

St Hugh of Lincoln Catholic Church

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BIBLE SUNDAY - SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - 8TH DECEMBER 2019

Confession is one of my favourite Sacraments, and I try to go as often as I can. But this wasn't always the case. I dreaded it. Even though it's my favourite, it still does not make it easy. In times past it felt as awkward as telling your parents you broke the garage window. I also think seeing the priest face-to-face and fessing up was hard, would he think bad of me? Then I did not know what to say and what Sin really was. I know I did not make it easy on myself, sometimes making up sins or even hiding them. There was no easy way out of this one, you just had to do it. On leaving the confessional with the words 'God loves you' brought comfort, but it was not enough to realise there's much more to this Sacrament.

Now what I get is that God's Mercy is concrete and real. I can't forgive myself I need to go to a Priest. Jesus uses the Priest to be that wire for His presence to take away my sins. The friendship of the Priest, even if you don't know him, is the secret to this sacrament. It's also the humanity of this sacrament that is life changing. The Priest does tell you off because you have been naughty but also offers advice, penance and absolution. I don't have to keep my sins to myself or I bust, neither do I want evil or bad things kept in my mind as it affects my heart, nor will the Priest tell anyone.

As G.K. Chesterton wrote "When a Catholic comes from confession, he does truly, by definition, step out into that dawn of his own beginning... in that brief ritual God has really remade him in His own image. He may be grey and gouty; but he is only five minutes old."

3 REASONS TO GO TO CONFESSION

Many are embarrassed or afraid to go to confession. They avoid it as long as possible and make excuses for not going. If that's you, here are three reasons why you should go to confession as soon as possible.

1. A new beginning: No matter what you've done (think of the worst thing you could possibly do), when you walk out of the confessional, you are as sin free as you will ever be. Why would you not want that gift? Even if you haven't committed any serious sins, going to confession is like taking a bath. While they don't kill us spiritually, venial sins wound our soul and make it dirty, so to speak. A spiritual clean for the soul. Go to confession. 'I don't want to go' - means you should.

2. Concrete forgiveness: When the Priest says the words of absolution, your soul is instantly and completely healed. Sacramentally, Jesus is present in the confessional in the person of the Priest. If you want to experience His Divine Mercy in a real way, confession is the way to do it.

3. You receive graces: In Confession not only do we have our sins taken away, we also receive graces from Christ that we desperately need to live a holy life. The more you go to confession, the more graces you receive. Make your Parish Priest happy then, go to confession, not because I want it, but because I know it will make you feel whole again, and ready for the Christmas Feast. While you may not always feel like it, this sacrament is a great gift. Don't let fear, guilt, or embarrassment dissuade you. Jesus is waiting in the confessional for you, and His Heart longs to grant you his Mercy in abundance.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Christina Bruce**, a long standing parishioner. Her funeral will take place on Monday 9th December at noon and it was Christina's preference that people did not wear black. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, rest in peace.

Dates for your Diary

Sun	8	Dec	C4K Carol Singing - Mizens Farm Railway - 2.00pm
Mon	9	Dec	Solemnity of The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary 7.30pm
Tue	10	Dec	'Rorate Mass' at 6.30am, followed by Breakfast - Parish Hall
Tue	10	Dec	Advent Reflection KS2 - 7.00pm
Fri	13	Dec	Reconciliation Service St Dunstan's, Woking at 7.30pm
Sat	14	Dec	C4K Carol Singing - Memorial Wall High Street 11.00am - 12noon
Tue	17	Dec	'Rorate Mass' at 6.30am, followed by Breakfast - Parish Hall
Tue	17	Dec	Advent Reconciliation Service St Hugh's at 7.30pm
Sun	22	Dec	Carol Service and Benediction at 4pm, followed by refreshments in the Hall All family, friends and lapsed members of the community are invited

Each year in Rome, on the Third Sunday of Advent, children gather with their families in St. Peter's Square for "**Bambinelli Sunday**." The children bring with them figures of the Christ Child - the "Bambinelli" - from their family's Nativity scene. During the midday Angelus prayer, the Pope blesses the children and the figurines they have brought.

On Sunday, 15th December, the 3rd Sunday of Advent, we will bless Baby Jesus figurines from parishioners' home nativity scenes. We encourage you and your children to bring the figure of Baby Jesus from your house. We will also bless Hay.

Admission to St Hugh's School September 2020

Fr Gerard will be available at the Presbytery as follows for the signing of the SIF:

Monday 9th December 2.00pm - 4.00pm

Tuesday 10th December 7.00pm - 9.00pm Monday 13th January 7.00pm - 9.00pm

Please note slight amendments to times

GIVING TREE - The tree is in place in the narthex. Please feel free to take a gift tag and buy whatever is noted on the tag. **Your wrapped gift should be returned over the weekend of 15th December.**

Thank you very much for your generosity we raised £1270.00 from 20 pounds Sunday.

The church toilet will be replaced and this is a good start for the roof, the sanctuary, outside wall, the ceiling, new paints, new lights, renovation of the floor and the works of the hall. Its not nice asking for money but looking after this place is like looking after the 'Forth Bridge'.
Many thanks and Blessings.

