

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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## PARISH NEWSLETTER

23rd December 2012

### ***FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT***

*Why should I be honoured with a visit from  
the mother of my Lord?*

First Reading: Mi 5:1-4  
Responsorial Psalm Ps 79:2-3.15-6.18.19  
Second Reading: Heb 10:5-10  
Gospel: Lk 1:39-45





Today's readings remind us that the birth of Jesus was only the beginning of God's plan of salvation. The Lord comes down not just to be born but to accomplish the Father's will and purpose. He will be a shepherd to lead his flock. He will manifest the majesty of God's name, extending his rule to the ends of the earth and be the source of peace. He will seal this work by surrendering himself into the Father's hands on the cross. As the Christmas season unfolds there are little reminders of the shadow of the cross – the shedding of a drop of blood at the Circumcision, the gift of myrrh for his burial, the massacre of the Innocents and flight into Egypt. In his divine nature the Son of God knew all this and yet accepted it as part of the package of becoming one with us in our human flesh for no motive but love. May our own love this Christmas may be more than sentimentality and embrace all the difficulties and challenges that arise in any human relationship. ***A happy and peaceful Christmas to all of you.***

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

**PRAYER NEEDS:** Please continue to pray for those parishioners who are sick especially **Roland Birch, Marion Simmons, Colleen Furse, Audrey Thurlow, Hayley Hetzel, Deborah Lee, Bill Sullivan, Hilda Hawes, Pam Loath, Hani Cyan, Sheila Faulkner, Karen Kelly, Mike Gibson, Donovan Bushing, Rebecca Dillon, Brian Harper, Eddie Price, Anne Entwistle, Audrey Holder, Paul Britain, Audrey Hopwood** and any unknown to us. If anybody knows of names to be added or deleted from the sick list please let Fr Gordon know.

**MASS TIMES:** Full details are on the back of the newsletter – weekday times will be as usual apart from Boxing Day as I shall take a few days off next week instead.

**GIFT AID:** You will be pleased to hear that during the week we received a refund of **£9,292.07** from HM Revenue and Customs, representing the tax paid on the offerings of those who are registered for Gift Aid. It is a painless way of increasing the value of your gift to the Church. If you pay enough Income Tax to cover any potential refund and at present do not use Gift Aid envelopes or a standing order, Tom McNally will be happy to explain to you what is involved.

**NEW APPOINTMENT TO ST PETER'S COGGESHALL:** We rejoice with our friends at St Peter's. After a vacancy of a year a new priest in charge has been appointed to take up his post in April: Reverend Christopher Mark Davey, currently vicar of All Saints' church, Leavesden, near Watford, in the diocese of St Albans.

**FINANCE:** Offertory collection for **Sunday 16th December £837.18.**

**CRIB OFFERINGS:** As usual these go to support the work of the Brentwood Catholic Children's Society.

**COLCHESTER EMERGENCY NIGHT SHELTER:** We have always given support in various different ways to the Night Shelter over the years and especially at Christmas time. This year there will be a collection after **MASS TODAY**. If you would like to donate please complete the gift aid envelopes provided if you are a taxpayer. Thank you for your support. *Teresa Hall*.

**CHRISTMAS TOGETHER:** Any Tiptree residents who would otherwise be spending Christmas Day on their own is invited for **Christmas Dinner** at **1.00 p.m.** in Saint Luke's extension. Guests will be given mince pies and fruit scones to take home with them for their tea. Transport can be arranged for anyone unable to make their way to the extension, and a Christmas dinner can be delivered to anyone who is housebound. Please contact **Jane** or **Peter Coleman** on **01621 818304** to reserve your place.

**A SHORT HISTORY:** The Catholic Parish of St James the Less & St Helen, Colchester: 175th Anniversary 1837-2012 - A Short History by Father Stewart Foster. Copies are available price £5 (cheques payable to 'Catholic Church Colchester') from: Parish History, 51 Priory Street, Colchester, Essex C01 2QB.

**RAISE MONEY FOR CAFOD WHILE SHOPPING ONLINE:** Do you do any shopping on the internet? Gifts? Books? At no extra cost to you or to CAFOD, you can raise money to support CAFOD's work by doing your online shopping with a simple tool called Give as you live. It's really simple. Go to [www.cafod.org.uk/giveasyoulive](http://www.cafod.org.uk/giveasyoulive) to find out more and sign up. With Christmas just around the corner, now is the perfect time to start using this handy tool.

**MASS FOR PRIESTLY VOCATIONS: 29th December** is the Feast Day of St Thomas of Canterbury, Patron Saint of Priests and Deacons in England and Wales. To mark the occasion, as in previous years, there will be a special Mass for Priestly Vocations at **11.30 a.m.** at Holy Trinity, 71 Wickhay, Basildon SS15 5AD. Everyone is warmly welcome. If you are considering a vocation to the Priesthood, please contact Fr Dominic, Vocations Director, on [frdominic@brentwoodvocations.org](mailto:frdominic@brentwoodvocations.org) or 01268 281732. There is also a lot of information on the website [www.brentwoodvocations.org](http://www.brentwoodvocations.org).

Liturgical Rotas 30th December	Eucharistic Ministers	Lectors	Ministers of Welcome
COGGESHALL	Derek Hand Sean O'Leary	Gabrielle Ruiz	Ann Ross
KELVEDON	Valerie Bartlett Patricia Pike	Jadwiga Smith	Elizabeth Maxted
TIPTREE	Mary Mann	Marisa Orchard	Sue Petchey

**MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS:  
Psalms for Morning Prayer: Week 4**

<b>SUNDAY</b> 23rd December <i>4th Sunday of Advent</i>	Coggeshall Kelvedon Tiptree	9.00 a.m. 11.00 a.m. 6.00 p.m.	Mary McGonagall (anniversary) Peter Doran RIP All Parishioners
<b>MONDAY</b> 24th December <i>Christmas Eve</i>	Kelvedon Coggeshall Tiptree Kelvedon  Tollesbury CofE Church Kelvedon	9.30-10.00 a.m. 10.30-11.00 a.m. 11.30-12 noon 6.30 p.m.  9.00 p.m.  12.00 Midnight	<i>Confessions</i> <i>Confessions</i> <i>Confessions</i> <i>Vigil Mass for families: Liam O'Connor RIP</i> <i>Mass of Midnight: Private Int.</i>  <i>Midnight Mass: All Parishioners</i>
<b>TUESDAY</b> 25th December <i>Christmas Day</i>	Coggeshall Tiptree	9.00 a.m. 11.00 a.m.	<i>Dawn Mass: John Wood RIP</i> <i>Day Mass: Private Intention</i>
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> 26th December <i>St Stephen</i>	Kelvedon	10.00 a.m.	Altar Servers
<b>THURSDAY</b> 27th December <i>St John the Evangelist</i>	Kelvedon Coggeshall	10.00 a.m. NO MASS	Eugene William Read RIP
<b>FRIDAY</b> 28th December <i>Holy Innocents</i>	Kelvedon	9.00 a.m.	Pro Life Movement
<b>SATURDAY</b> 29th December <i>St Thomas Becket</i>	Kelvedon	10.00 a.m.	Jill Meaghan RIP
<b>SUNDAY</b> 30th December <i>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: This Saturday; 10.30 -11.00 a.m.  
with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction**