

Catholic Parish of Crowthorne and Sandhurst
Holy Ghost and the Immaculate Conception Churches
Parish Priest: Father Marcus Brisley BD MTh
Parish Secretary: Mrs. Elizabeth Ramos
Diocesan Safeguarding Office: 023 9281 6396
Parish Safeguarding Rep: Mrs. Sandra Owoso
Email: safeguarding.crosa@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Presbytery and Office located at
The Immaculate Conception Church,
63-67 Yorktown Road, Sandhurst, GU47 9BS
Telephone: 01252-876820
Email: crowsand@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Website: www.crowsand.co.uk

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Newsletter – Sunday 7th January 2024
The Epiphany of the Lord (& First Week of Ordinary Time)

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Mass Times and Intentions

Saturday	6.00pm (IC)	The People of the Parish
Sunday	9.00am (IC)	Ken Rapley RIP
	11.00am (HG)	Evan Williams RIP
Monday	9.30am (HG)	Eileen Hanbury RIP
	2.00pm (HG)	Requiem Mass for David Rhodes
Tuesday	<u>No public Mass today</u>	
Wednesday	9.30am (IC)	Bessie and Tommy Speirits RIP
Thursday	9.30am (HG)	Cho Cheung Wei Yee RIP
	1.15pm (SL)	Private Intention
Friday	9.30am (IC)	Margaret John RIP
Saturday	10.00am (HG)	Martin Stubbs RIP
	6.00pm (IC)	Andy Paxton GE
Sunday	9.00am (IC)	Fr.Conleth Doyle RIP
(14/1)	11.00am (HG)	The People of the Parish

This Sunday we will use the Preface of the Epiphany and Eucharistic Prayer 1

Feasts

Monday	The Baptism of the Lord
Friday	St. Aelred, Abbot of Rievaulx
Saturday	St. Hilary, Bishop of Poitiers and Doctor of the Church

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) –

Church of the Immaculate Conception, Sandhurst: Saturday 5.15pm – 5.45pm

Church of the Holy Ghost, Crowthorne: Saturday 10.30am; Sunday after 11.00am Mass

The sacrament is also available by appointment.

Ordinary Time – This year the Christmas season comes to an end of Monday 8th January when we celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. From Tuesday 9th we will resume “Ordinary Time”. The readings at Weekday Masses will be from Cycle 2 in the Lectionary. For those who recite the Divine Office, we will use Week 1 of the Psalter.

Anniversaries – The following people’s anniversaries will occur during the coming week: Monica Cheung, Mary Mitchell, Mary Ann Nairn, William McMahon, Anna Bohr, Maureen Prentice, Christopher O’Kelly, Ken Rapley, Anne Cooper, Megan Dix, Betty Page and Inez Roberts. May they rest in peace.

Thank you – Father Marcus would like to say thank you very much to everyone who gave him cards and gifts for Christmas. Your kindness and generosity are much appreciated.

Refreshments after Sunday Mass - Refreshments are available after the 9.00am Mass on Sundays so please join us in the Hall at the Church of the Immaculate Conception. The refreshments will be available on a fortnightly basis on 14 January and so on. The refreshments schedule is posted on the notice board.

Refreshments are also served in the Parish Room at the Church of the Holy Ghost each Sunday after the 11.00am Mass.

Crib Offerings – The Crib Offerings this year will be passed to the Friends of the Holy Land, an ecumenical organisation which supports Christians living in Israel/Palestine.

Parish Quiz - The Parish quiz will be held on Saturday 20th January at the Sandhurst Day Centre. Doors will open from 7pm for a prompt 7.30pm start. Tickets will be on sale at Masses from the weekend of 30th/31st December - £5 per person. Maximum team size of 6. Bring your own drink, glasses and nibbles.

Gift Aid - Parishioners who are already Gift Aiders, can you please download and sign the gift-aid declaration form. Since we have changed the charity name (but still same bank account details), we need to have an updated signed form. You can download the form here: <https://www.crowsand.co.uk/gift-aid>. There will be forms too available at the back of the church or you can ask the Parish Office for the form. We must do this in order to be compliant with HMRC. Gift Aid will not be claimed unless a new CDP GAD has been signed. Please send your signed gift-aid declaration form to the Parish Office. Thank you.

Mother Goose Parish Pantomime (27 & 28 January 2024) – A family pantomime, full of the usual singing, dancing & silliness, is brought to you by the Wokingham Corpus Christi RC Church Panto Group. Mother Goose may have a heart of gold; but she doesn't have two pounds to her name. Her rent is due, the fuel bills are rising and there are more and more mouths to feed. Will Mephisto, the evil magician, corrupt our beloved Mother Goose? In times of financial hardship, we could all do with a goose that lays some golden eggs; but at what cost? Mother Goose, is the 19th annual panto brought to you by the amateur Parish Panto Group from Corpus Christi, Wokingham. Their aim is to spread laughter and good cheer with the songs and silliness of a pantomime and at the same time raise money for a worthwhile cause. Show Times: 3pm or 7pm on Saturday 27 January, 3pm on Sunday 28 January 2024. Online box office: mothergoosepanto.eventbrite.co.uk. <http://mothergoosepanto.eventbrite.co.uk/> All tickets £6 - all profits go to Berkshire based children's charity - Daisys Dream

Epiphany House Blessing – It is a Catholic custom, widely observed in Central Europe, to ask for God's blessing upon our homes for the coming year by writing with chalk, blessed in church for the purpose at Epiphany, the symbol 20 + C + M + B + 24 on the lintel above the main door of the house. The letters C M B have two meanings. They are the initials of the names traditionally given to the Three Wise Men (Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar) and also stand for the Latin words *Christus mansionem benedicat*, meaning *May Christ bless this house*. The other symbols represent the cross of Christ and the numbers of the year. While doing this the following prayer is said:

The Three Wise Men

C – Caspar

M – Melchior

B - and Balthasar, followed the star of God's Son

20 – two thousand

24 - and twenty-four years ago.

++ - May Christ bless our home

++ - and remain with us through the new year.

Visit, O blessed Lord, this house with the gladness of your presence. Bless all who live or visit here with the gift of your love, and grant that we may manifest your love to each other and to all whose lives we touch. May we grow in grace, and in knowledge and love of you. Guide, comfort, and strengthen us in your peace, O Lord Jesus Christ, now and forever. Amen.

The chalk will be blessed this weekend and made available for people to take after Mass.