

PARISH OF ST MARY IMMACULATE & THE HOLY ARCHANGELS
KELVEDON, ST. BERNARD COGGESHALL, ST JOHN HOUGHTON TIPTREE,
(Twinned with St Joseph's Mission, Besters, Natal)

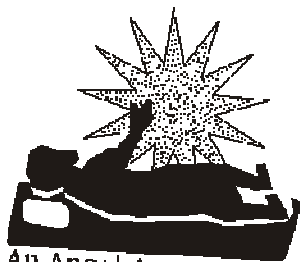
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An Angel Appeared
To Joseph In A Dream

PARISH NEWSLETTER

22nd December 2013

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Jesus is born of Mary who was betrothed to Joseph, son of David.

First Reading: Is 7:10-14
Responsorial Psalm Ps 23:1-6
Second Reading: Rm 1:1-7
Gospel: Mt 1:18-24



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT: 'God is with us'. This is the meaning of the name given to the one who is to come by the Prophet Isaiah. In the Gospel St Matthew tells us that this is fulfilled in the child Mary is expecting. Yet the angel tells Joseph that his name is to be 'Jesus', which means 'God saves'. This is not a contradiction. In Hebrew culture names are not just labels but have a meaning. The name 'Jesus' tells us of God's purpose. He is coming into the world not just to spend time with us but to transform us bring the healing and spiritual wholeness – reconciliation and union with God – that we call salvation. The name 'Emmanuel' tells us how he will accomplish this. God does not simply issue a decree forgiving us, or heal us by an external act, as it were, a hand reaching down from heaven to pluck us out of the mire. Instead he becomes one of us, sharing our human nature to the full, except for sin, even to accepting death on the cross. This is the meaning of the word 'Incarnation'. He shares our fleshly mortal nature so that through union with him we might share his divine and immortal nature. This is spelled out in the Collect or opening prayer at the Day Mass of Christmas:

"O God, who wonderfully created the dignity of human nature
and still more wonderfully restored it,
grant, we pray,
that we may share in the divinity of Christ,
who humbled himself to share in our humanity.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever."

A shortened version of this prayer is said quietly by the priest at every Mass when he adds a drop of water – symbolising our humanity – to the wine in the chalice – symbolising the divinity of Christ.

ANNIVERSARIES: Please remember **Joan Shepherd, Mark Kyan, Anthony Farley, Robert Pinder, Adrian Scott, Sheila South, Frank Poeciecha, Edna McGuire, Miles Swinburne, Bernard Vesmilio** and **Rachel Evans** whose anniversaries occur at this time.

PRAYER NEEDS: Please continue to pray for those parishioners who are sick especially **Julie Hillyard, Kay Smith, Halina Pieckielon, Helen Felgate, Isobel Kersey, Julie Trueman, Audrey Thurlow, Hayley Hetzel, Deborah Lee, Bill Sullivan, Pam Loath, Hani Kyan, Karen Kelly, Sheila Faulkner, Mike Gibson, Donovan Bushing, Rebecca Dillon, Brian Harper, Eddie Price, Anne Entwistle, Paul Britain, Audrey Hopwood** and any unknown to us.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES: Please see back page for full details. **Confessions** will be heard on **Christmas Eve in Kelvedon 9.30-10.00 a.m., in Coggeshall 10.30-11.00 a.m.** and in **Tiptree 11.30-12.00 noon**. Since Christmas falls midweek I will not be going away for a break until later, so there will be Mass on Thursday, Friday and Saturday as usual.

FINANCE: Offertory collections for **Sunday 22nd December - £1174.14.**

TUESDAY ADORATION AT KELVEDON: Adoration will resume again early in January.

