

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Envelopes 18 Dec £267

Loose: 18 Dec £ 223.48

Standing Orders £1056 Sept/week

Contactless 17/18 Dec £225

Your generosity enables us to pay the parish bills. Thank you! For online giving, please go to:

www.sacredheartchurchholloway.org.uk

and click **Support**.

Weekly envelopes can be mailed in or you can drop them in the parish house's letterbox (front door)

Parish Bank Account Details.

Account name: WRCDT Holloway

Sorting Code: 40-05-20

Account Number: 71308319

Address: HSBC, 69 Pall Mall, London SW1Y 5EY

Active Membership of the Parish 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 **gift aid** 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 Tues, Thurs, Fri, **02076073594**.

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: holloway@rcdow.org.uk

www.sacredheartchurchholloway.org.uk

Parish Priest: Fr. Gideon Wagay

Mrs. Elizabeth Ocampo – Lead Catechist and Administrator

Parish Office opening times for Admin-

Tuesday, Thursday & Friday: 9:30am- 3:00pm (but emails are checked daily)

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD – CHRISTMAS 25th December 2022



“A God who became so small could only be mercy and love.”

St. Thérèse of Lisieux

A Christmas Message

On behalf of the parish team, Fr Henry and myself, we wish you all a happy and blessed Christmas. Many thanks to all of you who have been faithful parishioners, for all you do even through tough times. As I prepare to go on my sabbatical leave and renewal retreat for six months which will commence on 2nd January, it is with humble joy that I give thanks for the honour of serving as your Parish Priest in the last 21 years. Thank you for all your support, your encouragement, and especially your prayers. I will see you back in the summer.

May God bless you this Christmas, may all the darkness in your lives be removed by the light of Christ. May your hearts be filled with the Joy of Christ's birth.

Christ's Joyful Peace and Love,

Fr Gideon

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

25 th December 2022 THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD CHRISTMAS	6:00pm Christmas Family Mass 11:30 pm 12:00 Christmas Midnight Mass 8:30 am Mass 11:00 am Mass (live-streamed via ZOOM)	Michael Costin R.I.P - Anniv. Carol Service For the Parish Beryl & Santolo Genovese R.I.P Philomena Nkwotcha – Ints
26 th December Monday St Stephen	10:00 am Mass	Martin McCarthy R.I.P
27 th December Tuesday	No Mass	
28 th December Wed. The Holy Innocents	9:15 am Mass	Fr. Philip R.I.P
29 th December Thurs. St Thomas Becket	9:15 am Mass	Deceased Members of the Wallace family
30 th December Friday The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph	9:15 am Mass	Christou Family - Intentions
31st December Sat. 7th Day Octave of Christmas	11:00 am – 12:00 6:00pm (Sat. Vigil Mass)	<i>Confession or by appointment</i> For the Parish
1ST JANUARY 2022	8.30 am Mass	Branford Family – Intentions.
Solemnity of Mary The Holy Mother of God	11.00 am Mass (live-streamed via ZOOM)	Habete Semharay Salomon Benharat

SACRAMENTS

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 at home and in hospitals, the recently deceased and those whose anniversaries are at this time...

For the sick and the housebound and those who care for them:

Emma Pacana, Mary Wong, Ann Walsh, Dino Grande, Nelia De Los Reyes Espejo, Freddie Hamdy, Marilyn Edwards, Joyce Fleming, Ludvinia King, Kathleen Wallace, Eric Ebo Essuman, Elizabeth Feeley, Michael Bradley, Margaret Collins, Mary Ryan, Angeles Wong, Tony Reilly, Mary Egan, Colman Connelly, Ngozi Elong, Christopher, Brian Conway Crystal Green, Patrick Dolan, Margaret Toolan, Rosa Santos, Bridie Prior, Mary Wong, Michael Bailey, Ada Bacarini, Martine Rainsford, Christopher Fradley, Charlie Crane, Margaret Mulroy, Alison McGoff, Stephanie Enepi, Chris Eisen *and all who are sick and housebound in the parish.*

Anniversaries

Maria McEvoy, Beryl Genovese, Michael Costin, Joseph Ward, Maimie Rooney, Ann & Kathleen Rainsford, Ivy Ross & Pat Naughton, Michael Costin, James Brefo, Ann Martin, Anna Speroni, John Danquah, Sarah Toolan, Kunle Odonewu, Thomas Roche, Mary Morrissey, Georgina Myra Houlihan, Maria Rosina Moran, Denis & Michael Lonergan, Jeremiah Kennely.

