OFFERTORY COLLECTION Sunday 22nd Dec 2019. Envelopes: Weekly £435.86 Loose: £335.32 Standing Orders £1,137.37 (Nov./week) Your generosity enables us to pay the parish bills. Thank you!

Text Giving- is quick and easy way to make donation towards the upkeep and running costs at Sacred Heart. Just text "PARISH HOLLO" to this number: 70800, to donate £5 automatically. This amount will be added to your phone bill.

For online giving, please go to: <u>www.sacredheartchurchholloway.org.uk</u> and click **support.** Thank you. <u>Active Membership of the Parish</u> is determined by the following criteria: being properly registered for a sufficient period of time; faithful attendance at Mass on Sundays and Holy Days; use of the planned giving system (envelope or bank standing order) in regular support of the parish

Are you on our GIFT AID list yet?

It is *important* to <u>gift aid</u> your offering to the church (whether Sunday envelopes or through standing order). This means that the government will top up your offering by **25p for every £1** at no extra cost to you, the giver. You have to be a UK taxpayer to qualify and you have to fill in a declaration form. For more information, please call Elizabeth in the office

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

29th December +The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph	6:00pm Saturday <i>Vigil Mass</i> 8:30 am Mass 11:00 am Mass	Peggy Fisher R.I.P Pascal Mc Daid – R.I.P Habte Semharay R.I.P Anniv Salomon Semharay R.I.P
30 th December Monday 6 th Day in the Octave of Christmas	9:15 am Mass	Christou Family - Intention
31 st December Tuesday 7 th Day in the Octave of Christmas	(Holy Hour) 11:30 pm to 12:30 am	Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament to meet the New Year.
1 st January Wednesday Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God.	10:00 am Mass	Margaret Keohane R.I.P – Anniv.
2 nd January Thursday St. Basil The Great and Gregory Nazianzen	9:15 am Mass	Theresa Brandford - Intentions
3 rd January Friday Christmas Feria	9:15 am Mass	Louis & Philomena Kalathara R.I.P Anniversary
4 th January Saturday Christmas Feria	6:00 pm-Vigil Mass	11:00-12;00 noon Confessions Peter, Nora and Michael Ginty R.I.P Anniversary
5 th January + THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD	8:30 am Mass 11:00 am Mass	Michael Dolan – R.I.P Anniv Mary Krzemieniewski R.I.P Anniversary Denis O'Riordan R.I.P

CHURCH OF THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS, HOLLOWAY

A parish of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Westminster 62 Eden Grove, Holloway London N7 8EN Registered Charity 233699

Phone: 020 7607 3594 Email: <u>holloway@rcdow.org.uk</u> <u>www.sacredheartchurchholloway.org.uk</u> Parish Priest: Fr. Gideon Wagay *Mrs. Elizabeth Ocampo - Admin Assistant* Parish Office opening times <u>for Admin-</u> Tuesday, Thursday & Friday: 9:30am- 3:00pm.

+ The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph 29th DECEMBER 2019

The Deep – Displaced

'One of the unsettling things about my journey, mentally, physically, and emotionally, was that I wasn't sure when or where it was going to end.' (from *A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier* by Ishmael Beah) We like to imagine, sometimes, what the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph were like. What was their daily routine? How did they eat, work and pray together? There are very few details in the Gospels about Jesus' early years, other than the accounts of his birth and one story detailing the time he went missing in Jerusalem and was found in the Temple.

But in today's Gospel we get an insight into some of the early challenges faced by this little family. While Jesus was still small, Joseph was urged in a dream to escape with the family to Egypt as Jesus' life was under threat. Can you imagine what that experience was like for them – leaving their home and fleeing to another country, not knowing when, or if, it would be safe to return home? Sadly, millions of people in our world do not have to imagine this type of experience – they live it every day. Like many others, the Holy Family were, for some time, forced to leave their home country due to persecution – this is the very definition of a refugee or displaced person.

This painful human experience was at the very heart of the family experience of Jesus himself. Later in Matthew's Gospel, Jesus tells us that when we welcome strangers, we welcome Jesus himself. Compassion and welcome for strangers, particularly those who are vulnerable, was a key element of Jesus' life and ministry. It should be central to ours, too. TrionaDoherty@Intercom

THANK YOU - I would like to thank you for all your gifts and cards and for your continued support and generosity to our Parish of the Sacred Heart. It is your support and generosity which makes it possible for us to carry out our ministry among you. Thank you to everyone for working so hard in preparing the Church to celebrate the Season of Christmas . Your work is greatly appreciated.

I would like to wish you and your families a very happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year. *Fr. Gideon*



OUR MISSION STATEMENT "We are a welcoming, nourishing living parish, inspired by the Sacred Heart to serve and radiate this love to all."

We ask for your charitable prayers for those who are sick, recently deceased and those whose anniversaries are at this time...

