



St Hugh of Lincoln Catholic Church

Parish Newsletter

Shout for joy, O daughter Zion! Sing joyfully, O Israel!
Be glad and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem!

Zephaniah (3:14)

Third 'Gaudete' Sunday of Advent

12th December 2021 Year C

Dear Friends

"Home Alone" is my favourite Christmas movie. The film is set in suburban Chicago, a city with large catholic roots and many beautiful churches and if you notice Kevin's family have an Irish surname. The journey the film takes us on is through the eyes of the young protagonist, Kevin McAllister, and a terrifying glimpse into an easy mistake of forgetting a child.



The film has a strong sense of family, as Kevin's family are preparing to fly to Paris to visit Kevin's uncle and his family. The movie can help us to understand spiritual loneliness and the holy work that is needed to find the graces that God has for us, that at this moment we just can't see. The heart of the film is that wicked men get their comeuppance, and Kevin's mother gets home to hug her forgotten child; in this we see the true meaning of Christmas without all the fuss which is holy love. Faith is very much part of the film as Kevin says Grace before his cheese pizza and the local parish church appears with a life-sized nativity, convenient for hiding Kevin as the bandits drive past. One says to the other "Maybe he went inside". The other bandit looks up at the cross and says "I don't wanna go in there," this is the refrain of those who in truth don't feel as though they would ever be welcomed inside. And so they drive away.

On Christmas Eve, Kevin goes to church, he hears the choir singing "Long lay the world in sin and error pining, till He appeared, and the soul felt its worth." At the same time the old neighbour who has a bad reputation was there. Kevin is terrified, but before he can run away, the neighbour sits next to him in the pew. The old man says to him "This is a good place to be if you feel bad about yourself," this pierces Kevin's heart. The boy turns the question back to the old man. From the old man we hear his story of estrangement, the sin of pride, a father who cannot apologise to his son and a grandfather who sneaks into church to catch a glimpse of the sweet voice of his granddaughter. Kevin keeps asking the questions, until we finally realise that the old man is not scary, but ultimately afraid. This Advent we address being afraid of rejection, vulnerability and that the seeds of love that grow in the heart could be killed once again. The church is the place for people like the old man who are lonely, scared and who feel bad about themselves, but not everyone can recognise this. In contrast the bandits, who love material goods and violence, feel bad about themselves and believe that God sees them the same way. They will never enter the warm and glowing church, they are the essence of souls who have not felt they are worthy.

The old man has an insight into how Christ came for the sick and the sad, which was why in the end he is redeemed. Salvation has come to this house as the final scene sees Kevin looking out to see the old man hugging his granddaughter in the presence of his son, peace is seen in the snowflakes settling on them. Kevin smiles and the film ends. I wonder if the old man wasn't the real protagonist, the real individual who was acutely "home alone," but in the end found his family. Come Home this Christmas.

In Jesus, Mary and JosephFr Gerard.

PARISH CONTACT DETAILS

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

Giving Tree and Chocolate for Coldingley

Thank you, as always, for your generous giving. All items have been distributed and have been well received; they will make a huge difference to many this Christmas.

Christmas Puddings - Last chance to buy and support the parish/school

Traditional Christmas Plum Puddings or Sticky Toffee Puddings, with a School/ Parish community label.

Cost: Plum Pudding £3.50 (120g indiv), £8.00 (454g serves 4) / Sticky Toffee £8.00 (290g serves 3-4).

All have long use by dates!

If you would like to place an order please contact Anne am.rushton@btopenworld.com

Church Christmas Flower Collection

There will be a collection at the end of all Sunday Masses this week and next week for Christmas flowers. Donations can also be made via Dona or our Bank Account: HSBC / 40 05 20 / 01247611 / RCD A&B Knaphill *ref flowers*.

Please give generously to help make our church beautiful for Christmas.

Christmas Collection for the support of the Clergy

The Christmas collection is applied to the parish fund for the support of clergy, this fund provides income for clergy. The maintenance of parish clergy is an inherent part of our charitable objectives. We are entitled to claim Gift Aid on these charitable donations; Gift Aid recovered on the Christmas collection will be applied to the parish fund for the support of clergy.

If you would like to contribute, you can do so as follows:

- Collect a blue 'Christmas Collection envelope' as you leave the Church
- Via the Offertory basket after Mass for cash and your weekly envelopes
- Via our handheld contactless device after Mass - you just swipe your debit or credit card
- Via the static contactless device in the Narthex - this device also accepts Gift Aid donations
- Directly into our Bank Account: HSBC / 40 05 20 / 01247611 / RCD A&B Knaphill *ref Clergy*
- Via Gift Aid (tax payer) see parish website for full details or contact Ian Dallas on 07966183107 or iandallas47@gmail.com
- Via cash / cheque payable as above through the Presbytery door or post to the Parish Office at 95 Victoria Road, Knaphill, Woking GU21 2AA

Assistant Premises Manager Vacancy: The Trustees of St John's Seminary, Wonersh, Guildford (GU5 0QX) are looking to appoint, asap, a suitable person to assist the Premises Manager in all that is required to maintain, secure and prepare the building for its closure and sale. This is a fixed-term position, which will run up until December 2022, and attracts a salary of up to £25,000pa for a 37.5 hour working week, over 5 days – including some weekend work and on-call availability. Single occupancy accommodation is provided for the better performance of duties. The closing date for applications is **Monday 20 December 2021**. Interviews will take place on Monday 10th January 2022.

Please email CV, plus details of two referees, to Monsignor Gerald Ewing – Rector, at rector@wonersh.org from whom further details are available. (Strictly no agencies please.)

