



St Hugh of Lincoln Catholic Church - Newsletter

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BAPTISM OF THE LORD 8th January 2023 - YEAR A

Living Our Baptism

The recently published Diocesan Directory reports that in 2021, 112 people were baptised at St. Dunstan's, Woking, with a further 30 baptised at St. Hugh's, Knaphill. These are phenomenal statistics. We baptised the equivalent of 12% of the average Sunday congregation in one parish and 14.5% in the other. Yet there seems to be something Tardis-like about our two communities: they increase in size without getting any bigger. Two possible conclusions could be drawn (and both of them are true, in my opinion): either Sunday mass attendance is no longer a reliable indicator of Church affiliation or we are failing to communicate the significance of baptism.

This is not a criticism of families who approach the parish seeking the sacrament for their children. They are doing what Catholics are meant to do – have their kids baptised. They know that they want their children “to have what they had” in their upbringing. The desire to secure a place at a Catholic school is doubtless a factor for many. Yet even those who have had little contact with the Church in recent years still have a deep sense that they are ‘Catholic’. Some may struggle to put that sense of belonging into words, but they know there is something valuable to be found here.

Any criticism is reserved for those of us most actively involved in the parish. Somehow we are failing to communicate the tremendous significance of our own baptism as the beginning of a life of discipleship as followers of Jesus Christ. Newcomers are not picking up from us sufficiently the sense that participating in the Sunday Eucharist is a vital expression of our life of faith; that here we celebrate our membership of the Body of Christ, hear his voice and are fed with his own self before being sent out as his witnesses in the world.

This Sunday we have the joy of welcoming back families which have celebrated a baptism in the last year. We rejoice again with them at the new life they have brought into the world and into our community. We pray for all parents who have taken on the role of being “the first educators of their children in the ways of faith”. We promise them our support and friendship and our concern for their children. Let us rejoice with them today, celebrating the journey of faith which we are all called to make together. May we each understand more fully each day that the words spoken to Jesus at his baptism are true of all the baptised: We are God's Sons and Daughters, the Beloved; God's favour rests on us.

Fr. Rob

Prayers: "We are deeply grateful for the life and service of Pope Emeritus Benedict.

While we mourn his loss, we are thankful for his steadfast witness and legacy." May he rest in peace. We also offer our prayers for the people of Ukraine and Russia and an end to this devastating conflict. Please keep in your prayers the sick and the housebound.

A Mass for Bereaved families is normally held each year for those who have lost loved ones in the previous twelve months. This year the Mass **will take place on Saturday 14 January at 12 noon** and you and your family are invited to share in this special Mass. Light refreshments will follow in the Parish Hall. It would be useful if you could let the Parish Office know by email knaphill@abdiocese.org.uk if you are able to attend and how many are likely to be in your family group.

The next **Study Day** will be on **Saturday, 14 January, 2022**, at Chilworth Abbey by Fr John Seddon OSB of Bishop Barron's 'Catholicism', Episode 5, **'The Indispensable Men'**, on Saints Peter and Paul. Mass, 9.00am, Presentations and Talks 10.15am-3.30pm. Bring a packed lunch and a friend if possible. See chilworthbenedictines.com for more details

Living Presence - a Retreat at The House of Prayer led by Jill Benet, 20-22 Jan,

Cost: £200-220. A time to connect and rest in the presence that 'surpasses all understanding'. This retreat is suitable for those establishing a practice of Centering Prayer and those who wish to spend time in quiet practice with teaching, extended periods of prayer and silence. Book [here](#).

Time Out: Self-Guided Retreat at Worth Abbey, 20-22 Jan, Cost: £90 per night. Enjoy the rhythm of monastic prayer and liturgy, time in reflection, and the peace of the Sussex countryside. Optional daily Lectio Divina with the monastic timetable of divine office, liturgy, and the opportunity for a 1:1 meeting with a member of the monastic community. To book; E: retreats@worth.org.uk or T: 01342 710318

Who are You, O God, and Who am I!? A Retreat at the [Franciscan Centre Ladywell](#), 25-29 Jan, led by **Br Paul Rout OFM**, Cost: £100 non resident, £300 resident (inc food). This retreat will draw upon the inspiration of the writings of Saints Francis, Clare of Assisi and Bonaventure, and Pope Francis. For info or to book; E: franciscancentre@ladywell.org.uk or T: 01483 675575

