

The Parish of The Holy Trinity and Our Lady Fleet & Church Crookham



2 Connaught Road Fleet, Hants, GU51 3RA, Tel. 01252 616 963
 office@htaol.org.uk www.htaol.org.uk
 Charity No. 1199568
 Our Lady (OL): Kings Road, Fleet, GU51 3ST;
 The Holy Trinity (HT): Aldershot Road, Church Crookham, GU52 8JU



Parish Priest: Fr Johnpromise Umeozuru, email: jumeozuru@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
 Holy Trinity Presbytery Landline: 01252 974664

Parish Deacon: Rev James Snyder, email: jsnyder@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Safeguarding email: safeguarding@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Parish Administrator: Jacqueline Bradley-Green, office@htaol.org.uk (Office Hours: Mon-Fri 10am-3pm)

Mass Times & Venues 24th December 2023 — 7th January 2024 Year B (II) Psalter Weeks 4 & 1

Sat 24th Dec: 4th Sunday of Advent
 6.00pm (HT): John Searle RIP

Sun 24th Dec: 4th Sunday of Advent
 9.00am (HT): Letitia Convery's Intention
 Alison Berry RIP (2nd Anniversary)

10.45am (HT): Mass celebrated in Polish

11.00am (OL): Sally Dunn's Full Recovery

Sun 24th Dec: Christmas Vigil & Midnight
 6.00pm (OL): Angela Clement's Wellbeing
 8:30pm (HT): Veronica Gaffney RIP

Mon 25th Dec: Christmas Day
 10.00am (OL): People of the Parish

Tue 26th Dec: St Stephen, Proto Martyr
 9.30am (HT): Jean Gallagher RIP (2nd Anniver)

Wed 27th Dec: St John, Apostle
 9.30am (OL): Alfred & Anne Marie Brassel RIP

Thurs 28th Dec: The Holy Innocents
 9.30am(HT): Hans Vogel RIP
 7.00pm (HT): Mass celebrated in Polish

Fri 29th Dec: St Thomas Becket
 9.30am (OL): Antonio De Cruz RIP (Month's Mind)

Sat 30th Dec: Octave of Christmas
 9.30am (OL): John McCluskey RIP (50th Anniver)
 John Hurst RIP

Sat 30th Dec: Holy Family
 6.00pm (HT): Annette Hughes RIP

Sun 31st Dec: Holy Family
 9.00am (HT): People of the Parish
 10.45am (HT): Mass celebrated in Polish
 11.00am (OL): Arthur & Bertha Bill RIP

Mon 1st Jan: Mary, Holy Mother of God
 9.30am (OL): Marcrit Gyr RIP

Tue 2nd Jan: No Mass — Rest Day

Wed 3rd Jan: No Mass — Rest Day

Thurs 4th Jan: Mass of the Day
 9.30am (HT): Mina De Mello's Intention
 7.00pm (HT): Mass celebrated in Polish

Friday 5th Jan: Mass of the Day
 9.30am (OL): Laura Annette Hughes RIP

Sat 5th Jan: Mass of the Day
 9.30am (OL): Patricia Penn RIP

Sat 6th Jan: The Epiphany of the Lord
 6.00pm (HT): Reg & Elleen Longstaff

Sun 7th Jan: The Epiphany of the Lord
 9.00am (HT): The Hatchett Family's Intentions
 10.45am (HT): Mass celebrated in Polish
 11.00am (OL): Valerie Nicholas' Intention
 People of the Parish

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE CHRISTMAS CAROL?



This painting is sketched on the wall overlooking the main altar in the modern chapel situated on 'Shepherds' Field' in the Holy Land; I took a picture of it when I was there in 2019. Personally, this painting is the best Nativity painting I have encountered. It depicts God's profound love of us as we sing in 'Once in Royal David's City' which is one of my favourite Christmas Carols. Verse 3 of that Carol reminds us that Jesus Christ is like us, grew up like us, was little, weak and helpless like us, knew tears and smiles like us. What is more, He feels our sadness and shares in our gladness. Yes, Christmas is the celebration of God who although far from us physically, is close to us spiritually and palpably. **MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!** Fr Johnpromise



WE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND:

Fiona Pearson, Fatima Alves, Robin Tinsley, Anne Wilcox, Geoff Neal, Stuart Neal, David Hopkin, Kerry Scares, Anthony D'Costa, Mary Gibbons, Val Nicholas, Tony Mallins, Chris Bennett, Anna & Phil Day, Graeme Healey, Ray Swinburne, Maeve King and Lesley O'Toole.

PARISH NOTICES

OUR PARISH CHRISTMAS WEEK MASS SCHEDULE 2023



19th December 2023 - Parish Penitential Service: 7pm at Holy Trinity, Church Crookham.

23rd December 2023 - 4th Sunday of Advent Mass: Saturday Evening: 6pm at Holy Trinity, Church Crookham.

