

**MASS TIMES**

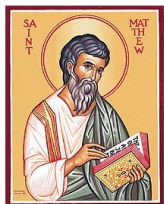
**SATURDAY VIGIL 7th January**

6.30 pm  
*Brendan & Georgina O'Higgins RIP*

**SUNDAY 8th January**

9.00am *Sue Graves RIP*

11.00am *People of the Parish*



**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Confessions will follow 09.30 mass on Saturday morning or by appointment

**Monday 9th January  
Baptism of the Lord**

09.30 *Eileen Hendy—Intentions*

**Tuesday 10th January**

09.30 *Gillian Cordry—Intentions*

**Wednesday 11th January**

**School Mass**

09.30 *Phyllis Rose RIP*

**Thursday 12th January**

09.30 *Peter Davies RIP*

11.30 *Philomena Llewellyn—requiem*

**Friday 13th January**

09.30 *Kathleen Allen RIP*

**Saturday 14th January**

09.30 *Intentions of the Catenians*



Corpus  
Christi

**Corpus Christi**

**Wokingham**

**South Berkshire Pastoral Area**



Corpus  
Christi

Parish Priest: Fr David O'Sullivan

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**8th January 2017 Epiphany of the Lord ( Yr A)**



God reaches out far and wide to announce the birth of his Son. He reaches out to simple shepherds in the fields around Bethlehem, and to great intellects from the East. He reaches out to those of different religions, to politicians and to scientists. The revelation that a saviour has been born is bigger than anybody. The story of the Magi, who followed the star and sidestepped the evil Herod, is tempting in its appeal to romanticise, but if we are to learn anything we have to focus on the nature of God's revelation.

It might not feel as though God is reaching out to us. The stable with its shepherds and kings might seem very far away as we take down our Christmas decorations. There's a sense of 'back to normal', and for most of us that means a hum drum cycle of boring jobs and making ends meet. Today's story tells us that it doesn't have to be that way. To follow the star is to make a conscious decision to cut out everything that is unimportant. The rules are simple. We have to make the right choices on a daily basis no matter what the consequences. In the light of poor decisions, we must learn to ask forgiveness and move away from regret. We must find time in a world full of distractions to listen to our inner voice. Most importantly we have to ask God to guide us as he guided the Magi.

Most of us get through life relying on the knowledge we already have. Today's challenge is to look for something new. Knowing where to look for our own guiding star is up to us, but one thing is for sure, if we are not looking for revelation, we will never find it.

**Important Contacts.**

**Safeguarding:** Richard Roberts 0118 978 9059 e-mail: richard.x.roberts@gmail.com

**Other Priests in the area :** Fr Marcus Brisley 01252 876820

Fr. Danny Mc Avoy 01344 425729 Fr. Kevin Jones 01344 620591

**Hospital / Home visits. Sick Communion, Baptism Preparation**

If you are sick or going into hospital and would like a visit or Holy Communion, call the office on 0118 978 0348 or call Fr. David.

Baptisms—see Fr. David after Mass on any Sunday for further details

**Parish Office Opening Times :-** Tuesday to Friday, 09.00 to 13.00

The Parish Office is closed all day Monday

Your Parish Administrator, Una Smith, can be contacted on Tel: 0118 978 0348

or email , wokingham@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

*Please remember to switch off your mobile phone before Mass  
God deserves all our attention Thank you.*

*Roman Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth Registered Charity No. 246871*



**In your prayers, please remember Philomena Llewellyn who has recently died . Also pray for all those who are sick, in hospital or housebound especially Eileen Hendy, Pam Sheridan, Mary Ann Froud, Daniel Sutton, Marie Cashman, Ruth Murphy, Miriam Terry and Joseph Nemeth**

**The Baptism of the Lord**—Has anyone ever told you that they're proud of you? It's a good feeling—it's a feeling that empowers— a feeling that makes you believe you can do anything. Imagine for a moment that day on the River Jordan at Jesus' baptism. Consider how Jesus must have felt when the heavens opened and the Spirit of God spoke the words "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." This significant event took place at the beginning of Jesus' ministry before he had gone out into the world to teach or to heal. Before Jesus had done anything at all, God was already well pleased with him. With this kind of support and this kind of love, Jesus was empowered to do anything.

As baptism identified Jesus, so too are we identified in our baptism as children of God. So what significance does baptism have in our lives? Do we feel proud at God's affirmation? Do we feel empowered to carry out God's plan? Jesus said of his baptism. "Allow it now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfil all righteousness." Jesus didn't explain what he meant by this, but in biblical context, the word 'righteousness' is often used to express a good relationship with God. By this, we understand that our own baptism sends us off on the road to building a good relationship with God and with others, and by believing in God's backing, we are empowered to do more than we can imagine.

### **Prayers for Bamenda, our twin diocese**

Archbishop Cornelius has asked us to continue to pray for his diocese and for the people of Bamenda that the recent unrest there may not persist nor escalate.

Sat Jan, 14th —**Prayer & Share**—Morning Office at 9.15am, Mass at 09.30, a natter and bacon butty in the Keenan Rooms after.

**Parish Database**—Thank you to the parishioners that have added their details to the database and to those that have handed in their forms.

If you have not done so yet, please either log on to

<https://p1.pamis.co.uk/sberks/online122bb9>

or take a paper form, available at the back of the church, and hand it in to the Parish Office. Many thanks

**Health & Safety Notice**— There will be scaffolding , lorries and builders at the Presbytery over the next few weeks. There will be no access to the church across the presbytery drive. **Please take care** if you visit the parish office and spaces in the church car park may be reduced at times. Thank you for your understanding.

**FLAME 2017**—Wembley Arena, 11th March. A call to all young people from Year 8 and above to get your tickets for this amazing Youth event. See our Notice Board and further details from [cymfed.org.uk/Flame2017](http://cymfed.org.uk/Flame2017). There will be a group going from our Confirmation Class and if you would like to join them, or for more information, call or email the Parish Office.

**Babes in The Wood** - Tickets are now on sale for **The Corpus Christi Pantomime** Performance Times: Saturday 28th January 2017 (2pm & 6pm), Sunday 29th January 2017 (2:30pm) This year, we have very kindly been given access to a new purpose built theatre for our shows - Caudwell Hall Performing Arts Theatre at Holme Grange School, Wokingham RG40 3AL . Tickets (£5 each) available online from: [https:// parish-panto.eventbrite.co.uk](https://parish-panto.eventbrite.co.uk) or purchase direct from the panto team after Mass.

A call for **Flower Arrangers**. Thank you to our past and present Flower Arrangers for their wonderful altar arrangements. If there are parishioners that would like to join the flower arrangers team, the Parish Office would be delighted to hear from you .

Our first **Parent and Toddler** session of the new year will be on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> January. We meet each Wednesday in term time in the Keenan Rooms between 10.00 – 11.30 for play, snacks and a chat and always welcome newcomers.

The next meeting of the **UCM** is on **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> January** and is entitled "Examen – a Prayer Service led by Angela Brench." Examen is an ancient form of prayer practice in the Church that can help us see God's hand at work in our whole experience. All meetings take place in the Keenan Rooms at 7.30 pm and all ladies of the Parish are welcome.