Day of Reflection for Ministers of the Eucharist led by Bishop Richard Saturday 18 February 2023 from 11.00am - 4.00pm at Christ the Prince of Peace, Weybridge. The day will include theological and practical talks, Eucharistic Adoration and mass. Arrival from 10.30am for refreshments. Please bring a packed lunch. Please sign up at: [Day of Reflection for Ministers of the Eucharist \(18-Feb-2023\) · ChurchSuite Events](#) E:Catherine.Christmas@abdiocese.org.uk for more information.

Sharing the Church's Story, 11 Feb, 10am-5pm, QEII Centre, SW1P 3EE. [Catholic Voices](#) and [Word on Fire](#) are hosting a one-day conference with dynamic speakers - including the internationally renowned Bishop Robert Barron. Whether you are a volunteer, parent, catechist, clergy, religious, or just want a boost for your faith life - this conference is for YOU. [Register here](#).

Youth Ministry Training Course (CCRS), with David Beresford of the Catholic Bible School, 25 Feb, 9.30am - 4:30pm at The St Philip Howard Centre, Crawley. Topics will include: relational authority, running effective ministry, praying and communicating with young people and what to do when there isn't a captive audience. [Email Lizzie](#) to find out more

WOKING FOODBANK

There will be a collection for the Foodbank next weekend, **14/15 January**. They are in particular need of chocolate spread, long-life milk, men's razors, tinned mixed vegetables, marmite, tinned salmon, men's deodorant, baby wipes, cooking oil, instant mashed potato, long-life sponge puddings, and tinned chicken breast. Please place your donations in the box in the narthex. Thank you for your ongoing generosity.

Admission to St Hugh's School September 2023
Deadline for the Submission of completed SIF is 15 January 2023.

The Alpha Course is starting again at St Dunstan's on Monday **16 January 2023!**

This is a great opportunity to renew and re-energise your faith at the start of the New Year. It is open to anyone: existing parishioners, previous Alpha participants or those at the start of their Christian journey - to explore the building blocks of our faith with topics such as Who is Jesus?, How Can I Have Faith? Why and How Do I Pray? Each meeting starts with a shared light meal, followed by a talk on video and then small group discussion in an informal and relaxed atmosphere

Day of Reflection for Ministers of the Word led by Bishop Richard, 21 January 11am - 4pm at [St Bernadette's Church Crawley](#). The day will include talks on the Scriptures, the Lectionary and its use in the Liturgy, the Liturgy of the Word, preparing to read, using microphones, Lectio Divina, and Mass. To register your free place click [here](#) or [contact](#) our Liturgy & Music Adviser, Catherine Christmas.

Annual Justice and Peace Assembly - Hungry for Change Saturday 28 January 2023
9.30am-1.30pm. The Philip Howard Centre, Crawley, RH10 6RP. Join us at our Annual Justice and Peace assembly which will explore food and conflict and positive steps we can make. With Bishop Richard and speakers from CAFOD, Pax Christi and the Ecological Conversion Group. It is free of charge but booking is requested, so that we have an idea of numbers. This can be done through the Diocesan website. For more information, please contact Tessa Ricketts at Tessa.Ricketts@abdiocese.org.uk.

World Youth Day: Are you aged 18-35? If you are, we invite you to join the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lisbon to meet with the Holy Father. 31st July -7th August 2023. Join millions of other young people from all over the world to celebrate our faith and make life-long friendships. The week will include a trip to Fatima as well as all the amazing festival activities, not to mention Mass with Pope Francis. To find out more about this amazing opportunity please contact lizzie.wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk.

CRIB COLLECTION FOR THE CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

The Catholic Children's Society (CCS) is helping local disadvantaged families facing severe hardship due to the cost-of-living crisis. Through their A&B Crisis Fund, CCS is providing immediate, practical support to families in need. There are many vulnerable families in need of support with parishes across Arundel & Brighton donating their Crib Offering to support this important work. Every penny donated will be given out via CCS's A&B Crisis Fund to support local families in need. You can donate at the Crib or via the CCS website www.cathchild.org.uk/crib.