SCHOOL CHAPLAIN REQUIRED: As Soon As Possible in St Bonaventure's, Forest Gate. Our current Chaplain is moving to a position outside of our school and we are seeking to appoint the very best candidate to replace her. St Bonaventure's is a popular, over-subscribed boy's Catholic school in the Newham Deanery of the Catholic Diocese of Brentwood. We also run a highly successful joint 6th Form with St Angela's Ursuline school. The school has been consistently judged as Outstanding by Ofsted and the Diocese of Brentwood and we need a Chaplain that is able to contribute to the spiritual development and Catholic formation of our students, whilst reflecting the ethos of the school with respect to excellence in all areas. See school website www.stbons.org for a full job description and person specification. Deadline for Application forms is Monday 6th January 2014 at 4.00 p.m.

SERVICE OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS: The Service of Nine Lessons and Carols will take place at Brentwood Cathedral today, Sunday 22nd December, at 4.00 p. m. Everyone is most welcome.

LOURDES—SUMMER 2014: The 25th Annual Diocesan Pilgrimage runs from 26th to 31st July 2014. From £618 by air with full board for six days, five nights, or from £418 by coach. This pilgrimage includes an experienced medical team and plenty of help for those with mobility needs. It is also ideal for couples, individuals, and groups of friends. There is a full programme to opt in and out of, and everyone is welcome. There are brochures at the back of the church, or visit www.brentwoodlourdes.org for much more information and to order a brochure.

2014-LOURDES BY AIR: With St Helen's Parish. Please join us April 21st to 25th April. Full board. 4* Hotel. Very close to Sanctuaries. Price £520 includes flights and Hotel. Full spiritual programme led by Fr. Joseph Whisstock. Please telephone Sue on 07979 746707 for further details. £100 deposit secures place. ATOL protected.

| Liturgical Rotas 29th December | Eucharistic Ministers | Lectors | Ministers of Welcome |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|
| COGGESHALL | Ann Ross Sean O'Leary | Sean O'Leary | Edwina Abram |
| KELVEDON | Jadwiga Smith Pat Richardson | Giovanna Austin | Angie Hart |
| TIPTREE | Celia Butt | Jean Mullane | Mary Branney |

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS:
Psalms for Morning Prayer: Week 4 (till Tuesday)

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| SUNDAY 22nd December <i>4th of Advent</i> | Coggeshall Kelvedon Tiptree | 9.00 a.m. 11.00 a.m. 6.00 p.m. | Mary McGonagall (anniversary) All Parishioners Segono & Antonia Royo RIP |
| MONDAY 23rd December | Kelvedon | 9.00 a.m. | Eugene William Read RIP |
| TUESDAY 24th December <i>Christmas Eve</i> | Kelvedon Tollesbury CofE Kelvedon | 6.30 p.m. 9.00 p.m. 12.00 midnight | <i>Vigil Mass for Families - Carols from 6.00 p.m.</i> Intention Kitty O'Connor <i>Mass of Midnight - Private Intention</i> <i>Midnight Mass - Carols from 11.30 p.m.</i> All Parishioners |
| WEDNESDAY 25th December <i>Christmas Day</i> | Coggeshall Tiptree | 9.00 a.m. 11.00 a.m. | <i>Dawn Mass - Colleen Furse RIP</i> <i>Day Mass - Fr Eamonn McGrath RIP</i> |
| THURSDAY 26th December <i>St Stephen</i> | Kelvedon | 10.00 a.m. | Intention Altar Servers |
| FRIDAY 27th December <i>St John</i> | Kelvedon | 9.00 a.m. | Private Intention |
| SATURDAY 28th December <i>Holy Innocents</i> | Kelvedon | 10.00 a.m. | Pro-Life movements |
| SUNDAY 29th December <i>The Holy Family</i> | Coggeshall Kelvedon Tiptree | 9.00 a.m. 11.00 a.m. 6.00 p.m. | Winnie McPherson (anniversary) All Parishioners John Barrett (anniversary) |

**Sacrament of Reconciliation: *Christmas Eve - Kelvedon 9.30-10.00 a.m.;
Coggeshall 10.30-11.00 a.m.; Tiptree 11.30-12.00 noon;
Saturday Kelvedon 10.30 a.m. - 11.00 a.m.
with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction.***