For the sick and the housebound:

Maria Louise, Mary Ryan, Angeles Wong, Tony Reilly, Mary Egan, Colman Connelly, Catherine Wright, Mario Marshall, Ngozi Elong, Lily de Nobrega, Lil Traynor, Christopher Browne, Keith Hunt, Crystal Green, Ludvinia King, Patrick Doolan, Margaret Toolan, Rosa Santos, Tom Kelly, Bridie Prior, Mary Wong, Michael Bailey, Kathy Bailey, Ada Bacarini, Eillen Graham, Martine Rainsford. Christopher Fradley, Edwina Toson, Charlie Crane Nora Harkin, Eileen Ely, Barbara Baptiste, Margaret Mulroy, Alison McGoff, Martin & Margaret Cooke, , Stephanie Enepi, Chris Eisen, and all who are sick and housebound in the parish.

Anniversaries

Brian Mpunga, Pascal McDaid, Mary Krzemieniewski, Michael Dolan, Martin McCarthy, Louis & Philomena Kalathara, Margaret Keohane Habte Semharay, Michael Costin, Rosa Nicolas, Brian Mpunga, Fr. Joseph Kalathara., John O'Rourke. Delfin Calomay

Please Pray for the Recently Dead:

John DeWitt, ,Charlie Estrada, Br Kilian Keaney, Ben& Margaret Deignan, Mossie, O'Riordan, Al Bearman, Anne Roche.

Eternal rest grant unto them Lord, and let your light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

SACRAMENTS

MARRIAGE- Six months' notice must be given, even if you're marrying elsewhere to gather and process the paper work. Please contact Fr. Gideon. To make an appointment email: <u>holloway@rcdow.org.uk</u>

BAPTISM (Child) Have you got a child for Baptism? Please

call Elizabeth, the parish secretary in the parish office, on 0207 607 3594 on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays between 9:30am and 3:00pm. Or email: holloway@rcdow.org.uk

Baptism or Confirmation of an Adult R.C.I.A.

Our RCIA programme is underway. We invite you to pray for all of those who are taking part on it. The next meeting with Fr. Bogdan is on Thursday 16th January at 7:30 pm.

CONFIRMATION 2020

First parents meeting will be on **Thursday 16th January 2020**. We anticipate that most sessions will be on Thursdays evenings. **Save the Date: Saturday 15th February** will be a day of reflection for the Confirmation Programme. Please make sure you have this day in your diary. Attendance is mandatory.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME 2019-2020

First session after Christmas holidays will be on Saturday 11th January at 9:30 am. We are looking forward to seeing you all.

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS – the usual practice for Catholic burials is a Funeral Mass in the parish church, burial of the body or cremains (ashes) in the cemetery. Speak with the priest for assistance when death occurs and only deal with a reputable funeral director about pre-arrangements (the priest can also recommend a well-respected Catholic funeral home in the area). Cremains (Ashes) are held in the same respect and reverence as a body and so they should be treated carefully, respectfully, reverentially and buried as soon as possible after Cremation.

Please read the Pastoral Letter from

Cardinal Vincent Nichols for the Feast of the Holy Family (29th December 2019). Copies are available at the back of church or inserts in the newsletter this weekend.

CHRISTMAS RAFLLE - CHRSITMAS CELEBRATION & FUNDRAISING EVENT

A huge thank you to everybody who one way or another supported this event.

These are the winners of the Christmas Raffle

1st Prize – Gemma L

- 2nd Prize Sara Suliga
- 3rd Prize Chi Ugoala
- 4th Prize Elmedina

The consolation prizes' winner were: Rafael Carrera, B.Prior, E.Karikari, Jennifer Opera, Bruce Gomeze and Ana Attridge. If you are one of the winners and have not collected you prize yet, please contact the parish office.

The total money raised for the Church Tower Project was:

Christmas Raffle: £ 2378 (net affter expenses)

Christmas Celebration: £736.18 (net after expenses) **Total: £3114.18**

The Christmas Offering (in white envelopes)- that is made by the people at this time of the year is your gift to Fr. Gideon. It constitutes his salary and helps support and sustain him in his ministry. Thank you so much for your generosity. Christmas Offering envelopes can be found at the back of church. They can be returned over any of the Masses between now and any Sunday in the New Year.

Holy Father's Intention for Dec.2019

That every country determines to take necessary measures to make the future of the very young, especially those who suffer, a priority.

Volunteers Needed 2020-

If you would be interested in helping the Parish, this is something to think about in the New Year. We are currently looking for new volunteers in the following areas. Hospitality Group or Ushers (welcoming people as they arrive in the church), Fire marshalls (health and safety) for every Mass church cleaners, handyman for small jobs with some skills in electrics and plumbing (to give advice). Give back something to God and to your community. If interested, please contact Elizabeth in the parish office.

CRIB OFFERING

Your donations will help the Catholic Children's Society provide mental health services, family support and emergency grants for vulnerable children in our Diocese.

When you go into hospital please tell them when they are taking your details that you are a Roman Catholic and would welcome seeing a priest chaplain or the chaplaincy team when they come around. If you don't, there is no way the chaplaincy team know you are there. Remember that your spiritual and religious care is just as important as your physical, psychological and social needs.

<u>Visiting the sick and the housebound</u> –If you know of anyone who is sick or housebound and would like to receive Communion, Please call the parish office as well as the information of the person who wishes to be visited and given communion. They must reside in our parish area.

The God Who Speaks 2020- has been designated as The Year of the Word. During this year we will be encouraged to delve deeply in to the Word of God, to pray the Scripture and to get to know the Bible a bit better.