Caritas Social Action Network, the Social Action Agency of the Catholic Church in England & Wales, has issued a statement about the autumn budget statement, highlighting concerns about the extreme hardship faced by many at this time, the failure to lift the two-child cap on Universal Credit payments and the delay in reforming the social care system, while acknowledging some advances made. They urge Catholics to write to their MPs on these matters. See [Caritas Social Action Network - Caritas Social Action Network - CSAN](#)

Live Simply Award

Next Saturday (January 14) St. Dunstan's parish in Woking is launching its effort to earn a '**Live Simply**' award from Cafod with a showing of the film, **The Letter**, about *Laudato Si'*, Pope Francis' encyclical on 'Caring for Our Common Home'. St Hugh's parishioners are very welcome to attend at 7pm (straight after their 6pm mass that evening) and we also hope to apply for a **Live Simply Award** for St. Hugh's as a way of making our parish more aware of the environmental impact of our activities and of our capacity to be good stewards of God's Creation. If you can't come next Saturday but would like to be involved, please contact the parish office. Thank you!

Next Sunday is Peace Day. The Retiring Collection is for Pax Christi.

Fr Rob writes: I cannot adequately express my gratitude to everyone who has worked so hard to make our celebrations of the Christmas Feast so beautiful – those responsible for cleaning and decorating the church, arranging the flowers, organising the welcome, stewarding, making music, leading the singing, serving, proclaiming the Word, ministering the sacrament, to Deacon Rob, for his ministry, to Margo in the parish office and to our counting team. Thanks, above all, to everyone who joined us in person or online – especially those new to our community or returning after a time away. I also express thanks on behalf of Fr Nick and myself for everyone's great generosity in the Christmas collection, which (with the parallel collection at Easter) provides our principal source of income during the year, and for the many kind cards, messages and gifts received in recent weeks.

Mass Times and Intentions - ST HUGH OF LINCOLN CHURCH

Sunday Masses will be livestreamed via the Parish YouTube channel.

Confessions on Saturdays - 5.15pm to 5.45pm

Saturday 7th January - St Raymond of Penafort, Priest

6.00pm Vigil Mass People of the Parish

***SUNDAY 8TH JANUARY - BAPTISM OF THE LORD* - YEAR A 2023**

9.30am Holy Mass Christina Bruce RIP

Monday 9th January - Feria in Ordinary Time Week 1

10.00am Holy Mass Gerry Higgins RIP

Tuesday 10th January - Feria in Ordinary Time Week 1

No Mass

Wednesday 11th January - Feria in Ordinary Time Week 1

No Mass

***Thursday 12th January - St Ælred of Rivaulx, Abbot ***

10.00am Holy Mass Irene Davis RIP

Friday 13th January - St Hilary Bishop, Doctor of the Church

No Mass

Saturday 14th January - Our Lady on Saturday

12.00noon Holy Mass For the Bereaved

6.00pm Vigil Mass Jim & Florence Moore RIP

***SUNDAY 15TH JANUARY - SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME* - YEAR A 2023**

9.30am Holy Mass For the intentions of Vincent Hathway

Last Week's Offertory Collection: Baskets - £315.32, Contactless - £5.00
and Standing Orders - £588.33, which were Gift Aided. Total - £908.65. Many thanks.

Weekday Mass Times and Intentions - ST DUNSTAN'S CHURCH

Weekend Mass Times - visit www.st-dunstans.org

Monday	9th January	10.00 am	David Townsend RIP
Tuesday	10th January	10.00 am	The Brennan girls, all their children and Jo
Wednesday	11th January	10.00 am	Gererd Byrne RIP
Thursday	12th January	10.00 am	Ann Archbold
Friday	13th January	10.00 am	Mary McManus

Prayer Petition to the Holy Name of Jesus

God, You appointed Your only-begotten Son to be the Saviour of mankind, and You commanded His Name to be Jesus. I beg that a most ardent love of Your Divine Son imprint that Name upon my heart; that it always be on my mind, and frequently on my lips; that it be my defence in temptation, my refuge in danger, and my consolation and strength in the hour of my death.