Pray for the Recently Dead:

Esther Joseph, Ferdie Vasquez, Martin Cooke Francis Formosa, Maria Ward, Joe Colgan, Josephine Horan, Maria Helena Colosso de Olivera, Arnulfo Autencio, Mario Celozza Genovia, Kevin Doherty, John Curley, James Ryan.

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

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: holloway@rcdow.org.uk Due to a change in the law we are no longer able to issue civil marriage certificates for Marriages that took place in our church. These can now be obtained directly from the local Registrar in the Town Hall.

BAPTISM

Babies are usually baptised in the first 6 months after birth. To book a baptism for your child, please contact the parish office. Parents of the child must practice their faith and registered members of the parish. At least one parent of the child and the godparent must supply us with their Catholic baptismal certificate and the child's birth certificate. Parents and godparents must attend a baptismal preparation meeting beforehand.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME

We want to wish all the children and their families a blessed and prayerful Christmas. The children will come back to their sessions on Saturday 14th January 2023.

CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME 2023

The programme will start with a parents' meeting on Thursday 12th January 2023. The Confirmation sessions will start on Thursday 19th January and the sessions will be on Thursdays from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm.

RCIA - A JOURNEY IN FAITH -The RCIA, Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults.

Please keep these participants in your prayers during their time of formation and discernment. It was agreed that the sessions will be every Thursday evening at 7:00pm.

Tea and Coffee and Biscuits after 11:00am Mass in the Parish Hall. All are welcome.

Special Thanks- to everyone who has helped with preparing the church, and helped with the liturgies for Christmas.

GOD WANTS TO BE WITH US

What great lengths God will go to in loving and saving us! Think of the most outlandish circumstance you might conceive. That seems to be what the Lord is saying to Ahaz in today's First Reading. "A virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel." Not only is the idea of a virgin conceiving beyond comprehension in Ahaz's time, so would the concept of God wanting to be with us be, as the name Emmanuel indicates. And yet, this is what we celebrate in the Incarnation- God wants so completely to be one with us that God came to be with us in a son born to a virgin, the Blessed Virgin Mary. There is more to the story than even these amazing and outlandish occurrences, however. God wants to be one with us so deeply that God partners with us to make God's presence known. *Copyright Palluch co.Inc.*

PARISH CHRISTMAS DRAW 2022

Thank you very much to all who participated and helped out selling the tickets for the Christmas Raffle. Sold tickets: £2268
Prizes and cost of tickets £780
Total money collected £1488
There were over 40 consolation prizes, many of them are still to be collected. The list of the winners is on the notice board at the back of the church. Contact the office if your name is in the list

CRIB OFFERING

Please consider donating at the Crib. Your donation will help the Catholic Children's Society provide mental health services, family support and emergency grants for vulnerable children in our Diocese. For more information: www.cathchild.org.uk

Seeing Your Life Through The Lens of The Gospel

This prologue to John's Gospel is a piece of poetry. Like all poetry one of the ways to enter into it is to read it a few times slowly and let the words and images speak to you.

The prologue proclaims Jesus as the true light come into the world. How has Jesus, and the message of Jesus, been a light for you in your life?

The prologue also affirms the transforming power of faith: 'to all who received him ... he gave power to become children of God'. How would you describe the difference it makes to you to have faith as part of your life?

In Jesus we get a glimpse of **God and of the love of God**. But as 'Jesus people' in the world today we also are called to be witnesses to the light. Who has been a witness to you? To whom have you been a witness?

SACRED HEART FOOD BANK

The next food bank distribution will be on **Saturday, 7th January 2023 11:00am-1:00pm**. Please leave your donations in kind at the back of the church, or contact the parish office.

Donate non-perishable goods such as: Rice, Pasta, Flour, tinned goods, tuna, tinned tomatoes, porridge oats, long life milk, etc. Toiletries: shower gel, toothpaste, deodorant, washing up liquid.

You can donate cash on an envelope, just write 'foodbank'. **Donations can also be done via bank transfer, please specify 'Food bank' in the reference field.**

CONTACTLESS GIVING-

We have **two machines**, at the entrance and by the baptismal font near St Peter's statue. This donation method has proved to be easy and safe, and it is practical, as we don't normally carry cash nowadays. If you give your Sunday offering using the contactless machine at the entrance of the church, please gift aid your offering if you're a taxpayer. You can take a photo on the QR code displayed in the machine – you can then fill in the online form at home. At no extra cost to yourself, this will increase your donation by 25%.