Coldingley Prison: Please put contributions; a chocolate bar and a small card, written with your Christian name and marked 'St Hugh of Lincoln Parish' into the box marked 'Coldingley' in the narthex. Christmas is a hard time in prison and this gesture would be much appreciated.

St Hugh's Baby & Toddler Group: Fridays at 10am in the Parish Hall.

PARISH OFFICE

Parish Office open from 10.00am - 2.00pm on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.
If you wish to contact the Parish Office, email: sthughoflincoln.office@gmail.com

Church Christmas Flower Collection at all Masses Weekend of 14th & 15th December

There will be a collection for the Christmas Flowers next week. Please give generously.

Christmas Bazaar Father Christmas Photos: For photos taken with Father Christmas during the Christmas Bazaar, please contact Aga: aga.lovelymoments@gmail.com before 17th December,

Advent Breakfast following 6.30am Rorate Mass

If you would like to stay for a cooked breakfast after Mass on **Tuesday 10th December**, it would be helpful for catering purposes, if you could sign up on the sheet in the Narthex .

Details of the following are displayed on our Notice Board

- * Parish Accounts - Details of the parish finances are in the Narthex
- * The Knights of St Columba stickers are available for your Christmas stationery
- * The Nativity at Wintershall Holly Barn from Wednesday 18th - Sunday 22nd December

Confirmation programme 2020: It is time to consider joining the Parish Confirmation programme, which will begin in January for young people in Year 10 and above. An application form is available at the back of the church and on the website, along with details of the dates of the sessions. **Please complete and return your form to the Presbytery by 29th December.** If you have any questions, please feel free to contact David Thorn on confirmation.sthughs@gmail.com.

Christmas Chocs for Knaphill Businesses: This year the churches in Knaphill (C4K) will be gifting a tub of "Celebrations" and a Christmas card to each business/shop in the High Street (all 65 of them!). Volunteers are required to help deliver our quota of 15 during w/c 9th December. Please contact Roger if you are able to help (01483 481944, rogandmad.furnell@btinternet.com).

Woking Ladies Choir are performing their **Ceremony of Carols** concert at Knaphill Methodist Church on Saturday 14th December at 4.30pm. Tickets on the door Adults £12.00 Children £6.00. Interval refreshments included. See poster in Narthex.

The Baptist Church will be hosting "Get in the Picture" event on Saturday, 14th December from 10.00-12.00 and 2.00-4.00. Families are invited to come, dress up and have their photo taken with the man in the red suit. Refreshments will also be available. Helpers would also be welcome on the day to help with costumes, providing cakes or serving refreshments. More details of the event can be found on https://www.baptist.org.uk/Groups/248038/Get_in_the.aspx.
If you are to help on the day please contact Roger (01483 481944).

Carol Singing in the Village: During Advent why not join Christians from other churches in Knaphill for carol singing in and around the village as a reminder to others of the true meaning of Christmas. Venues will be: Mizens Railway, Memorial Wall High St., Garibaldi Pub, The Vyne and the Cygnet Hospital. See poster in Narthex for more details or speak to Roger (01483 481944).

Sunday 8th December - SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Reading

1st Reading: **Isaiah 11:1-510** Psalm: 71

Psalm Response: **In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon falls.**

2nd Reading: **Romans 15:4-9** Gospel: **Matthew 3:1-12**

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Bible Sunday - Second Sunday of Advent - 8th December 2019 - Cycle A

Sat	07	6.00pm	Vigil Mass	For the People of the Parish
Sun	08	9.30am	Morning Mass	Arthur Whelan RIP
Sun	08	11.30am	Morning Mass	Carolina & Luigi Natalie RIP
Mon	09	12noon	The Immaculate Conception of the BVM	Requiem Mass Christina Bruce RIP
Mon	09	7.30pm	The Immaculate Conception of the BVM	Anne Magee RIP
Tue	10	6.30am	Rorate Mass	Repose of Soul Hatton & Bird Family
Tue	10	12noon	2 nd Week in Advent	Regina & Pius RIP
Thu	12	8.50am	School Mass - All Welcome	Year 3 Class Mass
Thu	12	7.30pm	Our Lady of Guadalupe - Latin Mass	Pro Life Intentions
Fri	13	12noon	St Lucy, Virgin, Martyr	Corinda & Pasquale Coppola RIP
Sat	14	11.15am	St John of the Cross, Priest, Dr.	Sisters of Mary Morning Star

Third 'Gaudete' Sunday of Advent - 15th December 2019 - Cycle A

Sat	14	6.00pm	Vigil Mass	Douglas & Mark Robbins RIP
Sun	15	9.30am	Morning Mass	Anne-Marie Peero RIP
Sun	15	11.30am	Morning Mass	For the People of the Parish

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: one hour before 12noon Mass on Weekdays and half an hour before 11.15am Mass on Saturday.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: 10.30am - 11.00am and 5.30pm - 5.50pm on Saturdays.

Vespers and Benediction: Sundays at 5.00pm

Mass Intentions are available for the month of December.

Offertory Collection for last week

£1209.13 of which £583.33 was Gift Aided. 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.