FOR THE UNBORN: As part of the Knights of St Columba Centenary which will be celebrated on 5th October 2019, the KSC together with SPUC (Society for the Protection of Unborn Children) have launched a year-long Rosary for the Unborn with a special intention each month. Half a million Rosary Prayer Cards have been produced for National distribution in every parish in Scotland, England and Wales. The Prayer Card has a monthly intention, with the December intention being "For those facing a crisis pregnancy at this time." The Knights of St Columba and SPUC invite all to begin saying the Rosary particularly for this intention, starting on Friday 28th December, the **Feast of the Holy Innocents**. Please collect a Prayer Card from the narthex, and join in praying the Rosary for the most vulnerable in our society.

Parish Project : As part of our Covenant with the Poor, to which we commit each Maundy Thursday, we have been supporting both the Woking Hospice and Cafod as our home and overseas projects. The time has now come for us to review our pledge to 'give more generously' and to consider other charities. If you have a project you would like to nominate, you will find a Nomination Form in the narthex. Please hand in to the sacristy once completed. Voting on the various projects will take place in the New Year.

Parish Parking: A reminder to please consider neighbouring residents when using road parking for Mass, and to park considerately without obstructing entrances or the passage for oversized or Emergency vehicles on this narrow road. The parking bays immediately in front of the church are for the exclusive use of Blue Badge holders and for parishioners with mobility difficulties.

Mass Intentions for December 2018 and January 2019

Sat	22	10am	22 Dec. in Advent 'O Rex Gentium'	Intentions of Kathleen Cox
Sat	22	6.30pm	4 th Sunday of Advent 'O Emmanuel'	Andrew D Higgins RIP
Sun	23	9.30am	4 th Sunday of Advent 'O Emmanuel'	For the People of the Parish
Sun	23	11.30am	4 th Sunday of Advent 'O Emmanuel'	In Thanksgiving from Maria Coppola
Mon	24	9am	24 th December	Intentions of Philomena Wark
Mon	24	5pm	Nativity Mass	Andy Higgins RIP
Mon	24	7pm	Nativity Mass	Special Intentions of A & P Gildea
Mon	24	11.30pm	Carols and Midnight Mass	For the People of the Parish
Tue	25	9.30am	Christmas Day Mass	Chris O'Riordan RIP
Tue	25	11.30am	Christmas Day Mass	Daniel Dunning RIP
Wed	26	Noon	St Stephen, First Martyr	Mr & Mrs Holland
Thu	27	7pm	St John, Apostle and Evangelist	Mr & Mrs Holland
Fri	28	Noon	The Holy Innocents, Martyrs	Rita Hughes RIP
Sat	29	10am	St Thomas Becket; Bishop, Martyr	Intentions of Patricia Canny
Sun	30	6.30pm	The Holy Family	Thanksgiving N & M Lock
Sun	30	9.30am	The Holy Family	For the People of the Parish
Sun	30	11.30am	The Holy Family	For all those who have died in 2018 and for all the bereaved
Mon	31	12 noon	7 th Day in Octave of Christmas	<i>Available</i>
Mon	31	11pm	7 th Day in Octave of Christmas	<i>Available</i>
Tue	1	Noon	Mary the Holy Mother of God	Special Intentions N & M Lock
Wed	2	No Mass	Ss Basil the Great, Gregory Nazianzen	****
Thu	3	7pm	Latin Mass - Wk Day of Christmas	<i>Available</i>
Fri	4	10am	Week Day of Christmas	Michele Sale RIP & Ints of Family
Sat	5	10am	Week Day of Christmas	<i>Available</i>
Sat	5	6.30pm	The Epiphany of the Lord	Jim & Florence Moore RIP
Sun	6	9.30am	The Epiphany of the Lord	Deceased members of the Gilbert Family
Sun	6	11.30am	The Epiphany of the Lord	For the People of the Parish

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament one hour before 10am Mass on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays, and half hour after the 10am Mass on Saturdays.

Sacrament of Reconciliation 10.30am - 11am & 5.45pm - 6.10pm on Saturdays. Vespers and Benediction - 6pm Sunday.

Intentions are available for the months of January and February 2019

Offertory Collection (cash & standing orders) last weekend: £1,329.76 Many thanks.

THE ANGELUS



V. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary
R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit. *Hail Mary....*
V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord
R. Be it done unto me according to thy word. *Hail Mary....*
V. And the Word was made Flesh (Genuflect)
R. And dwelt among us. *Hail Mary*
V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.
R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us Pray : Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace into our hearts, that we to whom the Incarnation of Christ Thy Son was made known by the message of an angel, may by His Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of His Resurrection.

Through the same Christ Our Lord. Amen.