24th December 2023 - 4th Sunday of Advent Masses: 9am at Holy Trinity, Church Crookham & 11am at Our Lady's Church, Fleet.

24th December 2023 - Christmas Vigil Mass for Children: 6pm at Our Lady's Church, Fleet.

24th December 2023 - Christmas Midnight Mass: 8:30pm at Holy Trinity Church, Church Crookham.

25th December 2023 - Christmas Day Mass: 10am at Our Lady's Church, Fleet.

CALLING ALL INSTRUMENTALISTS - WHATEVER AGE OR ABILITY: The first Mass of Christmas is the Children's vigil Mass at Our Lady's at 6pm on Christmas Eve. It is always a joyous occasion for all in the parish and if you would like to help the music liturgy by playing your instrument, please contact Katherine Lewis at pilgrimsofhart@gmail.com with your details and instrument (for children, parents please provide age and rough playing ability so I can get the right music for your child). Music will be provided in advance and there will be a practice before Mass on Christmas Eve. For safeguarding purposes, children will need to be accompanied by a parent/guardian.

PARISH OFFICE IS NOW CLOSED: The parish office is closed from Friday the 22nd of December till Monday the 1st of January, 2024. Normal activities will resume on Tuesday the 2nd of January, 2024. We thank our Parish Administrator (Jacqueline) for all her hard work. I will be around to attend to all your needs.

APPRECIATION ALL AROUND

COLLECTION FOR CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: A total of £518 was realised from our second collection last week in support of Christmas flowers in our 2 churches. Thank you all for your generosity. I cannot thank you enough.

PURPLE COMMUNITY FUND: During the weekend of the 9th/10th December, we had Cake Sales and second collection to support the amazing work of Jane Walker and her charity. I can confirm that we raised £680.52 and the cheque has been posted to Jane Walker on Wednesday. Thank you so much.

FELIX FARRELL'S SPONSORED SWIM FOR ZAMBIA: Felix Appeal to us last week was well received. From that Appeal, he raised a total sum of £2100. While he got £600 in Cash, he got £1500 in pledges. Thank You So Much!!! Felix will be doing his sponsored swim on Thursday, 28th December 2023 at 10:30am at Hart Leisure Centre. Let us come out, cheer him to victory and redeem our pledges to enable him travel to Zambia. **GO FELIX, YOU CAN DO THIS BUDDY!!!**

CHRISTMAS GIVING: Dear Parishioners, the money you give at all the Masses over the Christmas period, is traditionally a donation to support our Parish Priest. This can be done via the collection bags, use of Envelopes or a direct payment to the parish account. The Diocese has set up a link which can be easily accessed via the DONATE BUTTON on our own parish website: <https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/fleet-and-church-crookham-parish-of-the-holy-trinity-and-our-lady-christmas-collection-2023> that also pays funds via our Parish to Fr Johnpromise. Father has been a breath of fresh air to our parish, and I hope you agree with me that he has made it a great pleasure to be at Mass at weekends and weekdays. Please, do give generously via which ever means that works best for you, and hopefully these donations will help sustain Fr Johnpromise during the coming months. When placing cash or cheques in an envelope, do give your name so that Gift Aid can also be added to your giving. Thanks & A Happy & Holy Christmas to all from the Parish Finance Committee. **Michael Gallagher – Chair, Parish Finance Committee.**

THE PARISH SPIRITUALITY TEAM: Our parish is blessed with so many talents; among those talents are talented and trusted masters in spirituality. After due consultation, I am happy to establish The Parish Spirituality Team with these parishioners:

- ◆ Sara Van Wely – Chair
- ◆ Sarah Farrell – Deputy Chair
- ◆ Julia Williamson – Core Member
- ◆ John McCormack – Core Member
- ◆ David Parry – Core Member
- ◆ Susan Short – Core Member
- ◆ Anne Morgan-Jones – Core Member
- ◆ Martyn Flanagan – Core Member

The main aim of the Parish Spirituality Team is to reawaken spirituality in our parish and to create different avenues for parishioners to become members of small groups that grow in prayer, friendship and communion. Thanks for accepting this enormous responsibility. May the Holy Spirit Guide You.

FR JOHN PROMISE' CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY: It is customary for priests to take some time off to rest and recharge after the Christmas Festivities. Since Christmas and New Year fall on Mondays respectively, I have compensated myself by taking the 2nd and 3rd of January as my 'days off' to make up for that. However, my Christmas Holiday starts from Monday the 8th of January to Saturday the 13th of January, 2024. I will be away from the parish to rest and recharge. I will be back on Saturday morning; normal Parish Life resumes with Saturday Evening Mass on that same day. It has been a blessing serving you all and I look forward to serving you better in the New Year. Thank you for having me.



PARISH CONFIRMATION 2024

We are hoping to run a Confirmation Program for our teenagers who have not been confirmed. Forms are available on the parish website. Book Your Place now!!