Covid-19 Update reflecting the emergence of the Omicron variant with effect from Friday 10th December

In line with Government measures it is important to ensure the following points are followed throughout our churches:

- Face coverings (covering both the nose and mouth) will become **compulsory** in places of worship
- People displaying any **symptoms of Covid-19** should stay at home and not travel to church or participate in person
- Hand sanitiser should be available for use on entering and leaving the church
- Good ventilation and air throughout the building; as a result of colder weather conditions, it will be important to wrap up well
- Premises should be kept clean, including common touch points
- Please support NHS Test and Trace by checking in via the NHS QR Code Poster or provide your contact details to the Welcomer (details will be kept for 21 days)

Fundraising

Have you started your online shopping yet?

The Parish is registered with <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk>. Search "St Hugh's Church, Knaphill" to create your FREE account. Your daily online shopping turns into free donations for our Parish. Just start your online shopping first at 'easyfundraising', then shop as normal; retailers will then make a small donation to say "thank you".

To date, 13 parishioners have raised £303.42 just by doing their ordinary online shopping!

Right to Life - Ask your MP to end 'DIY' abortion

The abortion lobby are now running a large campaign in the media to put pressure on the Government to make temporary 'DIY' abortion schemes permanent before the end of the year. It is therefore vital that as many MPs as possible write to the Health Secretary, Sajid Javid, asking the Government to end these dangerous 'DIY' abortion schemes. Right To Life UK has launched an easy-to-use tool on its website which makes it easy for you to send an email to your MP asking them to write to Sajid Javid. Please visit www.righttolife.org.uk/endDIY to contact your MP now. It only takes 30 seconds. We pray for an end to abortion. We pray especially that the Government would see the harm caused by the temporary 'DIY' abortion scheme, and that efforts to end this practice would be successful.

Prayers for the Unborn: Today we celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, patron saint of the unborn. We ask for her guidance and inspiration as we, the Church, seek to support all pregnant mothers and unborn children, and that we would become models of support to all in society.

Justice & Peace Assembly Webinar: 'To a Safer Shore?': 15th January, from 9.45am for 10.00 am to 1.00pm, will now take place online. More details and to book at To a Safer Shore? Spotlights refugees, highlighting what we can do to help: Arundel & Brighton Catholic Diocese (abdiocese.org.uk) or contact Tessa Ricketts at Tessa.Ricketts@abdiocese.org.uk

Synod 2023

Please join Deacon Rob for the second of our two Zoom meetings on this subject this Monday 13th December at 7.30pm. The meeting can be accessed via the following link [Synod 2023 Zoom](#)

Bambinelli Sunday

Bring your Baby Jesus this Sunday to Church to be blessed, as it's the Third Sunday of Advent which marks St John Paul II's beloved tradition of 'Bambinelli Sunday.'

The '**RORATE CÆLI MASS**' is a beautiful Advent devotion wherein the Mass of the Blessed Virgin Mary is offered, by candlelight, just before dawn. The Mass will be offered at 7.00am on the Tuesdays of Advent. If you are unable to attend, why not participate by candlelight at home? Make a little Altar wherever your computer is, light a lantern or put a candle in a jar, and be like those happy servants of Luke 12:35 watching for their Master's return 'with their lamps lit'. Sadly no cooked breakfast this year.

MASS TIMES and INTENTIONS

Sunday and weekday Masses will be livestreamed via YouTube or Facebook.

There will be *half an hour Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament* prior to weekday Masses

Saturday 11th December - St Damasus I, Pope

6.00pm Vigil Mass Jim Moore RIP

***SUNDAY 12TH DECEMBER - THIRD 'GAUDETE' SUNDAY OF ADVENT* - YEAR C 2021**

8.00am Latin Mass EF People of the Parish

9.30am Holy Mass Sue Dethick RIP

11.30am Holy Mass Daniela and Jan Dziki RIP

Monday 13th December - St Lucy, Virgin, Martyr

10.00am Holy Mass Margaret Bannister RIP

Tuesday 14th December - St John of the Cross, Priest, Doctor

7.00am Rorate Mass Christina Bruce RIP

10.00am Holy Mass For the speedy recovery of Ray Furneaux

Wednesday 15th December - Wednesday of the Third week of Advent

Private Holy Mass For young Will Austin RIP

Thursday 16th December - Thursday of the Third week of Advent

7.30pm Latin Mass EF Andrea Britton RIP

Friday 17th December - December in Greater Advent 'O Sapientia'

6.00pm Holy Mass Holy Souls

Saturday 18th December - December in Greater Advent 'O Adonai'

6.00pm Vigil Mass Intentions of Bruna Moore

***SUNDAY 19TH DECEMBER - FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT 'O RADIX JESSE'* - YEAR C 2021**

8.00am Latin Mass EF People of the Parish

9.30am Holy Mass Bill Collins RIP

11.30am Holy Mass Michael Parry RIP

Average Weekly Offertory Collections: Baskets - £221.16 Contactless - £104.58 and Standing Orders - £588.33, which were Gift Aided. Total £.914.07 Many thanks.



The Christmas Novena started on November 30th, the Feast of St. Andrew, and finishes on Christmas Day. The Novena prayer is said 15 times each day, this persistent prayer has been used to request special help from St. Andrew for any cause, but it has been particularly used by couples trying to conceive a child and other important intentions.

Hail and blessed be the hour and moment in which the Son of God was born of the most pure Virgin Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in the piercing cold. In that hour vouchsafe, I beseech Thee, O my God, to hear my prayer and grant my desires through the merits of Our Saviour Jesus Christ, and of His blessed Mother. Amen. *Repeat 15 times. Pause; then mention your intentions and then say: one Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory be. Our Lady of Advent pray for us. Saint Joseph pray for us*